

2014

FSEC Minutes June 11, 2014

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #3

June 11, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 in Library Conference Room B in the URI Library, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Cerbo, Rarick, Rollo-Koster, Sullivan, and Welters were present. Professor Kinnie was also present.

2. Chairperson Nassersharif welcomed Professor Kinnie to the meeting. He is the newly appointed Chair of the University College and General Education (UCGE) Committee. Chairperson Nassersharif moved to agenda item 4 for discussion of general education.

3. ONGOING BUSINESS

The committee discussed the implementation plan for the new general education program. Chairperson Nassersharif indicated that a vote on the plan had been postponed until the incoming UCGE Chair had had a chance to review it. The committee discussed the role of the General Education Implementation Key Stakeholders (larger group) and the role of the General Education Implementation Steering Team (smaller group). Professor Kinnie asked that a Library representative be added to the Stakeholders group. The history of previous discussions with the Provost about the plan, the Steering Team, and compensation for a chair of the Steering Team was reviewed. Plans of the UCGE Committee to implement the new program were reviewed. Chairperson Nassersharif indicated that he would inform the UCGE Committee of the appointment of the new Chair and affirm that committee meetings take place only at the call of the Chair.

Discussion ensued about the general process of creating new general education courses. The timeline included in the Implementation Process for the New General Education Program was adjusted. A motion was made to approve the document. The document was approved. FSEC members offered recommendations of faculty to serve on the Steering Team. Individuals who were recommended would be contacted before the next FSEC meeting (June 23) and asked about their interest in serving on the team.

Chairperson Nassersharif asked committee members and UCGE Chair Kinnie to review the University Manual description of the University College and General Education Committee (By-Laws 4.65 - 4.69) for possible updating and consistency as the institution engages a new general education program. They were also asked to consider the relevance of the part of the charge that pertains to University College policies.

Professor Kinnie left the meeting at 2:30 PM.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Chairperson Nassersharif informed committee members that two faculty members from the College of the Environment and Life Sciences had contacted him with concerns about recent restructuring by the dean of college-wide support services, staff, and equipment. Each of the ten departments in the college has been assigned to one of four new business units. The faculty viewed these fiscal mergers as negatively impacting their ability to work. Departmental and chair prerogatives appear to have been compromised. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Nassersharif indicated that he would discuss the recent restructuring with the Provost.

b. Ms. Neff briefly discussed with committee members the possible times for Fall 2014 meetings with the President.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff