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**Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)
Meeting #38 February 23, 2021, 9:30-11:00am
Via Zoom**

MINUTES

1. President Echevarria called the Zoom meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Vice President Cardany, Senators Barbour, Hicks, Morokoff, and Welters were present.
2. **GUEST: Vice President Abigail Rider**
 - a. President Echevarria asked Vice President Rider what precipitated the changes to name, description, and membership of the Space Enhancement, Design and Allocation (SEDA) Committee description in Chapter 5, sections 5.41.10-5.41.11 of the University Manual. Vice President Rider explained the committee has become more streamlined over the last year. The proposed University Manual language including changing the committee name to the Space Allocation Committee (SCA) is more reflective of what the committee actually does. Proposed UM changes related to SEDA
 - b. The Faculty Executive Committee (FSEC) requested clarification on the representative from “academic planning.” Vice President Rider explained that the representative would be appointed by the Provost’s office. She addressed the reason for the representative from Enrollment Services is associated with the scheduling section and needed for the consideration of classrooms. When asked about the size of the Committee, Vice President Rider stated that to achieve transparency each college is invited to have a representative, but they can choose not to send someone.
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES**
 - a. President Echevarria relayed that last year President Dooley suggested utilizing sky lounge spaces for part-time faculty. At that time FSEC had underscored the importance of part-time faculty having appropriate work space in the departments where they work. Recently Senator Kincaid brought to the attention of President Echevarria that such a space could be useful to faculty who

teach in Kingston and whose primary offices are on the Bay or Providence campuses. As decisions are made about how to repurpose offline classrooms and other spaces, this may be an appropriate way to maximize space and address faculty needs.

- b. President Echevarria expressed alarm to discover that a non-senator was identifying themselves as a senator voting on senate polls. The Executive Committee discussed ways to prevent this from happening again.
 - c. President Echevarria explained that she has spoken with Senator Kincaid, Chair of the Curriculum and Standards Committee, regarding URI 101. While ideas are being discussed, nothing is ready to be presented.
 - d. There has been no update to HELIN. President Echevarria will be meeting with Vice President Cardany and Department Chairs from University Libraries for further discussion.
 - e. President Echevarria relayed that the data used for the apportionment report and college elections had been received. She and the Faculty Senate Specialist will be working on the apportionment this week.
 - f. President told the FSEC she was meeting with the Chair of the General Education Subcommittee regarding data collection for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative.
4. The minutes for FSEC Meeting #37, February 16, 2021 were approved.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. President Echevarria initiated discussion on the University Manual changes proposed by the Centers subcommittee. The FSEC concurred that the report given at the Faculty Senate meeting by Senator Roman, Chair of the Research and Creative Activities Committee, was well done. President Echevarria will contact President Dooley and Provost DeHayes for their input and insight on the University Manual content. She also asked Senator Hicks, Chair of the Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual (CBUM) Committee, to have the Committee review the proposed changes again, as well as meet with Chair

Roman and Senator Eaton, Chair of Centers Subcommittee. Non-externally funded centers and centers without research money, such as the Center for the Humanities, should be considered carefully. Partnerships continue to need clarification. The FSEC agreed the changes to the University Manual should be made this academic year.

- b. The changes to the University Manual regarding emeritus status were approved by the FSEC and will be presented to the Faculty Senate at the March meeting. The discussion of marine scientists being eligible for emeriti status is still being discussed.
- c. The FSEC committee discussed the need and urgency for communication and collaboration regarding Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusions (JEDI) issues including the Academic Affairs Action: Agenda for Change. President Echevarria will reach out to Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Office Almandrez and Dean Riley.
- d. President Echevarria was contacted by Vice Provost Veeger regarding the proposed fully online MPA program. She relayed that a clarification was needed as the proposal packet forwarded to President Dooley, via the Provost's Office, included both a new program proposal form and a notice of change form. After discussion, the FSEC reasoned that as new resources were required they believed it was appropriate for the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees to be part of the approval process.
- e. Senator Hicks confirmed that the Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee (CBUM) were working on the Abbreviated Bachelors to Masters (ABM) degree program language for inclusion in the University Manual. CBUM is also continuing work on the graduate school and graduate faculty status sections.
- f. Senate membership discussion will be continued in the FSEC meetings.
- g. President Echevarria will contact Senator Kincaid and refer the discussion on process and next steps for course equivalencies to the Curriculum and Standards Committee.

- h. In discussion of academic integrity and plagiarism software, Senator Barbour recollected seeing information on BrightSpace. She will look into it and discuss her findings at the March 9th FSEC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.