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FSEC Minutes July 23, 2014

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #6

July 23, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:11 AM on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 in Library Conference Room B in the URI Library, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Cerbo, Sullivan, and Welters were present. Senators Rarick and Rollo-Koster utilized Skype to participate in the meeting.

2. Minutes from Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #5, July 9, 2014 were approved.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. Chairperson Nassersharif reported on his meeting of July 16 with the President. Senator Cerbo had attended the meeting in the place of the Senate Vice Chair. They had discussed the proposed policy concerning consensual romantic relationships, progress of the implementation of revised general education program, developing new written standards and criteria for promotion and tenure, and a proposed new standing committee to address information technology, computing, and networking. They had also discussed the reorganization of the Board of Education and the "additional powers of the President." The President proposed a workshop-style meeting to discuss the possibility of a new model for the Senate to create greater efficiency and more convey power to the FSEC.

b. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that he has discussed compensation for the UCGE Chairperson with the Provost.

c. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that he had met with CAC Chairperson Brand, and Ms. Neff, to discuss proposals that are expected to be submitted to the CAC in the upcoming academic year. He indicated that he had suggested a pro-active approach in anticipation of the proposal regarding the new Division of Health or Health-related Studies. He also reported that they had discussed the contract with *Academic Partnerships* to market, recruit students, and provide technical support for the proposed online RN to BS program in the College of Nursing.

d. Chairperson Nassersharif reported that he had met with Diane Goldsmith, Director of the Office of Learning, Assessment, and Online Education. They had discussed the proposed online RN to BS program in the College of Nursing and the need for authorization from other states in order to be able to enroll students from those states in online courses and/or programs (including certificates) at URI.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. The Committee discussed the proposed online RN to BS program in the College of Nursing. The benefit of the proposed program to the College was recognized but the FSEC remained concerned about the decision to engage an external business in curriculum delivery without fully understanding the impacts. The FSEC asserted that signing a contract to develop and support a single online program in one college has broader institutional impact and should require broad faculty input. The committee also discussed the need for online versions of the general education component of the nursing degree and their concern about state-to-state agreements regarding enrollments in online programs.

b. Faculty appointments to vacancies in the standing and joint committees were discussed and approved. The committee voted to extend the meeting to complete the committee appointments.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff