

2013

FSEC Minutes October 18, 2013

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #12

October 18, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM on October 18, 2013 in the Dorothy Vocino Conference Room in the URI Library, Chairperson Byrd presiding. Senators Brady, Cerbo, Davis, Nassersharif, and Rice were present.

2. Minutes of FSEC Meeting #11, Oct. 4, 2013 were approved.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. The FSEC reflected on the proceedings of the October 17th Senate Meeting. It was considered to have been a successful meeting. The Budget presentation and subsequent discussion were well received.

b. FSEC members reported on the October 7th Public Forum: Arming URI Police (co-sponsored in part by the Faculty Senate). Members who were present at the forum noted that the one panelist (of four) whose position was in opposition to the arming action represented the viewpoint well. It was also noted that the majority of those in attendance who rose to speak were opposed to the arming action.

Another forum is scheduled for October 28, 2013. Representatives of the FSEC plan to attend. It is unknown if the composition of the panel will be identical to that of the October 7th event.

c. Senator Cerbo provided the committee with an update on the efforts to fill the position of University Ombud. Gerry Tyler, Professor Emerita of Political Science and Al Killilea, Professor Emeritus of Political Science have agreed to be co-Ombuds. Ms. Neff has contacted Ryan Carrillo to secure office space for them.

d. A brief report was presented on the October 15 Graduate Faculty Summit sponsored by the graduate school. Many topics were covered: graduate education in the context of a changing world, global competition, recruitment, diversity, enrollment, admissions system, grant support, assistantships, proactive measures to ensure on-time degree completion. The Dean also discussed the concept of graduate faculty, distinct from the general faculty, and his efforts over two years to clarify graduate faculty status. Conditions for graduate faculty status should include publications or other contributions to the discipline and effective mentoring of graduate students.

e. Ms. Neff reported that the new Chair of the Council for Research, Jackie Webb (CELS), had met with Vice President Sonnenfeld and was encouraged by their discussion of topics that the Council will address this year.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Administrator Evaluation Coordinator, Senator Nassersharif, updated the committee on the progress of the evaluation process of the 6 administrators. Informational meetings have taken place with all those to be evaluated. President Dooley, acting as the Provost's supervisor, recommended including deans, external peers, and staff in the review of the Provost. The constituency groups for the Provost the two Vice Provosts will be the general faculty; the graduate faculty, for the Dean of the Graduate School, the Arts and Sciences faculty for the Dean of A&S, and the faculty and staff advisors, for the Dean of University College. The committee

considered the Provost's suggestion that one member of the FSEC sit on each administrator's evaluation committee.

The first email will be to solicit committee nominees.

Senator Nassersharif said that he has researched other institutions' evaluation instruments; many are similar to ours, and many make public the survey results.

b. The committee briefly discussed the proposed General Education revisions. The committee reiterated the importance for the UCGE committee to produce a report in a timely manner to be able to distribute to faculty. Discussion ensued about the timing of the report and a proposed Forum discussion in the Senate.

c. Resolution #12-13--4 (MOA between URI and town of SK) requires Dean Kirby's signature to be able to submit it to the President. Senator Rice has contacted the Dean in regard to this matter.

d. Chairperson Byrd responded to the Online Strategy document developed by the Provost's Office and the Office of Online Education. He would like to see the documentation regarding increased enrollments and improved learning outcomes through online offerings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff