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## FSEC Minutes August 17, 2021

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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**Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)**  
**Meeting #13, August 17, 2021**  
**9:00-10:30 AM via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

1. President Cardany called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Vice President Rice, Senators Maier-Speredelozzi, Meyerson, Nassersharif, and Welters were present.
  
2. Announcements
  - a. President Cardany updated the FSEC on her meeting with Vice President Rice, Provost DeHayes, Provost Designate Beauvais, Vice Provost Veeger, and Vice Provost Bodah.
    - i. President Cardany presented the proposed summer Faculty Senate budget in order to continue the discussion with the Provost on the amount and procedures to be followed. Vice Provost Bodah recommended that care be taken to ensure that individual faculty do not go over 33% of their salary (or 25% for those on internal payroll). The budget will be intended for fiscal year payment for summer - July, August and next May and June, with the FSEC deciding how to distribute the funds. President Cardany said she would bring the offered budget amount back to the FSEC. In response to her inquiry about the next steps, Vice Provost Bodah stated he will draft some suggested language on what the budget entails and the processes and procedures to ensure the governed pay percentages are not exceeded. The FSEC will review the language when it is ready. President Cardany anticipates the budget will be implemented for the academic year 2022-2023. Vice President Rice explained that the maximum amount of salary received for summer compensation for faculty is governed by federal rules and regulations. The FSEC continued discussion on methods used by previous vice provosts to keep track of faculty funding, the need for transparency by the faculty member, and the total budget amount.
    - ii. President Cardany requested the COVID-19 Task Force to include at least two faculty representatives. She relayed that Provost DeHayes, Provost Designate Beauvais, and Vice Provost Veeger did not know who was on the task force but agreed that faculty should be included. President Cardany will recommend a faculty member from the College of Pharmacy who has been contacting her and is very interested in the issue. Vice Provost Veeger will contact the Task Force to determine how to get

- faculty involved; she will update President Cardany with additional information.
- iii. President Cardany relayed that Provost DeHayes was not able to get the Academic Integrity Policy on the agenda for the Council of Deans but will do so in the coming weeks. The purpose of bringing the policy to the Council of Deans is to determine if the policy procedures and University Manual language should designate the dean or dean's designee rather than the associate or assistant dean(s) as part of the process.
  - iv. President Cardany updated Provost DeHayes regarding the University Policies and University Manual conversations. He is in agreement with the FSEC that Vice President Rider's office should have been in contact with the Faculty Senate. Discussion will continue on this topic.
  - v. President Cardany explained that she had sent Provost DeHayes and Vice Provost Veeger an email regarding the Joint Committee Appointments. She inquired about the names of their committee appointees in order to update the Faculty Senate website. Vice Provost Veeger asked to have the Learning Outcomes and Oversight Committee (LOOC) reviewed as the committee has not met over the last few years, and some changes may be needed. President Cardany will add this as a discussion item to an August FSEC meeting.
  - vi. President Cardany explained to the Provost that not all deans and department chairs are letting faculty know that they are to be compensated when participating as a Summer search committee member. The Provost agreed with the FSEC reaching out to faculty and informing them of compensation possibilities.
- b. Senator Nassersharif updated the FSEC on the FS Coordinator Search. He stated that he had reached out to the search committee members, and the next step would be for the committee to review the job description. President Cardany explained that she, Vice President Rice, and Vice Provost Bodah had done significant work on the job description while seeking approval to hire. Senator Nassersharif requested a copy of the job description to create the advertisement for the position. He asked the FSEC for their input on where the advertisement should run to widen the pool of candidates. President Cardany relayed that Vice Provost Bodah has requested to meet the candidates when they are interviewed; Senator Nassersharif agreed that this was a good idea as the Coordinator will work with that office.

3. The minutes of meeting #12, August 10, 2021, were approved with the revision suggested by Senator Welters.

4. Discussion Items

- a. President Cardany reopened the conversation on the committee charges and the work done by the Senate Committees relating to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) during the academic year 2020-2021. She asked the FSEC members to discuss the suggestions and recommendations they will relay to the Committees for which they are liaisons.

As liaison to the Curriculum and Standards Committee (CASC), President Cardany read the yearly report given by Chair Kincaid. She explained that the Committee's report gives a picture and prediction of the diversity of student demographics as well as data on who is graduating and who is not. The CASC report also addressed pedagogy and outcomes in addition to course content. The CASC believes the curriculum should offer courses that infuse DEI and also have pedagogy and assessment for DEI. President Cardany will suggest that CASC may want to reach out to the Office of the Advancement of Teaching and Learning regarding their idea of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) pedagogy outcome review. The CASC's report recommended that instructors have access to training and certifications for teaching DEI and assistance developing DEI course content. The Committee also recommended setting standards for online course proposals; President Cardany will recommend that the CASC reach out to the Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning.

Senator Maier-Sperdelozzi relayed that as a previous member of the Technology and Infrastructure Committee (TECH) she knew the survey and interviews with college deans had been completed. The Committee will move forward by analyzing the survey and interview data in the upcoming academic year.

Senator Welters discussed that the General Education Committee (GEC) reported that there is a shortage of A4 (Arts & Design), C2 (Global Responsibilities), C3 (Diversity and Inclusion), and Grand Challenge courses. She will recommend the GEC call for proposals for existing courses to become Grand Challenge courses and to work with the new diversity coordinators in each college.

Senator Meyerson, previous chair of the Academic Calendar Committee (ACC), spoke about the Juneteenth holiday, now accepted as a federal holiday but still not approved by Rhode Island. While not under the purview of the ACC, she recommends that the FSEC or the Senate continue the pursuit of having

Juneteenth become a state holiday. She described disagreement in the Academic Calendar Committee as to whether they should solely be focused on the academic calendar. She also relayed that based upon the results from a survey, it is important that members of the campus community feel they are being heard when it comes to the calendars reflecting days of importance. She added that identifying the person(s) in charge of the different URI calendars and harmonizing them into one university calendar would be the ideal scenario. Senator Meyerson recommends that the ACC educate people on what the process is for changes to the academic calendar. President Cardany responded that, as there is no chair, she will be convening a meeting with the ACC and will bring these issues to the Committee.

Senator Maier-Speredelozzi asked if a google doc could be created to allow for the updating of each section with suggestions. President Cardany will create the document.

Senator Nassersharif requested clarification on what message to take to the Committee for Research and Creative Activities and subsequently the Center Review Subcommittee, and the Competitive Grants Subcommittee. President Cardany explained that she is asking FS liaisons to read their committee's report and suggest ways for them to continue building on the work they started in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Senator Rice stated that he was on the Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP) but did not believe he was a liaison to a Faculty Senate Committee. President Cardany reminded him that he is the liaison to the Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual (CBUM) committee.

President Cardany, liaison to the Service and Community Life Committee, reported the Committee's concern about overburdening new faculty members in the area of service. The Committee recommended supporting faculty mentorships, offering DEI awards similar to teaching awards. She will recommend they request a meeting with the AAUP leadership, regarding the overburdening of faculty, and that the Committee propose a DEI award to the Senate.

- b. President Cardany requested additional recommendations of faculty to serve on the following Joint Committees:
  - i. Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee (1 position),
  - ii. University Judicial Board (2 positions),
  - iii. Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning (2 positions),

iv. Honorary Degree Committee (1 position).

The FSEC recommended several faculty members for the committees. President Cardany will reach out to those faculty.

President Cardany reminded the FSEC that there were just two more summer meetings. Upcoming discussion items will include the Faculty Senate orientation meeting and the format for the fall Faculty Senate meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.