Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes November 13, 2014

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 November 13, 2014" (2014). Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices. Paper 269.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/269

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.
Minutes

Attendance: Provost Don DeHayes, Chairperson, Joëlle Rollo Koster, Vice Chairperson, Marilyn Barbour, Laura Beauvais, James Kinnie, Joseph Maynard, Ann Morrissey, Kat Quina, Damon Rarick, Gerald Sonnenfeld, Devon Swanson, Naomi Thompson, and Nasser Zawia.

Members Absent: Susan Trostle Brand, Michael Cerbo, Mary Jo Gonzales, Mary Sullivan, and Linda Welters.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM. Minutes from the October 9, 2014 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements
   a. The Provost welcomed Joseph Maynard, URI Student Senate President and undergraduate student representative to the JCAP Committee.
   b. The Provost announced that a forum to present and discuss the health collaborative proposal was planned for November 18th. He urged JCAP members to attend and participate.
   c. The Provost announced that the annual Graduate Faculty Summit was scheduled for December 9th and urged graduate faculty members to attend.
   d. Professor Barbour announced that The Women’s Leadership Initiative, a day-long conference on gender and leadership sponsored by several divisions at the University, was scheduled for December 5th.

3. Ongoing Business

The Provost briefly reviewed the examination of trends impacting higher education that had taken place at the previous meeting (October 9, 2014). He noted that some themes had emerged from the discussion. He also noted that creative work had not been included in the discussion because the articles reviewed had not included the subject.

The committee reviewed the progress of work toward the goals of the Academic
Plan. Ms. Morrissey summarized the process, implemented in 2010, of reviewing task force recommendations and establishing indicators and metrics in order to track progress. She displayed the data that has been collected for each of the goals (available through the Provost’s website http://web.uri.edu/academic-planning/progress/) and noted highlights, e.g., the % of students with 30 credits at the end of their first year increased from 45% in 2005 to 70% in 2013. Areas of needed improvement of data collection were noted (undergraduate research engagement, experiential learning). The Provost also noted that the goal to study and make recommendations to improve institutional effectiveness (goal 6) required renewed effort. Discussion continued on this issue. It was suggested that improvements might require hiring an outside consultant.

Ms. Morrissey reported on the progress of work toward the President’s Transformational goals and distributed a recent report on progress issued from the President’s Office. She summarized that the President’s goals dovetail with the goals of the Academic Plan.

4. New Business

The committee moved to New Business to accommodate the presentation of a pre-proposal submitted from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology titled BA in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Professors Carroll and Doerner explained that the department plans to eliminate the BS in Sociology with option in Criminology and Criminal Justice and propose a BA degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. More than 300 students are currently enrolled in the Criminology and Criminal Justice option; instructional resources cannot sustain the demand. The new degree is designed to be multi-disciplinary and includes courses from four other departments. Professors Carroll and Doerner answered questions. JCAP members asked about other degree programs offered regionally, employment opportunities, and the administrative structure of the program.

The committee recommended further proposal development and consideration of the following:

- Identify tracks within the degree (based on career opportunities)
- Consider a 3 + 2 BA-MA program built on the possible tracks
- Consider an online post-baccalaureate certificate (12 cr.) possibly as a “seed” of an MA degree
- Be strategic about anticipated personnel needs; match personnel with growth of numbers of students
- Include Literature and Writing
- Clearly define the administrative structure; determine if faculty will have joint appointments in their home department and in this program
• Develop an MOU outlining the contributions (numbers of courses) each department would provide

3. Ongoing Business

The committee resumed Ongoing Business and discussed themes (under research, scholarship, and creative work) for consideration for the Annual Summit. Committee members discussed the following briefly: research themes, digital humanities, big data, changing models of publications, the scholarship of teaching and learning, new models of corporate support, data storage. The disposition of outreach at the university was discussed briefly.

Ms. Morrissey distributed notes from the first Academic Summit (January 2009) from which ideas for the 2010-2015 Academic Plan were developed. She also distributed a complete list of the potential themes to be consider by the Summit planning committee. Summit planning committee members were identified:

Laura Beauvais
David Byrd
Cathy DeCesare
Bryan Dewsbury
Elaine Finan
Ann Morrissey
Damon Rarick
Mike Rice
Devon Swanson
Alison Tovar
Alan Verskin

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.