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FSEC Minutes December 5, 2022

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)

December 5, 2022

8:30 - 10:30 AM

MINUTES

**In person - Pastore Conference Room RM224
(remote option via ZOOM)**

1. Call to order - FS Vice President Nassersharif called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM. Senators Maier-Sperdelozzi, Echevarria, Gindy and Forrester were present.
2. Announcements
 - a. JCAP recap - most FSEC members had attended the most recent JCAP meeting. There had been a discussion about the future of JCAP in light of the new One University Strategic Plan coupled with the pending departure of the current Interim Provost. There are drafted UM revisions aimed at starting to redefine JCAP's role but the Committee may evolve further in the coming months.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. FSEC minutes of November 21 and 28, 2022 - The November 21 minutes were approved as corrected and the November 28 minutes were continued to the December 12 meeting.
 - b. FS Minutes of November 17, 2022 were approved as written.
4. Action Items
 - a. Approval of the 12-8-22 FS Agenda - The agenda was reviewed and refined. There was some discussion about the meeting modality debate, continued from previous agendas. It was ultimately agreed by all that this should still be an "old business" item. Vice President Nassersharif noted that the CBUM report related to meeting modality appeared before the "old business" item on the same topic and requested that Chair Echevarria not present the report during the presentation of ordinary committee reports but rather present it after having given the Senate the opportunity to discuss the matter under "old business." She agreed that waiting to present the CBUM report at that time was both reasonable and appropriate. Vice

President Nassersharif then proposed moving the “old business” item ahead of ordinary reports to ensure that the meeting did not end without addressing it. After extensive discussion and expression of concerns about prioritizing an item in “old business” over the core work of the Senate, a majority of those present ultimately consented to moving it up on the agenda, ahead of other ordinary reports.

b. Proposed change to 10.90.16, Administrator Evaluation of the President for addition to the 12/8 agenda - Senator/CBUM Chair Echevarria noted that a minor revision to the draft has been suggested by the CBUM and she has prepared a report with a motion accordingly. The revised language was reviewed and approved by FSEC. The three other CBUM reports were also briefly discussed. They included some editorial edits to Chapters 4 and 5 of the UM and a draft motion pertaining to FS meeting modality, which is a separate agenda item for 12/8/22. Related to Item 4a, above, Vice President Nassersharif asserted that this CBUM report should not be presented until that discussion has taken place.

c. Resolution for Provost Beauvais - As the Interim Provost is wrapping up her term, it is customary and appropriate for the FS to offer a resolution recognizing her service and achievements. FSEC members will work on a shared document for presentation at the 12-8 meeting near the start of the meeting as part of the President’s announcements or VP’s remarks.

5. Discussion Items

- a. Ongoing - Updates on Manual Revisions & Policy Development - Sen. Echevarria noted CBUM had worked hard to craft appropriate editorial amendments to Appendix G but upon review, the President's office had deemed the changes substantive. The Committee’s goal now is to meet with the President to find out the particulars of this determination and hammer out a path forward. Other FSEC members expressed a desire and willingness to be at any such scheduled meeting.
- b. 12/6/22 APC meeting - policies being considered:

NIL (Name, Image, Likeness); Contract approval and signature authority; and Covid and Campus Health. FS President Rice will be attending this meeting and any comments on policies up for discussion should be forwarded to him.

- c. Strategic Plan KPI's, as presented at the 12/2 Steering Committee meeting - the team charged with creating appropriate performance metrics for each of the Plan's strategic goals is trying to wrap up their report in January so that the BOT might approve it at their February meeting. There was a discussion regarding the kind of data being targeted for collection and use in determining if adequate progress is being made. There was some concern that rankings might be overly relied upon as a measure of improvement. There was general agreement that greater faculty involvement in this process would improve it. Such involvement should go beyond transparency and sharing of the implementation plan and should utilize appropriate faculty members in the actual crafting of performance measures. This would ensure "buy-in" from the people who will ultimately help achieve the stated goals and will also reinforce that joint action should be a cornerstone of shared governance. Plan Priorities #'s 3 and 4, as approved by the BOT, were cited as particular illustrations of how faculty involvement could improve the process. As an example, action items for Priority 3 (relating to inclusion), according to many faculty, are focused on basic diversity metrics rather than on creating a truly people-centered inclusive environment and a culture of inclusive excellence. There should be opportunities to include both qualitative and quantitative data. Sen. Gindy, who has been involved in the Plan's development, noted the KPI's are intended to be big-picture, "umbrella" objectives and it will be up to various colleges and departments to further refine them. There may be more opportunities for faculty involvement later. It was ultimately agreed that allowing participation by JCAP and the AAUP would be effective ways of giving faculty a stronger voice in the process.
- d. HR Policies Task Force - Tabled to next meeting.

- e. PLA@URI: Updates to the Prior Learning Assessment process that include an administrative unit shift from CEPS to UCAS and fairly extensive UM revisions in Chapter 8. Tabled.
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- 6. Call for New Business - None.
 - 7. Adjournment - the meeting adjourned at 10:35.