Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes February 26, 2015

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University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes February 26, 2015" (2015). Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices. Paper 266.
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Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP)
Thursday, February 26, 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, James Kinnie, Joseph Maynard, Ann Morrissey, Kat Quina, Damon Rarick, Gerald Sonnenfeld, Mary Sullivan, Devon Swanson, Naomi Thompson, Linda Welters and Nasser Zawia.

Members Absent: Mary Jo Gonzales

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM. Minutes from the January 29, 2015 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements

   The Provost reported that assessment and voting on the health reorganization proposal was underway at the department and college level. He said that, to date, reports of voting results have been to approve the proposal and that voting will be completed during the first week of March. He commented on the challenges of institution-wide reorganization and praised the efforts of the faculty who comprised the Exploratory Committee and the Phase II Committee. Professor Brand, Chair of the Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC), asked if additional review of the proposal by other URI entities or review committees might be in order after the proposal has been submitted to the CAC. The Provost answered that the CAC should address the structural changes in the proposal as objectively as possible and determine if the establishment of the Academic Health Collaborative is in the best interest of the University.

3. Ongoing Business

   The Committee discussed the commentary from the Academic Summit, sponsored by the Provost’s Office on January 16. Ms. Morrissey had compiled and summarized notes from the many discussions at the Summit. The Committee discussed revising the goals described in the first Academic Plan (AP) and a process for assimilating the information from the Summit into the new Academic Plan. The Committee enumerated ideas and themes that had emerged during the Summit:
• New pedagogical approaches
• Reframe and redefine liberal education
• New opportunities for experiential learning that extend beyond internships and service learning
• New opportunities for undergraduate research
• Expand faculty development and support
• Develop collaborative spaces
• Re-structure the academic calendar
• Re-structure the class schedule (meeting times)

Discussion continued about these themes and strategies for both faculty and student success. It was suggested that the new Academic Plan incorporate success strategies.

Arranging a student summit in April was discussed.

The Provost suggested expanding the meeting time of the next JCAP meeting to finalize the proposed goals and subtopics of the new AP. It was agreed to meet on March 26 from 3-6 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.