2011

JCAP Meeting Minutes 12-06-2011

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP)
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 6, 2011
3:00-4:30 PM
President’s Conference Room, Green Hall

Attendance: Provost Don DeHayes, Chairperson, Peter Larsen, Vice Chairperson, Laura Beauvais, Lynn McKinney, Ann Morrissey, Norbert Mundorf, Michael Rice, Scott Martin, Vern Wyman,

Members Absent: Peter Alfonso, Marilyn Barbour, Chris Caisse, Michael Honhart, Valerie Maier-Speredelozzi, Jason Pina, Kat Quina, Nasser Zawia

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM. Minutes of the October 27, 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements
   a. The Provost announced that he will be hiring a temporary position, Assistant to the Provost for Global Strategies and Partnerships, in line with recommendations made by several campus-wide groups. This will be a 1-year, temporary appointment on soft money; the appointment will be made possibly by January 2012. This position will assist with global strategy and partnerships and the ACE program, interfacing with deans, chairs, faculty, admissions, and the Office of International Students and Scholars. This appointment has been approved by the BoG.
   b. The December 22, 2011 JCAP meeting has been cancelled.
   c. A link to planning committees can now be found on the home page of the Provost’s website. The website is being revised to facilitate better navigation and allow for reporting in a more dynamic way.
   d. The new Health Studies major in HSS has received more applicants (150) than TMD for fall 2012. Applications to Kinesiology have also increased.

3. JCAP subcommittee projects
   Plans are underway for the 4th Academic Summit to take place in January 2012 before the start of classes. The theme will be interdisciplinary programs with discussion connected to the cluster hire initiative. A panel of speakers from
URI was proposed in addition to a guest speaker from another institution with expertise in interdisciplinary programs. Minimizing barriers to success will be addressed. A student panel was also suggested.

The Summit committee is looking for additional members.

4. Updates from subcommittees

a. NEASC/Accreditation subcommittee

Groups assigned to work on the fifth year report have been formed and will be meeting to write various sections:

- institutional overview
- response to areas of special emphasis (strategic planning, academic program review, governance issues, student retention, persistence to graduation, financial aid policies)
- standards narrative
- reflective essay on assessment, retention, and student success
- plans for the next five years

A first draft of the report will be complete by May 15, 2012.

On December 2, 2011, the Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) presented to department chairs (at the once-a-semester chairs forum) the three-part program review structure to solicit feedback on the process. The three parts consist of the annual central data report (which chairs will receive by the end of December 2011), the biennial chairs survey (which was vetted with the chairs during the Fall 2011 semester and will be distributed for data collection in March 2012); and the self-study, which occurs every six years for a program. The APRC asked if there were any departments that would agree to participate in the self-study beginning in 2012. Departments in the College of Engineering (currently going through ABET accreditation) and the Psychology Department have agreed to participate in the self-study next year.

b. Task Force subcommittee

Global Education: see item 2a. above.

Online Teaching and Distance Learning: the option for a department to designate a course as “blended” in e-campus has been approved for 2012-2013.

Kim Washor, Coordinator, University College, Office of Internships and Experiential Education has been upgraded to Director. College liaisons will
become Coordinators.

Attention needs to be brought to effective reporting on the work on the goals in the Academic Plan. An archive of the progress needs to be established.

5. New Academic Initiatives

“Finish What You Started,” the campaign to encourage degree completion: the Provost reported that, as of fall 2011, 470 students did not graduate and did not return (75 credits or more; most had 90 or more). In examining the reasons, lack of funds appears not to be the primary factor. In some cases, it is a paperwork issue. Each college is investigating its students who fall into this category.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.