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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #4

August 13, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m. on August 13, 2013 in the Dorothy Vocino Conference Room in the URI Library, Chairperson Byrd presiding. Senators Brady, Cerbo, Nassersharif, and Rice were present. Senator Davis participated via conference call.

2. The MINUTES of FSEC Meeting #3, July 2, 2013 were approved as amended.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. The FSEC is scheduled to meet with the Provost on August 20, 2013. Items for discussion will include the evaluation of administrators in 2013-14 and soliciting a new University Ombud.

b. The FSEC is scheduled to meet with the President on September 16, 2013. Items for discussion will include an invitation to the President to address the Faculty Senate at the beginning of the academic year, an update on steps taken by URI since the decision by the Board of Education at their May 23, 2013 meeting that each institution be granted the authority to decide on the matter of arming its campus police, and the Administrator Evaluation process as it pertains to the President (scheduled for 2014-15).

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. The Administrator Evaluation process was discussed. Those individuals scheduled for this year include:

Chief Information Officer (Bozylinsky)
Dean of Arts and Sciences (Brownell)
Dean of the Graduate School (Zawia)
Dean, University College (Richmond)
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (DeHayes)
Vice Provost for Academic Finances and Academic Personnel (Katz)
Vice Provost for Enrollment Management (Libutti)

There is only one traditional academic dean on the list this year. Non-traditional deans require different sets of questions. Each has a different set of constituents. Because of the number of individuals scheduled to be evaluated this year, some faculty are likely to be asked to respond to 6 or 7 surveys. The FSEC discussed the need to communicate clearly to faculty that there are two surveys -the Faculty Senate survey and the Provost's survey- distributed for each individual under evaluation.

Building on the evaluation process proposed in Fall 2012, the FSEC considered augmenting the process by requiring that data from the survey results and/or a report based on the survey results be made available to the FSEC. This would allow better assessment of the tool and the process.

Senator Nassersharif is the Administrator Evaluation Coordinator for the 2013-14 academic year. He is planning to initiate evaluation committee selection early in the fall to keep the process on schedule. The process should be completed by early April 2014.

b. The FSEC discussed the process of evaluation of the University President. Unlike the evaluation reports of other administrators that are disseminated to the administrator's supervisor, the summary of the President's evaluation is released only to the President (UNIVERSITY MANUAL 10.90.14). Proposed alternatives to allow faculty input to the Board of Education were discussed: the evaluation data and summary report are made available to the FSEC, the FSEC shares the summary report with the Board of Education, the evaluation committee prepares a report for public release. The purpose of considering alternatives to the current process is to create a thorough and transparent process while respecting confidentiality.

c. The FSEC has not had a mutually available time to meet with the Graduate School regarding their proposed changes to Graduate faculty Status (UNIVERSITY MANUAL 40.70.10). Another date will be proposed.

d. The draft of the description and duties of the University Ombud was reviewed. It was suggested that the duration of the term of the position be added to the draft.

e. Vice Chair Rice requested that, on Aug. 20, the Provost be asked about the disposition of Resolution #12-13--4, Endorsement of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of South Kingstown and the University of Rhode Island and its Land Grant Programs on the Healthy Place by Design Project.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff