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## Letter from William Ferranti to Maury Klein regarding bills 72/73 - 51, 52, and 48

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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cc: V. P. Michel  
Dean Lepper

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
KINGSTON, R. I. 02881

Office of the President

RECEIVED

October 2, 1973

Dr. Maury Klein  
Chairman, Faculty Senate  
E. Roosevelt Hall

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

Dear Maury:

I have enclosed three bills which I have approved. These include: No. 72-73-51 "Reaffirmation of Approval of Ph.D. in Education" (Please note that this bill is directly related to bill No. 72-73-19 which had been approved by President Baum on April 5, 1973 "Subject to Reaffirmation by the Senate"); No. 72-73-52 "Reaffirmation of Approval of a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre" (This bill is associated with bill No. 72-73-17 of Section III of the Graduate Council Curricular Affairs Report # 72-73-2 which describes the details of the program leading to the Degree of Master of Fine Arts in Theatre); No. 72-73-48 "Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee on the Writing Program."

I will bring bills 72-73-51 and 72-73-52, which cover the doctor of philosophy degree program in education and the master of fine arts program in theatre, to the Board of Regents in the very near future.

I want to make some comments on bill No. 72-73-48 "Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee on the Writing Program" to insure against potential misunderstandings in the future. Paragraph No. 4 of the report specifies that "When positions become available the SCRATCH staff shall be increased in proportion to student needs." I do not interpret this statement to mean that the SCRATCH program will be given extraordinary attention or a priority in the assignment of new positions. The allocation of positions to the SCRATCH program, based on student needs, will be decided within the broad context of University needs and the availability of resources.

Subparagraph C of paragraph 4 specifies that "three sections of SCRATCH shall be offered per each FTE faculty member and two sections per each graduate assistant assigned to the program." I believe I understand the intent of this statement and I endorse it. However it must not be construed as an inflexible mandate which would restrict the authority of the dean and director of the program to make assignments in accordance with established University policy. Further, I believe that this paragraph may be in appropriate in that it specifies a workload for faculty assigned to this program. As we know, the Board of Regents and the URI-AAUP are engaged in a study of workload analysis and assignment. Ultimately we will be governed by any agreement which is reached between the URI-AAUP and the Board of Regents. These same comments apply to subparagraph D of paragraph 4 of the Report.

Sincerely,  
  
William R. Ferrante  
Acting President

btc  
Enclosures - 3