Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes January 29, 2015

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts

Recommended Citation
University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes January 29, 2015" (2015). Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices. Paper 265.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/265
Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP)
Thursday, January 29, 2015

3:00 – 4:30 PM, President’s Conference Room, Green Hall

Minutes

Attendance: Provost Don DeHayes, Chairperson, Joëlle Rollo Koster, Vice Chairperson, Marilyn Barbour, Laura Beauvais, Susan Trostle Brand, Michael Cerbo, Mary Jo Gonzales, James Kinnie, Ann Morrissey, Kat Quina, Damon Rarick, Gerald Sonnenfeld, Devon Swanson, Naomi Thompson, Linda Welters and Nasser Zawia.

Members Absent: Mary Sullivan, Joseph Maynard.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM. Minutes from the December 18, 2014 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements

   a. The Provost reported that there is progress on the development of the active learning classroom to be located in the Library. Construction will commence in March and the facility is planned to be ready in Fall 2015. Faculty have been invited to attend information sessions to learn about different pedagogical methods and teaching strategies for use in this kind of classroom.

   b. The Provost noted with concern the number of weather-related class cancellations to date in the semester. He expressed concern especially for the loss of Monday evening class time because those courses meet only once a week. He said he hoped that the missed classes could be rescheduled even if informally. The Provost acknowledged that the emergency notification system (relative to the class cancellations) had not functioned adequately.

3. Ongoing Business

   a. The Committee discussed the 7th Annual Academic Summit, sponsored by the Provost’s Office on January 16. 212 individuals had registered. The Provost said that he considered the conversation among faculty to have been rich and thoughtful. Ms. Morrissey is compiling ideas from the notes that were taken during the facilitated conversations and breakout sessions. The idea of hosting a half-day student summit in the spring was
discussed. The Committee discussed innovative structures for learning: a la carte instruction, self-directed learning, modules tailored to interest, 1 credit modules of applied learning. The Provost said that he has observed that, increasingly, faculty want to do interdisciplinary work and students want to know how learning applies to the world. Designing better integration of minors with majors and bridging majors with professions is a direction to consider.

b. The Provost asked the Committee how to address one initiative in the first Academic Plan, process streamlining, that had failed. The Provost suggested asking the Strategic Budget and Planning Council (SBPC) to articulate a plan to address this goal. JCAP members agreed to this suggestion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.