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Faculty Senate Minutes December 6, 2018

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

December 6th, 2018

Beaupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Sciences, Room 105

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM by President Dooley.
2. The President asked for a moment of silence to remember a recently passed Faculty member, Domenic Valentino, Professor Emeritus Psychology, former Department Chair.
3. A motion was made and accepted to approve the minutes of the General Faculty - Graduate Faculty Meeting of September 20, 2018.
4. Approval of degree certification for December 2018:
 - a. A motion was made and accepted to approve the slate of candidates for Undergraduate degrees at the December 31st as presented by Provost Hayes.
 - b. A motion was made and accepted to approve the slate of candidates for Graduate degrees at the December 31st graduation as presented by Dean Zawia:
5. **ADJOURNMENT** immediately followed by Faculty Senate Meeting

1. The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order immediately following the General Faculty Graduate Faculty meeting by Chair Leonard at 3:13 PM
2. A motion was made and accepted to approve the minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting #3, of November 15, 2018
3. **REPORT OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
 - a. Announcements – Senate Chair Leonard thanked Dean Ray Wright of the School of Engineering for sponsoring the reception after the Faculty Senate meeting and encouraged everyone to attend. She thanked colleagues for all their hard work through this past semester.
 - b. Senate Vice Chair Nassersharif presented the minutes of Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meetings #15 October 24, # 16 October 31 and #17 November 7, 2018. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

4. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

a. **Announcements**

President Dooley reported recently returning from the Philippines where he attended a ceremony honoring Professor Mike Rice who was presented with the Outstanding Leadership and Devoted Service in Aquaculture award from the government of the Philippines for his many years of work supporting the country's aquaculture industry. While in the Philippines, the President was able to see first-hand the work Professor Rice is doing

and how highly thought of and respected he is in the Philippines with regard to Fisheries management.

The President was also in the Philippines to officially kickoff the \$25-million, five-year sustainable fisheries grant program called the USAID Fish Right Program. The program is a partnership with URI and the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines' U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), a multi-sector consortium of local universities and non-government organizations. The Center is built upon the work of Professor Rice and colleagues of Coastal Resources and the College of the Environment and Life Sciences.

The next round of the State Innovation Voucher grant awardees will be announced on December 18th, 2018 at the Welcome Center.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- a. **Vice President Peter Snyder** reported on the Division of Research and Economic Development. The URI research latest magazine Momentum will have a Report of the Division of Research and Economic Development. Dr. Snyder stated a few of his goals were to improve transparency with regards to how URI compares with other universities, increase private for-profit funding, and to reach \$125M in sponsored research funds by FY22.

There was an increase in overall research funds for FY 18, \$ 98.2M from \$73.5M in FY 17. Research proposals submitted in FY2018 totaled \$363M. The source of the funds for awarded grants were Federal (\$77M) followed by private nonprofit (\$9M) and State (\$6.5M). By College, the largest recipients are the Graduate School of Oceanography, College of Environment and Life Sciences, the College of Pharmacy and the College of Engineering.

Over the last 10 years the University has awarded \$2M in career enhancement and pilot grants with a return on investment of \$16M. He stated that plans are underway to expand this grants program.

One third of the staff in the Division will be turning over or retiring. Dr. Snyder anticipates replacing some of those positions through promotions of existing staff members. The Division will be redesigning positions with the goal of a more client-centered focus where the faculty are the clients. This will help streamline the work of the Division.

Priorities include identifying and replacing internal management systems where information is entered once, and all departments can look at the same information, with modules for all facets of the process. Vice President Snyder reported an RFP will go out in January.

High priorities include: New electronic research administration system (efficiency & transparency); New internal competitions management system; Long-term planning for animal care facilities infrastructure; work with the Faculty Senate RCA Committee, Provost and President's Office to re-define institutes, centers, programs – and their organization within larger institution; re-imagine role, mission, branding of URI Research Foundation –

URI VENTURES; enhance strategic partnerships with other universities, companies and consortia – e.g., RI Innovation Bonds; long-term sustainability plan for core research facilities; DRED Internal Management – 1 & 4 Yr. strategic plans for each department, new emphasis on professional development, hiring and promotion of staff as creative professionals.

Senator Nassersharif posed a question regarding if there will be a change with the Research Foundation and its relationship to Polaris. The Research Foundation supports intellectual properties that the university produces. The royalty stream from intellectual properties should support the Foundation but that has not happened yet. The Research Foundation absorbed Polaris which has kept the Foundation going.

- b. **Senator Lynne Derbyshire**, Honors Program Director, provided the [Annual Report for the Honors Program](#). Students may enter the Honors Program if they have a GPA of 3.5 or SAT scores greater than 1300. Twenty percent of honors students are students of color. In the 2017-18 academic year, ninety courses were taught to 1700 students. Sixty-one faculty taught honors courses. There has been a significant increase in number of students served in pre-health profession programs.

The Honors Colloquium on Re-Imagining Gender was just completed. Future Honors Colloquiums will be religion for 2019 and disability for 2020.

Senator Derbyshire voiced her appreciation for the work of Faculty who mentor students. She also recognized Kathleen Maher, Assistant Director for National Fellowships and Andy Simmons, Assistant Director Pre-Health for their hard work on behalf of students.

6. REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. A motion was made and accepted to approve the Graduate Council Reports 2018-19-4 presented by Dean Zawia
- b. A motion was made and accepted to approve the Graduate Council Reports 2018-19-5 calling for the creation of Postmasters Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) as presented by Dean Zawia
- c. A motion was made and accepted to approve the Curriculum & Standards Committee Reports 2018-19-4 presented by Committee Chair Senator Cardany.
- d. Report from Research and Creative Activities Committee – Senator Bide

Senator Bide reminded the Faculty Senate of the main charge of the Research Creative Activities (RCA) Committee and of its two subcommittees, Competitive Grants and Center Review. The main charge is to administer the internal proposal development and faculty enhancement grants and review/renew approval for "centers and the like".

The whole RCA Committee is part of a larger group that reviews overhead distribution policy, and the RCA Committee also reviews and recommends recipients for the Division of Research and Economic Development's excellence awards.

Senator Bide provided a brief progress report:

- They anticipate an overhead distribution meeting early in the new year.
- They will examine criteria for the excellence awards at a meeting on 12/13.
- The Competitive Grants Subcommittee reviewed the wording of the applications and revisions were approved by Vice President Snyder.
- The Committee has seen a preview of the Infoready software that will be used both for submission and review of internal proposal development and Faculty Enhancement Grants. The call for proposals will be issued in the next two weeks and proposals will be due by mid-February. The Competitive Grants Subcommittee will review the proposals and recommendations for awards will go to Vice President Snyder.
- The Center Review Subcommittee has provided a draft report which will be discussed at the meeting of the full committee on 12/13. The Subcommittee has identified 62 "entities" (46 centers, 13 institutes, 4 "other"), of which 40 seem active and 25 are listed in the University Manual. The review status of most of them is unclear. The discussion will consider what further steps are appropriate.

7. Chair Leonard asked if there was any unfinished business. There was none.
8. Chair Leonard asked if there were any New Business. There was none.
9. Chair Leonard asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Benz