

4-28-2022

Faculty Senate Minutes April 28, 2022

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Thursday, April 28, 2022
Robert J. Higgins Welcome Center, Hope Room

1. Call to order - President Cardany called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and began the proceedings with a song.

All AY 21-22 senators were present except Senators Buxton, Chen, Kaskosz, Leatham, Maynard, McGough, Parker, Preisser, Sendag, Thiem, Villa Nicholas, Walls, and Xu, Zhang. Several newly elected Senators for AY 22 - 23 were also present.

Ex officio members and others in attendance: Interim Provost Beauvais, Vice Provost Bodah, Associate Vice Provost Veeger, Dean Libutti, Dean DeBoef.

2. Approval of the Agenda - The agenda was approved as amended on a voice vote. Two items were added: the reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement and an item under "Report of the Executive Committee" pertaining to a recommendation about emergency approval of new Programs over the summer.
3. Disposition of Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting #8, April 14, 2022 - the minutes were approved without opposition on a voice vote.

4. **REPORT OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- a. Announcements - Senate President Cardany

- i. Welcome new senators - A list of new Senators by College was presented and President Cardany welcomed the new members whose terms officially begin at the close of the meeting. A list of outgoing Senators was also presented and they were thanked for their service.

- b. Activities of the Executive Committee - Senate Vice President Rice

- i. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of 4/12/22 - The minutes were presented and there were no further comments.
- ii. A motion had been made and seconded by the Executive Committee to grant Faculty Senate Executive Committee the emergency power to approve curriculum proposals over the summer 2022 for those deemed essential. The motion passed on a voice vote.

- c. Report from the Nominating Committee

- i. Election to fill vacancies on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) - Chair Roman presented the Committee's nominees and nominations were also taken from the floor. Paper ballots were cast by sitting Senators who were present in person and remote participants were advised to vote via the WebEx. Mayrai Gindy and Megan Echevarria were elected to two-year terms, and Graham Forrester was elected to a one-year term.

5. AWARDS AND HONORS (30 minutes)

- a. General Education Award - Director, Office of Innovation in General Education, Rachel DiCioccio, presented two awards for Excellence in General Education. The first went to Amanda Missimer from the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, and the second went to Natalie Pifer from the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. The winners were congratulated by the assembly.
 - b. Faculty Senate Awards
 - i. Presentation of the Fritz Wenisch Award for Exceptional Contribution to the Faculty Senate. President Cardany presented the award to this year's winner, Amanda Izenstark, from University Libraries for her dedication and service to the Faculty Senate, especially her work as Chair of the Committee on Technology and Infrastructure.
 - ii. Presentation of the Sheila Black Grubman Faculty Outstanding Service Award - Interim Provost Beauvais and FS President Cardany jointly presented this year's Grubman Award to Lynne Derbyshire, Associate Professor in Communication Studies and Director of the Honors Program. Lynn was praised for her years of service to the Faculty Senate, most recently on the Service and Community Life Committee, and for her dedication to equity and inclusion across her 35-year career at URI.
6. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** - Interim Provost Beauvais delivered remarks on behalf of the President. President Parlange had been called away to provide testimony at the State House and was unavailable. He continues - as he has done throughout his time at URI - to provide testimony and other advocacy regarding things like General Obligation Bonds, the Hope Scholarship, American Rescue Plan funding, and bureaucratic requirements affecting public bodies like the Board of Trustees. Other highlights of Provost Beauvais' comments included some personnel changes in the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the continuation of community forums on the strategic planning initiative.

The following matters have been signed by the President.

Bill #21-22-30B Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, program changes. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-30C Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, URI Online Master's Degree in Data Science. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022. Pending approval by URI Board of Trustees.

Bill #21-22-30D Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, Program Closure Special Education Program. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022. Pending approval by URI Board of Trustees.

Bill #21-22-30E Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, Certificate in Medication Outcomes. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-30F Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, Online Graduate Certificate in Data Analysis for Accounting. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-30G Curricular Report #2021-2022-05 from the Graduate Council, Online Graduate Certificate in Learning and Development. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-31 Joint Report #2021-2022-01 of the Curriculum and Standards and Graduate Council Report, ABMs. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-32B Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-08, program changes. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-32C Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-08, Undergraduate Certificate in FinTech. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-32D Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-08, Undergraduate track in FinTech for Finance Majors. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-32E Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-08, Creation of a Minor in Cannabis Studies. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-32F Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-08, Organizational Change for Criminology and Criminal Justice from Program to Department. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022. Pending approval by URI Board of Trustees.

Bill #21-22-34 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: FS Meeting Calendar AY 2022-2023. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-35 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Revision to University Manual Chapter 3, URI Research Foundation Board of Directors. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-36 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Change Manual Language, Appendix C: By-Laws, Regarding Senate Meeting Schedule. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-37 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Change Manual Language, Appendix C: By-Laws, Membership for Standing Committees. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-38 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Change Manual Language, Appendix C: By-Laws, Move Nominating Committee Selection to December. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-39 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Change Manual Language, Chapter 4, Regarding Graduate Faculty Status. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-40 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Add Manual Language, Chapter 11, Regarding University Manual Maintenance Schedule. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-41 Recommendation of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Change Manual Language, Chapter 5, Alignment of Language with Title IX and URI Board of Trustees' Sexual Harassment Policy. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-42 Center Review Subcommittee: Change Manual Language, Appendix C: By-Laws, Section 4. Revision of Center Review Committee Charge Language. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

Bill #21-22-43 Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee: Allow CBUM Committee to Use Editorial Process of Referral to the *Agreement between the URI Board of Trustees and the URI Chapter of the AAUP*. Approved by President Parlange on April 19, 2022.

7. REPORTS OF JOINT, STANDING, AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. Curriculum and Standards Committee Report No. 2021-2022-09 - Senator Kincaid – Motion: Clarification of language for Pass/Fail grades to ensure correct grades for students. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.
- b. Academic Calendar Committee - Approval of the Online Calendar - AY's 2024-2025 and 2025-2026. Chair Amin presented the calendar as drafted. It was moved and seconded by her committee for approval. She confirmed there were no major changes to the calendar compared with the preceding years. The calendar was approved via voice vote without opposition.
- c. Research and Creative Activities Committee Report– Chair Roman presented the report, which included the activities of the Competitive Grants and Center Review Subcommittees. Some of the Committee's work will need to continue under a new Chair in the new academic year. Specifically, the Committee identified some problems with the required "Facilities and Administration" reporting, requiring action, but detailed recommendations are not quite ready. Under Chair Nancy Eaton, the Centers subcommittee successfully updated the current list of recognized centers and has standardized their respective reporting requirements and schedules. The Grants subcommittee recommended several grants be awarded and has made recommendations regarding those processes that Chair Roman hopes can be legislated next year.
- d. Teaching, Advising and Assessment Committee (TAAC) Report - Chair King noted her Committee had been asked by the FSEC to look at two specific issues during this academic year. Prompted in part by challenges associated with remote teaching during the pandemic, the Committee was asked to look at the University's Academic Integrity policies and determine how they could be bolstered, clarified, and better aligned with the Student Handbook. The Committee will continue this work in the Fall. They hope to bring forward some specific recommended actions for FSEC consideration and then action by the full Senate where appropriate. The second area the Committee has been working on is an examination of the Learning Outcomes Oversight Committee. The Committee pre-dates the University's current system for developing learning outcomes, and a need for re-organization has become clear. The TAAC is now recommending to the FSEC that the LOOC be dis-banded and its duties reassigned. The existing TAAC could likely absorb most functions. The University Manual language will need to be modified to address the TAAC's charge, and the Committee hopes for action on this recommendation in AY 2022-2023.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Passing of the gavel – Outgoing President Cardany ceremoniously passed the gavel to Incoming President Rice.
- b. Call for new business - President Rice called for approval of a resolution, read into the record, honoring outgoing President Cardany and thanking her for her service. The resolution was approved unanimously.

9. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.