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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #34

March 10, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 in the Library Conference Room B, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Cerbo, Rarick, Rollo Koster, Sullivan, and Welters were present.

2. Vice President Sonnenfeld joined the meeting at 3:00 PM. The Vice President provided a general summary of the history of revenue from research grants to the University from before the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 to present (FY2015). While award levels have returned to base levels after the expiration of the stimulus bill, URI has been able to exceed the total revenue levels of the pre-ARRA years despite the national downturn in funding. The Council for Research Subcommittee on Distribution of Overhead has considered adjustments to the overhead distribution in light of the fluctuations in funding and consequently in overhead to the University. Discussion ensued. The Vice President was asked about the New Center application and Center Renewal processes. He responded that he had no role in either process. He said that changes to the process were the purview of the Faculty Senate. The Vice President left the meeting at 3:50 PM.

3. Chairperson Nassersharif and Vice Chairperson Rollo Koster summarized their meeting of earlier in the day with the Provost, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Associate Dean of the Graduate School. The Committee discussed their concerns about changes to University Manual language regarding graduate faculty status and changes to the Graduate School Manual regarding eligibility to serve as a major professor.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff