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## Executive Committee Report #92-93-2: Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities - Policy Included in Appendix G of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island  
FACULTY SENATE  
BILL  
Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Executive Committee Report #92-93-2:  
Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities - Policy  
Included in Appendix G of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL ,  
is forwarded for your consideration.
2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on September 24, 1992.  
(date)
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective October 15, 1992, three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

September 25, 1992  
(date)

Leonard M. Kahn  
Leonard M. Kahn  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Returned.

- a. Approved   ✓  .
- b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors       .
- c. Disapproved       .

10/2/92  
(date)

Robert L. Carothers  
President

FACULTY SENATE

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE #92-93-2  
September 2, 1992

ACCOMMODATION OF QUALIFIED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In June Vice Provost Lord forwarded to the Executive Committee two items pertaining to the University's legal requirements to provide reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities. The first was a proposed Policy on Accommodation, the second was a number of more specific procedures to implement the policy. In his memorandum, Vice Provost Lord noted that "Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1993 requires that the University operate all of its programs and activities in a way that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. In addition the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 also has addressed the matter of treatment of individuals with disabilities. While the University had been active in considering the implications of these laws on our treatment of disabled employees, we are also required to treat our students in like manner."

The proposed policy and procedures were prepared by Barbara Roberts, Assistant Director of Student Life for Disabled Student Services, and Mary Kennard, Legal Counsel, to specify in some detail the institutions obligations to disabled students.

After reviewing the materials forwarded to them by Vice Provost Lord, the Executive Committee agreed to recommend that the Faculty Senate take the following actions with regard to the accommodation of qualified students with disabilities:

1. Approve the proposed University Policy on Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities for inclusion in Appendix G of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.
2. Refer the proposed procedures to the Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee with the request that the CBUM Committee bring to the Faculty Senate recommendations for inclusion of the procedures in the appropriate sections of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION OF QUALIFIED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

I. Purpose

To state policies and procedures concerning accessibility and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities as regulated under federal and state laws.

II. Applicable to:

A qualified disabled person is an individual with disabilities who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in any of the University's educational programs or activities. In Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, a disabled individual is identified as anyone with a physical or mental disability that substantially limits one or more of such major life activities as walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, working, or learning. A history of such a disability, whether it is so or not, is also recognized as a disability under both Section 504 and American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). A.I.D.S. is a disability under federal and state law.

III. Responsibility to:

Deans, Directors, Department Heads and Faculty Members (hereinafter "University member").

IV. Policy:

This policy applies to all programs and activities operated or sponsored by or on behalf of the University of Rhode Island. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires that the University operate all programs and activities in a manner which does not discriminate on the basis of the individual's disability. This includes, but is not limited to: recruitment, admission, academic programs, research, employment, occupational training, housing, health insurance counseling, financial aid, physical education, athletics, recreation, and transportation.

-Qualified students with disabilities must be afforded an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from all University programs and activities.

-Qualified students with disabilities must be afforded the opportunity to participate in an integrated manner in any course, course of study, or other part of the programs or activities offered by the University

FACULTY SENATE

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE #92-93-1  
September 2, 1992

AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIVERSITY MANUAL

The Executive Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the following changes to the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

1. Administrator Evaluation

Amend section 5.75.12 to read as follows (changes are in boldface):

5.75.12 The constituent groups shall be defined as follows: a) all continuing members of the appropriate college faculty for academic deans with college faculties; b) all current members of the Graduate Council and faculty who have served as members of the Graduate Council during the preceding three years for the Dean of the Graduate School; c) all continuing faculty who have taught at the College of Continuing Education during the three years immediately preceding the evaluation and chairpersons of academic departments for the Dean of the College of Continuing Education; d) all faculty who have served as advisors to University College during the three years immediately preceding the evaluation for the Dean of University College and Special Academic Programs; e) all continuing members of the general faculty for the Vice Provost for Research and Service; f) all continuing members of the general faculty for the Provost; g) all continuing members of the general faculty for the President.

The Administrator Evaluation Coordinating Committee has requested for two consecutive years that the Faculty Senate determine the appropriate constituent group for the Vice Provost for Research and Service. Last spring the Faculty Senate Executive Committee agreed that all members of the general faculty comprise the Vice Provost's constituent group. We therefore recommend that the Faculty Senate approve the modification to the appropriate section of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

2. Competitive Grants Advisory Committee

Add the following new sections 5.71.10 and 5.71.11 to the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

5.71.10 The Competitive Grants Advisory Committee shall review proposals from faculty members and recommend to the URI Foundation Competitive Grants Committee those proposals it believes worthy of support. The URI Foundation Committee shall have the final decision-making authority regarding proposals to be funded.

5.71.11 The membership shall be comprised of three faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate, three members appointed by the Provost, and the Provost, who will chair the committee.

During the summer 1991, the URI Foundation and the Vice President for University Relations agreed to transfer from the Development Council to a Competitive Grants Advisory Committee the responsibility for recommending faculty grant proposals to the URI Foundation Competitive Grants Committee. During the 1991-92 academic year, the Competitive Grants Advisory Committee was an ad hoc committee under the aegis of the Vice President for University Relations, the faculty appointees to that committee were the Faculty Senate's appointees to the Development Council. In April 1992, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with Vice President Beagle and Mary Gray, Chairperson of the URI Foundation Competitive Grants Committee. It was agreed at that time that the Competitive Grants Advisory Committee should be a standing university committee under the aegis of the Provost. After consultation with the Provost, it was agreed to recommend the establishment of the Competitive Grants Advisory Committee and addition of the new sections of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL outlined above.

3. Faculty Welfare and Liaison Committee

Delete sections 4.30 - 4.33 of the Faculty Senate By-Laws, the Faculty Welfare and Liaison Committee.

Over the past several years the Faculty Senate has chosen to establish ad hoc committees to address specific issues related to faculty welfare rather than direct these matters to the Faculty Welfare and Liaison Committee for consideration. During discussion of committee appointments this summer, the Executive Committee agreed that the Faculty Welfare and Liaison Committee appears to have lost its usefulness and decided to recommend to the Faculty Senate its elimination. Changes to the By-Laws cannot be voted upon at the meeting they are introduced and require a 2/3 majority vote for approval.

-Academic requirements will be modified, on a case by case basis, to afford qualified disabled students and applicants an equal opportunity. Course examinations or other procedures for evaluating a student's academic achievement will ensure to the extent reasonably possible that the results of the evaluation represent the student's ability without regard to his/her disability. Essential academic requirements which the University determines and can demonstrate will not be modified.

-University programs and activities must accommodate qualified disabled students with reasonable access including, but not limited to, classrooms, sign language interpreters, and location of examinations and student programs.

-Students with impaired sensory, manual or learning skills will be provided auxiliary aids which may include taped texts, interpreters, readers, and classroom equipment adapted for persons with manual impairments as determined by the Office of Disabled Student Services.

Recommendation #2:

**PROCEDURE**

**Admissions:**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University will not discriminate against any student applicant who is otherwise qualified, solely on the basis of a disability.

**Program and Facility Accessibility:**

All programs, activities and facilities of the University, when viewed in their entirety, must be accessible to qualified students.

**Office of Student Life Responsibilities:**

Office of Student Life, Disability Services for Students is responsible for determining students' eligibility for physical and academic accommodations and the selection of reasonable accommodations.

**Faculty Responsibilities:**

All faculty and program directors are responsible for abiding by this policy and the physical and academic accommodations approved by the director of Disabled Students' Services.

**Students' Responsibilities:**

The student with a disability is responsible for self-identification, providing appropriate documentation of disability, requesting accommodation in a timely manner, and follow-through regarding accommodations requested.

**Responsibilities of University Members:**

University members must use reasonable efforts to ensure confidentiality regarding student information related to a disability in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

**Appeal of Accommodation Decisions**

Student requests for accommodations are made by the director of Disabled Student Services and communicated by the director to the University member responsible for the program or activity.

A University member or student may request a review of the director's accommodation decision by making the request for reconsideration to the director of Disabled Student Services. The director of Disabled Student Services will forward the request to the appropriate Vice President or Provost's office for final determination.

The Vice President or Provost's office will determine the information needed to reach a final decision. The Vice President or Provost's office will transmit its final decision to the student, the University member and the director of Disabled Student Services.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS  
1992-93

STANDING COMMITTEES

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND CALENDAR (ASC)**

James Barrett, LIB, (93)  
John Long, EDC, (93)  
\*Mark Roberts, PHL, (94)  
\*Sandra Saunders, DHY, (93)  
Antone Silvia, JOR, (94)  
\*Sharon Strom, HIS, (94), Chairperson  
John F. Demitroff, Registrar, ex officio  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**ADMINISTRATOR EVALUATION COORDINATING (AECC)**

Jacqueline Fortin, NUR, (93), Chairperson  
Surendra Malik, PHY, (93)  
\*Norma Owens, PHP, (94)  
\*William Rosen, CHM, (94)  
John Stevenson, PSY, (93)  
Donald Tufts, ELE, (94)  
President's Appointee: Steffen Rogers, Dean, A&S  
President's Appointee: Leo O'Donnell, Assoc. Dean, HS&S  
1 undergraduate student  
1 graduate student

**CONSTITUTION BY-LAWS AND UNIVERSITY MANUAL (CBUM)**

Richard Bailey, SPE, (93)  
Michael Honhart, HIS, (93)  
\*Mimi Keefe, LIB, (93)  
Linda Shamoon, ENG, (94)  
Niels West, MAF, (94)  
Fritz Wensch, PHL, (94), Chairperson  
Sheila Black Grubman, ex officio  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**HONORS PROGRAM AND VISITING SCHOLARS (HPVS)**

Sally Burke, ENG, (93)  
William Euler, CHM, (94)  
Mary Kalyun, HCF, (93)  
Maury Klein, HIS, Director, Honors Program (94), Chairperson  
Judith Swift, THE, (93)  
\*Linda Welters, TMD, (94)  
Nik Dholakia, MKT, ex officio  
Norbert Mundorf, SPE, ex officio  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

\*Senator

**LIBRARY**

Clair Cheer, CHM, (93)  
E. Gale Eaton, LSC, (94)  
Ira Gross, PSY, (93)  
Spencer Martin, ACC, (93)  
\*Ronald Onorato, ART, (94), Chairperson  
George Tsiatas, CVE, (94)  
Dean, University Libraries, ex officio  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**RESEARCH POLICY AND FACILITIES (REPOFAC)**

\*Robert Gutchen, HIS, (93), Chairperson  
Brian Heikes, OCG, (94)  
Colleen Kelly, CSC, (94)  
Gene Lai, FIN, (94)  
\*Chong Lee, FSN, (93)  
Stanley Pickart, PHY, (93)  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (SR&R)**

\*J. Whitney Bancroft, RDE, (93)  
Susan Brady, PSY, (93)  
Clair Cheer, CHM, (94), Chairperson  
James Findlay, HIS, (93)  
Lanny Soderberg, EDC, (94)  
Dana Shugar, ENG & WMS, (94)  
Frances Cohen, Director of Student Life, ex officio  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS AND FACILITIES (TEFC)**

James Barton, EDC, (94)  
Herbert Carson, LSC, (93)  
JoAnne Hammadou, LAN, (94)  
Garth Rand, FSN, (94), Chairperson  
Clay Sink, MGT, (93)  
Karen Stein, ENG, (93)  
2 undergraduate students  
1 graduate student

**CAC SUBCOMMITTEE ON STUDENT WRITING**

David deHoyos, JOR, (94)  
Carolyn Hames, NUR, (93), CAC representative  
\*Keith Killingbeck, BOT, (93)  
Anthony Nunes, PHY, (93)  
Linda Shamoon, ENG, (94)  
Diane Strommer, Dean, University College, (94), CAC representative

\*Senator