

2014

FSEC Minutes July 9, 2014

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #5

July 9, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, July 9, 2014 in Library Conference Room B in the URI Library, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Cerbo and Welters were present. Senators Rarick and Rollo-Koster utilized Skype to participate in the meeting. Senator Sullivan was absent.

2. Minutes from Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #4, June 23, 2014 were approved as amended. Ms. Neff added the following: that Chairperson Nassersharif had informed the Provost that he had been contacted by faculty in the College of the Environment and Life Sciences who were concerned about a recent fiscal reorganization in the College. Chairperson Nassersharif had suggested to these faculty that they meet with their dean. The Provost indicated that he would speak with the dean.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. Agenda items for the upcoming meeting with the President (scheduled for July 16) were reviewed.

b. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that he had asked Judith Swift, Professor and Director of the Coastal Institute, to chair the General Education Implementation Steering Team. Chairperson Nassersharif and Director Swift had engaged in lengthy discussions and the Director agreed to serve as Chair given the following conditions:

- Compensation and release from other duties such as teaching or administrative duties for the Steering Team Chair and other Steering Team members, to be negotiated with the Provost.
- The Steering Team will report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
- The Steering Team's charge will be to plan and direct the implementation of the general education program as approved by the Senate.
- The Steering Team may appoint additional members as necessary without any required consultation or approval.

- Faculty Senate Coordinator, Nancy Neff, will assist the Steering Team in scheduling meetings.

Chairperson Nassersharif said that Director Swift had indicated that, due to other commitments, she would not be able to start work until September. He also said that she wished to meet with the Provost and, separately, with the Chair of the University College and General Education Committee to clarify the role of the Steering Team. The committee voted to approve the conditions requested by Director Swift. Ms. Neff was directed to amend the Implementation Process document to reflect that the Steering Team will report directly, and only, to the FSEC. Senator Rarick reported that Professor Roth had accepted the request to be a member of the Steering Team. The committee decided to allow Director Swift to determine if Professor Roth would be of greater service to the implementation effort as a member of the Steering Team or a member of the Key Stakeholders group.

Ms. Neff was directed to compose memoranda to the other Steering Team members confirming their appointments, and to the Key Stakeholders and the whole URI community updating these groups regarding progress of general education implementation.

c. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that he had been contacted by Diane Goldsmith, Director of the Office of Learning, Assessment, and Online Education requesting a time to meet. Chairperson Nassersharif said that he would be meeting with her later in the week. A discussion ensued regarding the development of online programs at URI. Ms. Neff reported that she had learned that the institution had entered into a contract agreement with *Academic Partnerships* last May to market, recruit students, and provide technical support for the proposed online RN to BS program in the College of Nursing (URI). A discussion ensued about the role of the Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC) in the approval of online programs. Chairperson Nassersharif suggested that the CAC charge be augmented to specifically include online instruction. Chairperson Nassersharif said that he intended to meet with CAC Chairperson Brand.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Having earlier reviewed the University Manual description of the University College and General Education Committee, the FSEC discussed the following suggestion made by Chairperson Nassersharif:

- Remove *"review and make policy recommendations to the Faculty Senate on all matters pertaining to the University College, such as admissions policy, length of time to be spent in the college, advanced standing, transfer students, advisement and counseling"* and assign it to the Undergraduate Academic Advising Committee
- Merge the Admissions Advisory Committee with the University College and Undergraduate Academic Advising Committee and rename it Committee on Admissions, University College, and Advising (CAUCA)

- Rename the UCGE Committee as the General Education Committee (GEC)

Chairperson Nassersharif suggested contacting the chairs of the affected committees this fall for their input regarding membership for the merged committee.

b. Ms. Neff informed the FSEC that UCGE Chairperson Kinnie had communicated with the UCGE Committee (via the listserv) to introduce himself and make note of the date of the first meeting in September. Professor Kinnie also had questions about the summer work of the UCGE Committee. Chairperson Nassersharif said he would contact Professor Kinnie to clarify the nature of work that would be appropriate for the committee at this time.

c. The FSEC reviewed the charges of the following committees: Academic Standards and Calendar, Constitution By-Laws and University Manual, Council For Research, Honors Program and Visiting Scholars, Library, and Teaching Effectiveness. The chairs of these committees (except for Academic Standards and Calendar and Library) will be contacted to visit a FSEC meeting in the fall.

d. Faculty appointments were made to vacancies in the Council For Research.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff