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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #38

April 14, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in 310 Green Hall, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Rarick, Rollo Koster, Sullivan, and Welters were present; Senator Cerbo was absent.

2. The FSEC reviewed the nominations for the Sheila Black Grubman Faculty Outstanding Service Award. After discussion, the Committee moved approval of the selection of Catherine English, Professor and Chair, Nutrition and Food Science. The motion passed. Chairperson Nassersharif said that he would prepare a letter of congratulation.

3. At 3:00 PM, the FSEC adjourned to the President's Conference Room (Green Hall) to meet with the President and the Provost to continue the discussion of shared governance at URI.

The FSEC presented the President and Provost with the following summary of accomplishments:

Themes

I. Communication

- Expanded Faculty Senate membership eligibility, Senate Committee membership eligibility, and faculty voting rights within departments and colleges on matters requiring Senate approval

II. Continuity

- Expanded term length of Executive Committee leadership positions (two-year Vice Chair/Chair-Elect position and ex officio Chair Emeritus/a)

III. Efficiency

- Created Committee on Information Technologies, Infrastructure, Computing, Communications, and Networking (CITICCN)
- Plans in FY16 to improve curricular approval processes

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- General education implementation, including a proposal to create a General Education Office/Center/Institute led by a faculty Director (modeled after the Honors Program).

- The Academic Health Collaborative, an example of improved engagement on the part of the Faculty Senate

- Updating of the Strategic Academic Plan for 2016-2021
 - Process streamlining
 - Reducing the number of faculty committees
 - Streamlining Program assessment
 - Revising the metrics of qualitative assessment
 - Lengthening the reporting cycle

The President and Provost left the meeting at 4:40 PM.

4. Chairperson Nassersharif discussed agenda times for the upcoming meeting with the Provost scheduled for April 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff