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THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #30
April 29, 2016**

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 AM on Friday, April 29, 2016, in Swan 154, Chairperson Rollo-Koster presiding. Senators Kusz, Rarick, Sullivan, Tsiatas, and Welters were present. Vice Chairperson-elect Conley was also in attendance.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

- a. The FSEC reviewed the schedule of remaining meetings.
- b. The FSEC reviewed the draft of the agenda for the May 5 Faculty Senate Meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The full Committee was informed that some colleges had elected lecturers to serve on standing committees of the Senate. Additionally, a lecturer had been elected as a sabbatical replacement for a member of the 2016-17 Faculty Senate. The FSEC referred to the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate which state:

6.2 All members of the University faculty [aka General faculty which is tenure track faculty] shall be eligible to serve on such [standing] committees, but ordinarily the chairpersons shall be elected members of the Senate. A minority of persons who are not members of the University faculty may be appointed to such committees on occasion for specific purposes, but each such instance shall be considered on its own merit.

Discussion followed. The Committee speculated that, because a small number of lecturers currently serve on standing committees (one on the Subcommittee on the Assessment of General Education; one on the General Education Committee as the representative from the College of Continuing Education which has no tenure track faculty; three on the Undergraduate Academic Advising Committee), these colleges had assumed that such service was permissible without restriction. The Committee acknowledged recent collective bargaining contract changes that describe the duties of lecturers to include service. However, the Committee expressed serious concerns that the role of the lecturer in service to the university

could be exploited if thoughtful attention were not given to establishing equitable committee structures. The Committee discussed effective committee structure and the dynamic between faculty and non-faculty committee members.

- b.** The Nominating Committee finalized the ballot of candidates for the 3 vacancies on the FSEC that would be filled by election at the May 5 Faculty Senate Meeting.
- c.** The Committee briefly reviewed the status of the new general education program and the courses that were pending approval by the panels.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff