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Faculty Senate Minutes November 21, 2019

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Meeting #3 November 21, 2019 Minutes

1. **THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING** was called to order by Acting Chair Hicks at 3:03 PM. All members were present except for: Nassersharif, Anderson, Loose, Schneiderjans, Hatfield, Haile, Chandlee, Sodhi, Echevarria, Blanpied, Hashemi, King, and Sproul. Ex-officio in attendance: Provost DeHayes, Vice Provost Bodah, Vice Provost Libutti, Vice Provost Veeger, Dean Riley, Dean Kirby, Dean Zawia, Associate Dean Seitsinger, Associate Director Humphrey, Director Barrett. Others: Thomas McGrath, Christopher Bove, Leslie Mahler, Alycia Mosley Austin, Lisa Wyant, and Dan Sheinin.
2. **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES** of the [Faculty Senate Meeting #2 October 24, 2019](#) minutes were posted with the agenda. Acting Senate Chair Hicks asked if there were any additions, corrections or questions on the minutes. As there were no corrections or questions, the minutes were approved.
3. **REPORT OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Announcements – Acting Senate Chair Senator Sandy Hicks thanked the College of Education and Professional Studies and Dean R. Anthony Rolle for sponsoring the post meeting reception and reminded participants to sign-in.

 - a. Activities of the Executive Committee –
Acting Senate Vice-Chair Morokoff presented the [Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings](#) of October 4, 11, 18, 25 and November 1, 2019 for notice. There were no questions or comments.
 - b. Recommendations of the Executive Committee
 - i. Acting Senate Vice-Chair Morokoff presented Faculty Senate Executive [Committee appointments](#)
 - ii. Acting Senate Chair Hicks entertained a motion to rescind previously approved Graduate Council Report 2019-20-5 Professional Master of Science in Supply Chain Management and Applied Analytics (PMSMAA), Accelerated Online Program (Bill #19-20-6) and send back to the Graduate Council as courses for the program were still to be approved. Motion was made and accepted.
4. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**
 - a. **Announcements:** Provost DeHayes spoke in place of the President who was traveling. Provost DeHayes encouraged Senators to register for the 12th Annual Academic Summit scheduled on January 16th, 2020. The Summit will feature Dr. Jean Twenge author of “ iGen: Why Today’s Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy- and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood and What That Means for the Rest of Us”. There were 120 registrations for the Academic Summit within 24 hours. Faculty should register soon as there is a maximum of 300 participants.

The Provost thanked the Faculty for engaging URI students in learning. He recently attended the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities where he presented on behalf of URI. The retention rate over ten years went from 77-78% to 88% in 2018-19. The four-year graduation rate increased to 52% from 38% and the six-year graduation rate increased to 69% in 2018-19

from 58% ten years ago. They have been monitoring the equity gap, which measures Pell and non-Pell students, went from 19% to its current 8%. There has been an increase in the number of degrees awarded from 2800 ten years ago to 4433 this past year. There was a cumulative increase of 10,000 more degrees awarded than if URI had stayed on the same trajectory of a decade ago. All of this is again due to the efforts of faculty to engage students in learning and having successful and strategic interventions.

5. REPORTS

- a. Director of Budget and Financial Planning, Linda Barrett Report presented a [Report on the URI Budget](#) for FY 2020 and the 2021 Budget request. For FY20 the restricted URI funding is \$375.4 Million(M) and unrestricted is \$466M for a total budget of \$842.8M. Tuition and fees makeup the largest part at \$334.5M. This budget includes \$1.8M for the development of URI Online. Strategic Initiatives make up \$1.224M of the budget an increase from \$975K from the previous year. Strategic Initiatives funds are allocated towards Graduate Teaching Assistant Expansion, Student Wellness Enhancements, Institutional Research Expansion, Purchasing Staff, eProcurement, and an Assistant Director for NCAA Compliance. FTE have increased to 56.5 from 40 in FY19. Budget request for FY2021 is \$26.5M greater than FY2020. Budget includes Capital Improvements of \$19.6M which includes \$3.4M mechanical, electrical and plumbing improvements in academic buildings. Requests for General Obligation Bonds in November 2020 include the Fine Arts Center (\$57.3M), Narragansett Bay Campus (\$78M), and the Ryan Institute Lab Facility (\$50.4M). In 2022 the request will be \$41.9M for the historic Quad updates.
- b. Vice President of Research and Economic Development, Dr. Peter J. Snyder presented a report on [URI Research & Creative Activities](#). VP Snyder provided an organizational chart of Division of Research and Economic Development. URI has over \$100M in research awards and is on-track to do at least as well or better in the coming year. There has been an increase in Federal and non-Federal awards. The goal is to increase the non-Federal grants. The 8.5% overhead can be used in a variety of things. Internal seed grants increased have increased. There was a question from the Senate floor as to data that that looked at the number of seed grants that resulted in an outcome of a grant. The Seed Grant Annual Reports will now have that metric. The division of Economic Development has Polaris MEP, Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and URI Ventures. The SBDC has provided consultative advice to over 800 small businesses and Polaris has assisted over 200 manufacturing businesses. Current priorities include: the new electronic research administration, long term animal care facilities infrastructure, working closer with the Faculty Senate Research and Creative Activities Committee, developing strategic partnerships, reimagine sustainability plan for core facilities and internal management. InfoEd was chosen as the electronic research administration system. Innovation Campus update: 401Tech Bridge will work in the area of novel composite materials with sites on the Kingston Campus and on Aquidneck Island. In addition to the major research initiative Plastics: Land to Sea. Senator Rice applauded the work of Vice President Snyder and the Division of Research and Economic Development. He asked, as every college engages in outreach are there any thoughts about developing a coordinated council for extension and outreach programs.

6. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. Graduate Council: Associate Graduate School Dean DeBoef presented the [Graduate Curricular Report #2019-20-6](#) and [Appendices](#) which were approved unanimously.
- b. Faculty Senate:
 - i. Committee Chair Senator Cardany of the Curriculum and Standards Committee presented [Senate Report No. 4](#) and [Appendices 4 A-E](#) and [Appendices 4 F-H](#) and [Senate Report No. 5](#) and [Appendices A-C](#) which were approved.
 - ii. Sub-Committee Chair Senator Meenach of the Academic Calendar Subcommittee presented Report 2019-11-21 [Senate Report No. 6 Calendars for Approval](#). Chair Meenach explained the changes to the Academic Calendars, a motion was made and approved with one abstention. Chair Meenach reported on the [Manual Language Changes](#) to the Bylaws and which will come up for a vote at the next Faculty Senate meeting.
 - iii. Committee Chair Senator Hicks of the Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual (CBUM) Committee presented [CEPS-Centers Manual Language Changes](#) which were approved unanimously.
- c. Faculty Senate Standing Committees- Overview for the Upcoming Year
 - i. Senator Roman, Chair presented the report for the [Committee on Research and Creative Activities](#) (RCA), and Competitive Grants Subcommittee (Chair, Senator Erickson-Owens) and the Center Review Subcommittee. The committee is continuing to work on the Proposal Development & Career Enhancement grants. January 25, 2020 is the deadline. Will continue the work started last year to review Centers which may result in changes to University Manual language. The RCA hopes to clarify the RCA role in the review of overhead distribution and update Manual language in section 10.72. Chair Hicks assured Committee Chair Roman that CBUM will work to assist the committee to move forward with Manual Language changes.
 - ii. Senator Honhart, Chair of the [Committee on Technology and Infrastructure](#), reported on the Committees activities. They have met several times this semester and will continue the process of learning and informing. They have had a demonstration of Brightspace, and Faculty180. The Chair is a member of the ITGov committee and the Faculty Senate ad hoc committee which is looking into the purchase of a Curricular Management System (CMS). They will provide the committee Annual Report in February.
 - iii. Senator Cardany Chair presented a report from the [Curriculum and Standards Committee](#). Highlights include FS ad hoc Committee for a new Curriculum Management system, updating and revisions of proposal forms, and open forum.

Senator Hunter, Subcommittee Chair presented the report from the [General Education Subcommittee](#). The primary focus of the subcommittee for the year is to evaluate the effectiveness of the General Education program.

Senator Meenach, Subcommittee Chair presented the report from the [Academic Calendar Subcommittee](#). All required calendar approvals are complete for 2019-

20. Future changes may occur regarding online program calendar approval and timing due to the launch of URI Online.
- iv. Senator Ashley Committee Chair of Service and Community Life reported on the activities of the Committee.
 - v. Senator Byrd Committee Chair reported on the activities of the [Teaching Advising and Assessment Committee](#) (TAA). Areas for committee review in the coming year will include online education – including load and benefits, review of the URI 101 committee report, consult with Academic Enhancement Center and the role of various offices and committees and the TAA committee.
7. **OLD BUSINESS:** Acting Chair Hicks asked if there was any unfinished old business. There was none.
8. **NEW BUSINESS:** Senator Ruemmele reported there will be student Climate Strike on December 6th at 10:30 AM and a gathering on the Quad at 11 AM.
9. **ADJOURNMENT** There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 5 PM.