

2015

## FSEC Minutes December 9, 2015

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND

FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #18  
December 9, 2015**

**MINUTES**

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 in the President's Conference Room, Chairperson Rollo-Koster presiding. Senators Kusz, Rarick, Sullivan, Tsiatas, and Welters were present.
2. Minutes of FSEC Meeting #17, December 2, 2015 were approved as amended.
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS**
  - a. Chairperson Rollo-Koster reported that she and Vice Chairperson Welters had been asked to meet with the Provost on December 14 to discuss the position of General Education Director.
  - b. Chairperson Rollo-Koster announced that the FSEC was scheduled to meet with the Provost on December 21 to discuss international students.
  - c. Chairperson Rollo-Koster announced that she was scheduled to meet with Director Swift on December 18.
4. Dean Richmond was welcomed to the meeting at 3:00 PM. The Dean used Power Point slides to provide an overview of a new electronic student communication system, called "Starfish," that has been purchased for use campus-wide. Among other features, the system facilitates contact with students for academic support, advising, and other referrals. The system can be customized according to the needs of each college. FSEC members viewed as a drawback the fact that the system is designed to operate through SAKAI. Electronic communication with students is accomplished through email, which is not considered effective with the current student body. Implementation of the system is expected in January.
5. **ONGOING BUSINESS**
  - a. The FSEC discussed concerns about the upcoming transition of the oversight of implementation of the General Education Program from the Steering Team (GEIST) to a General Education Director, yet to be appointed.

- b.** The FSEC discussed the problems encountered with failed faculty email addresses during the distribution of President Dooley’s evaluation survey. Ms. Neff said that she obtains faculty contact information from the Human Resources (HR) database. Email addresses derived from HR are used to create lists for the distribution of evaluation surveys. During the conversion to Google Apps for Education in January 2015, Information Technology (IT) created [uri.edu](http://uri.edu) email accounts for all faculty and staff. URI email addresses that remained unused 9 months after the initiation of Google mail were disabled by IT. Email messages sent to these addresses are undeliverable. The question of how to communicate with these individuals was discussed.
- c.** Ms. Neff informed the FSEC that a 3-member Nominating Committee (3 Senators whose terms expire in 2016) would need to be appointed and approved at the January Faculty Senate meeting. Discussion followed about the elections to be held at the February Faculty Meeting of a (special, one-time) one-year Chair and a Vice Chair/Chair-Elect (two year term). Ms. Neff supplied the FSEC members with a list of current Senators and their term end dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff