

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

---

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agendas  
and Minutes

Faculty Senate

---

8-26-2022

## FSEC Minutes September 26, 2022

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen\\_execcom](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_execcom)

---

### Recommended Citation

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "FSEC Minutes September 26, 2022" (2022). *Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agendas and Minutes*. Paper 339.

[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen\\_execcom/339](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_execcom/339)

This Meeting Minutes 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 Executive Committee Agendas and Minutes by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons-group@uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons-group@uri.edu).

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)**

**September 26, 2022**

**8:30 - 10:30 AM - Pastore Hall Rm 224**

**MINUTES**

1. Call to order - President Rice called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM. Senators Maier Speredelozzi, Echevarria, Forrester, Gindy and VP Nassersharif were present.
2. Announcements
  - a. Re-cap of the President's inauguration which occurred on Thursday 9/22.
  - b. Summary of President's presentation to the BOT on state funding of the university over the last 20 years. An underlying theme of the budget discussion was the downward slide of the University's Carnegie R1 status as being directly correlated with relative decreases in state funding support. FS President Rice noted the declining trend actually started years prior and he provided for the record a 1999 report aimed at elevating the research profile of URI. The current vision as expressed by the budget request seems to mirror that report which failed to gain any real traction around the State at the time of its publication. It is hoped the current vision will meet with more successful advocacy. This led to a discussion about the implications of R1 status and FSEC members acknowledged that not all faculty members are cognizant of the status of research outside their own departments or the complex set of variables that go into decision-making about the best ways to advance research. Staff agreed to provide the budget presentation as well as the 1999 report to FSEC members so they may review in detail.
3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. FSEC minutes for September 19, 2022 - the minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Guest: Vice Provost Veeger
  - a. Discussion of incentives for General Education Outcomes Assessment & and other matters impacting commitments to accreditation goals. Vice Provost

Veeger noted some dialogue has been occurring within her office and with the Advancement of Teaching and Learning staff about the need for more robust GenEd outcomes assessment and more consistent program assessments overall. This challenge seems to present an opportunity to perhaps reorganize the LOOC committee and/or possibly merge it with the APRC. Learning outcomes must be assessed and programs must be reviewed per the University's accreditation but the administration also emphasizes the more intrinsic value of understanding what and how students are learning. While re-constituting existing groups to play the required roles seems like a logical and efficient pursuit, it is fraught with complicated details. Examples include the fact that "programs" have traditionally roughly equated to departments, but as the curriculum becomes more interdisciplinary, some holes in our processes are being exposed. FSEC members agreed there is a lot to unpack with this discussion and President Rice noted the item will need to be continued to the next agenda for further consideration. Options might include bringing the TAAC and GenEd committees into the loop to see if they have ideas on how best to proceed.

- b. Impacts of Presidential Strategic Plan on the Academic Affairs enterprise. The Plan is drafted and is set to be released very soon. Vice Provost Veeger and Interim Beauvais are set to visit with the FSEC again in a few weeks time and this topic should be discussed as part of that agenda.
- c. Matters of concern of the Vice Provost - a timely matter emerged over the weekend when some Iranian students appealed to the Provost's office for special accommodations in terms of academic performance in the current moment given the uncertain situation in their country. Correspondence will likely go out imminently encouraging some leniency.

## 5. Old Business

- a. FS Agenda - Items and logistics for the first regular FS meeting on 9/29/22. The agenda was briefly discussed and formally approved.

