2-25-2016

Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes February 25, 2016

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 February 25, 2016" (2016). Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices. Paper 272.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/272

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.
Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP)
Thursday, February 25, 2016

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

Minutes


Members Absent: Susan Trostle Brand (for Norma Owens), Kyle Kusz, Damon Rarick, Gerald Sonnenfeld, Mary Sullivan, George Tsiatas, and Tammy Vargas Warner.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM.

2. Announcements

   a. Provost DeHayes announced that the Academic Strategic Plan 2016-2021 had been distributed to and was well received by the members of the Council on Postsecondary Education at a meeting the previous day (February 24, 2016). He added that the goals and language of the Plan align well with the goals of the state.

   b. Provost DeHayes provided Committee members with an overview of the enrollment in the 2016 Winter J-Term: approximately 860 students had participated (an increase from 600+ in 2015), 160-170 students had taken part in travel courses (a decrease from 2015); there was growth in the number of students taking courses on campus and a notable increase in the number of seniors registered for J-term courses. Winter J-Term was supported by Residential Life, which offered no-cost housing to students who were already living on campus. The Provost said that students had high praise for the program because it allowed them the opportunity to focus on one course.

3. The minutes from the JCAP meeting of December 17, 2015 were approved.

4. New Business
a. Vice Provost Beauvais informed the Committee that URI would undergo the comprehensive evaluation (every ten years) by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in 2017. The self-evaluation is to be completed by April 2017 and the site visit is planned for Fall 2017. She distributed a handout summarizing the 9 standards that are used by NEASC for evaluation and said that teams of faculty and administrators would be appointed to prepare materials in each category. The Vice Provost informed the Committee that a Team Leader would be appointed to oversee and coordinate the work. JCAP members were asked to suggest combinations of standards so that preparation of materials could be completed by 5-7 teams. Discussion followed. The following combinations were agreed upon:

**Standard One**, Mission and Purposes and **Standard Two**, Planning and Evaluation


**Standard Four**, The Academic Program and **Standard Eight**, Educational Effectiveness

**Standard Five**, Students

**Standard Six**, Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship

**Standard Seven**, Institutional Resources

The Committee discussed the composition of the teams, suggesting that faculty, deans, vice presidents, and students comprise the groups. It was suggested that the individuals who work most closely with the subject matter be asked to part of the self-evaluation teams. The Provost said that the Team Leader would be responsible for compiling the different reports into a cohesive whole. The work is planned to take place over the summer. It was suggested that retired faculty be considered as support staff, if needed.

b. The Provost proposed that a process streamlining steering group be convened to address Goal 5 of the Academic Strategic Plan: *Engender a highly professional work culture that celebrates service and is characterized by flexible, effective, and efficient processes and by trust, support, and recognition towards greater institutional effectiveness*. The steering group would charge task forces with the
examination of individual divisions, review their structure and processes, and recommend alternative organizational structures.

c. The Committee reviewed the draft of an RFP for the Innovation Fund Initiative. The concept of the fund was introduced at the 2016 Academic Summit (January 22, 2016). At the Summit (Phase I), 4 ideas were awarded $2500 each as seed money. Phase II is designed to solicit truly innovative ideas that can be supported with $30,000 - $50,000 that would advance the goals of the Academic Plan. Discussion followed about how to encourage proposers to be creative and original.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.