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FSEC Minutes July 20, 2016

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #5  
July 20, 2016  

MINUTES  

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 20, 2016, in President’s Conference Room, Green Hall, Chairperson Sullivan presiding. Senators Byrd, Conley, Leonard, Mahler, and Tsiatas were present.  

2. Minutes of FSEC Meeting #4, July 6, 2016 were approved.  

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS  
   a. Chairperson Sullivan reported on his and the Vice Chairperson’s meeting with the President of July 13. Among other subjects, they had discussed inefficiencies associated with the review of program proposals at the Postsecondary Council level.  
   
   b. Chairperson Sullivan reported that he continued discussions with potential committee chair appointees to the General Education and Curricular Affairs Committees.  

4. NEW BUSINESS  
   a. Chairperson Sullivan reported that he had received a request for input from Public Safety Director Baker regarding the institution’s acquisition of a scenting dog [to detect explosives] for use at large events and/or when hosting dignitaries. Discussion followed. Senator Mahler suggested that the FSEC respond with a request for a clear articulation of what this proposal would add to the current practices utilized by the URI police force.  
   
   b. Vice Provost Libutti joined the meeting at 10:45 AM to discuss the work of the Office of Enrollment Management relative to the role of the Admissions Advisory Council, a Joint Committee of the Faculty Senate and the President, which has not met in two years. Vice Provost Libutti reported that the URI admissions policies and standards, available through the Admissions website [http://web.uri.edu/admission/freshman-admission-requirements/] were established many years ago and would require Faculty Senate approval to alter. He said that the Admissions Advisory Council undertakes projects related to undergraduate admissions (e.g., use of the Common Application) but is not involved with setting or meeting enrollment goals. Discussion followed about the undergraduate admissions process. The
Committee asked the Vice Provost about graduate admissions and discussed the possibility of centralizing graduate admissions and adding graduate admissions to the charge of the Admissions Advisory Council. The suggestion that was made that the Council adopt a schedule of subjects that are reviewed on a cyclical basis, for example, every three years. The Vice Provost offered to make a presentation to the Faculty Senate, as he done in the past, outlining current enrollment goals and describing the demographics of the freshman class. Chairperson Sullivan accepted the offer. Ms. Neff was asked to follow up.

c. The FSEC reviewed committee vacancies and made appointment selections.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff