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**Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)
Meeting #43 March 30, 2021, 9:30-11:00am
MINUTES**

1. The meeting was called to order by President Echevarria at 9:31 AM. Also in attendance: Vice President Cardany, Vice President-elect Rice, Senators Barbour, Hicks, and Welters. Absent- Senator Morokoff Guest: President Dooley

2. President Dooley reported on URI commencement plans. Depending on the pandemic's status, the administration will decide in late April whether students may have in-person guests at the commencement ceremony. The commencement ceremony is to take place in the URI football stadium. The Honorary Degree recipients will be honored by the University during the virtual main Commencement ceremony.

3. President Dooley said the presidential transition team is already in place to assist the new URI President. The URI budget for the coming year is very favorable, the President disclosed, especially after the recent passing of the federal Covid-19 relief bill. According to the President, the Fine Arts Building will begin active construction in 2022 because of the passage of the March 2021 special bond issue.

The pandemic and the AY 21-22 planning continues, stated the President. President Dooley meets weekly with Dr. Scott of the RI Department of Health and other RI college presidents regarding the pandemic. The President believes URI will be in a good position for fall 2021 especially if URI has vaccination pods, access to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and URI labs administering saliva tests.

The President expressed his appreciation for the open forum to discuss the "Agenda for Change" at the March Faculty Senate meeting. He noted that the role of the Faculty Senate is central to this work.

The President also expressed his gratitude to the Faculty Senate for proposing expansion of the Senate's membership; this action he believes aligns with the Agenda for Change and the broad institutional commitment to equity, inclusion, and representative shared governance.

The President left the meeting at 10:30 AM.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

- a. President Echevarria, Vice President-elect Rice and Senator Barbour invited college leaders in diversity, equity and inclusion to provide additional feedback on the Agenda for Change, and have received input from the Diversity Committees of the College of Arts and Sciences, CELS, and the College of Pharmacy.
- b. The FSEC agreed that the draft report of FSEC feedback on the Agenda for Change needs substantial revision of content, language, and formatting. Members of FSEC identified specific areas in need of revision. The FS Coordinator will revise and reformat the Agenda for Change document before sending it to the FSEC for review before being sent to the Provost.
- c. The FS Coordinator reported that she had not yet completed the Guidelines for Committee Chairs for presentations and written reports at the April 29 FS meeting..
- d. The FS Coordinator reported that she had not yet proposed edits to the Centers UM language, nor had she checked with the Chair of the Research and Creative Activities Committee (RCA) on their intended timeline for presenting the changes for Senate approval.
- e. The FS Coordinator reported that she had not yet completed the draft of a revised MOU between the Office of the Provost and the FS to reflect FS needs and commitments.
- f. The FS Coordinator reported that she had not yet reviewed or proposed revisions to the gender-neutral UM language prepared by CBUM .
- g. The FS Coordinator reported that she had not yet created the draft agenda for the April 15 FS meeting for FSEC review. President Echevarria informed the FS Coordinator that Senator Meyerson, Chair, Academic Calendar Subcommittee, had indicated interest in making a presentation to the Senate. The FS

Coordinator will contact Chair Meyerson to confirm the preferred date (April 15 or April 29) for her presentation to the Faculty Senate.

5. **MINUTES:** The minutes of meeting #32 on March 23, 2021, were approved as revised and amended.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Vice President Cardany has been meeting with student leadership to finalize the FS-Student message and has asked Vice Provost Veeger for additional input. The FSEC voted to approve the FS-Student message as revised. The intention is to release the joint message to the URI community as soon as possible.
 - b. Discussion on FSEC feedback on the UDC Curriculum report was postponed to the next FSEC meeting.
 - c. The FSEC discussed the potential impact of the proposed apportionment changes of the Faculty Senate on small units. The FSEC made no decisions on this topic. The discussion will continue at the next FSEC meeting.
 - d. FSEC briefly discussed the recording of classroom sessions and whether it is a violation of FERPA and the intellectual property (IP) policy of URI. Before the next FSEC meeting, the Vice President will share information from AAUP concerning intellectual property. The FS Coordinator will review the email sent by President Echevarria citing the section of the University Manual that describes course content as intellectual property and make it available to the committee. Additional discussion on the topic was postponed to the next FSEC meeting.
 - e. To complete FSEC work, the FSEC agreed to scheduling an additional meeting time. The Coordinator will send out a Doodle poll to find a suitable time.
7. The meeting adjourned at 11:05.