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Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)

Meeting #1 May 13, 2020

9:00-11:00 AM

[via Zoom](#)

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) Zoom meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chair Echevarría. Vice-Chair Cardany and Senators Barbour, Hicks, Morokoff, and Welters were in attendance, in addition to former Executive Committee Chair Nassersharif and former FSEC member Senator Gindy.
2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - a. Introduction of new and previous FSEC members- Chair Echevarría welcomed the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and past Chair Nassersharif and former committee Executive Committee member Senator Gindy. Chair Echevarría and each FSEC member and staff introduced themselves to the group.
 - b. Updates on Fall 2020 scenario planning- The Chair provided an update from the Provost's Fall 2020 Scenario Committee of which she and Vice-Chair Cardany are members. The overarching themes are the need for more remotely delivered classes, ways to de-densify the campus, and the need to prepare faculty members to "pivot" to fully remote instruction in the event of a new outbreak and potential public health concerns.
 - c. Summer 2020 FSEC meeting schedule- The next meeting of the FSEC will be held on Wednesday, May 20th from 10:00 to 11:30 AM. FSEC meetings will be scheduled the following week beginning May 27th every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:30 AM through the summer.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting # 42 April 29, 2020, were reviewed and approved.
4. **PENDING ISSUES MOVING INTO AY 20-21**
 - a. Senate work over summer months (and compensation)
 - i. Composition of members to the Special Committee to study refinement of curriculum committees was discussed. Prospective members will be solicited to serve on the committee. Ideally, the Committee will meet for a maximum

total of eight hours over the summer. The Chair will inquire with the Provost about compensation for service on this special committee over the summer.

- ii. It was also agreed that it would be advisable and advantageous for the Curriculum and Standards Committee and the General Education Subcommittee to also meet over the summer. The Chair will inquire with the Provost about compensation for service on these committees over the summer.
 - b. The Committee discussed Senate workload adjustments for service.
 - c. Graduate School issues- During the meeting scheduled next week with the Provost and Vice Provost, the Chair and Vice-Chair will request an update from the Provost regarding the hiring of a new Dean of the Graduate school. The FSEC discussed Manual language changes concerning the Graduate School. Language changes must first be vetted through the Graduate Faculty before the Faculty Senate can consider language changes.
 - d. Administrator evaluation process and updates- Former FSEC Chair Nassersharif agreed to continue to serve as the Administrator Evaluation Coordinator. He provided status updates on evaluations of Deans Rolle and Riley which are not yet completed. He also discussed President Dooley's stated interest in sharing his evaluation with the new Board of Trustees.
 - e. Board of Trustees (BOT) transition-
 - i. The FSEC discussed the need to define, clarify, and codify the relationship between the URI Board of Trustees representative and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
 - ii. An outside consultant has been employed to develop bylaws for the BOT. The President and the BOT lawyers are also working on Board policies.
 - iii. The revision of the URI internal policies document is being handled through VP Rider's office.
 - iv. The FSEC will request a copy of the internal policies document from VP Rider's office.
 - f. Budget challenges- During the meeting scheduled next week with the Provost and Vice Provost, the FSEC Chair and Vice-Chair intend to discuss updates on the budget for the coming year.
4. **OTHER KEY PRIORITIES FOR AY 20-21-** The Chair surveyed the FSEC on what their key priorities are for the coming year. Among the priorities identified were:
- a. Faculty Senate membership and options for including more faculty
 - b. How the Academic Review Committee should work moving forward

- c. Revisions of the University Manual based on the new URI Board of Trustees
- d. Potential need to adapt FS By-Laws to compensate for the limitations associated with WebEx meetings
- e. Concerns about flags on low enrollment courses and measures of program efficiency
- f. Title changes of the FS Executive Officers

5. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.