

2015

FSEC Minutes April 7, 2015

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #37

April 7, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:07 PM on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 in Library Conference Room B, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Rarick, Rollo Koster, Sullivan, and Welters were present; Senator Cerbo was absent.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that Director Swift was scheduled to meet with the Committee on April 13 to provide an update on the implementation of the general education program.

b. Chairperson Nassersharif reminded the Committee that a second workshop to discuss shared governance with the President and Provost had been scheduled for April 14. Ms. Neff was asked to compile a summary of FSEC accomplishments regarding the themes of Communication, Continuity, and Efficiency.

c. Ms. Neff confirmed a meeting day and time for the members of the current FSEC to meet and welcome new members of the incoming FSEC (after the last Senate meeting of the year).

d. The FSEC confirmed the revised Faculty Senate meeting dates for 2015-2016.

3. Minutes of FSEC Meetings #35, March 24 and #36, March 31, 2015 were approved.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Chairperson Nassersharif summarized recent discussions regarding the possible revision to the distribution of overhead funds. He said that the President has referred the Special Report of the Council for Research Subcommittee to the Provost and the Vice President for Administration and Finance. Chairperson Nassersharif has asked the President to keep him informed regarding the matter.

b. Chairperson Nassersharif noted that nominations for the Sheila Black Grubman Faculty Outstanding Service Award had been compiled and were available in SAKAI. Committee members agreed to review the nominations and vote on their selection at their next meeting on April 14.

c. The Committee discussed the proposed changes to the University Manual section 4.70.10, The Graduate Faculty, proposed by the Dean of the Graduate School. Chairperson Nassersharif reiterated his intent to solicit responses from the graduate faculty regarding these changes before presenting them to the Faculty Senate. The possibility of holding a forum in the Senate on the subject and the possibility of soliciting feedback via an electronic survey were considered. With regard to the proposed new language permitting the Dean of the Graduate School to request to the Graduate Council removal of graduate faculty status from a faculty member, the Chair noted that the language did not include a mechanism of appeal.

d. The Committee discussed the report of the Ad Hoc Senate Membership and Voting Committee that included a recommendation that full-time non-tenure track faculty be eligible for election to the Faculty Senate after they have served for one academic year in their position and that the ratio of faculty members (in a college) to senators be changed from the current 10:1 to 12:1. The FSEC agreed to forward the report to the Faculty Senate at the April 16th meeting.

e. The Committee discussed the need for an expedited approval process, at the Senate level, of course submissions for the new general education program.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff