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Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee Report on Procedures for Policy on Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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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 Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee Report on Procedures for Policy on Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities, 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 April 8, 1993 (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 April 29, 1993, 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.

April 8, 1993
(date)

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

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 _____.

4/27/93
(date)

Robert L. Carothers
President

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND UNIVERSITY MANUAL COMMITTEE
REPORT ON PROCEDURES FOR POLICY
ON ACCOMMODATION OF QUALIFIED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

March 23, 1993

On September 24, 1992, the Faculty Senate referred to the Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee the proposed procedures which accompanied the University Policy on Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities and requested that the CBUM Committee bring to the Faculty Senate recommendations for inclusion of the procedures in the appropriate sections of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL. The CBUM Committee has, in consultation with Ms. Mary Kennard, Vice President and Legal Counsel, and Ms. Barbara Roberts, Director of Disabled Student Services, drafted language for inclusion into the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

The Constitution By-Laws and University Manual Committee recommends the approval by the Faculty Senate of the following amendments and additions to the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

1. Amend section 8.10.20 Admission Policy Statement to read as follows (change is in boldface):

8.10.20 Admission Policy Statement. The University desires that its matriculating students shall be not only competent to perform well in the classroom, but also possess wide interests and positive qualities of character and personality. Students are selected for enrollment primarily on the basis of their academic competence and potential without regard to age, race, sex, creed, national origin or handicap. **In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University shall not discriminate against any student applicant who is otherwise qualified, solely on the basis of a disability.** The University recognizes its very real obligation to the **citizens** of Rhode Island, and accordingly assigns priority in undergraduate admission to well-qualified residents of the state of Rhode Island. At the same time, the University recognizes that the intellectual horizons of its students are greatly broadened by an exchange of ideas with students from other parts of the United States and from other countries. Accordingly, places are reserved for out-of-state and international students.

2. Add the following new sections 6.40.10 - 6.40.21:

6.40.10 Accommodations for Qualified Students with Disabilities. All programs, activities and facilities of the University, when viewed in their entirety, must be accessible to qualified students. The Disability Services for Students in the Office of Student Life is responsible for determining students' eligibility for physical accommodations and, in cooperation with the appropriate academic deans, department chairpersons and faculty members, the selection of reasonable alternative means to satisfy the academic requirements of courses and programs of study. Student requests for accommodations are made via the director of Disabled Student Services to the University member responsible for the program or activity. Such requests shall be made by the student himself/herself, a parent, legal guardian or other representative. (For Policy on Accommodation of Qualified Students with Disabilities see Appendix G.)

6.40.11 Faculty shall make reasonable efforts to provide alternative means for qualified disabled students to fulfill course requirements. Academic Deans, in consultation with program directors and department chairs, shall modify academic requirements on a case by case basis to afford disabled students an equal opportunity. Academic requirements which the University determines and can demonstrate are essential cannot be modified.

6.40.12 The student with a disability shall be responsible for self-identification to the Disability Services for Students in the Office of Student Life, providing appropriate documentation of disability, requesting accommodation in a timely manner, and follow-through regarding accommodations requested.

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

6.40.20 Appeal of Accommodation Decisions. A University member or student may request a review of an accommodation decision. The request for reconsideration is to be submitted to the director of Disabled Student Services, who shall forward the request to the appropriate Vice President or the Provost for final determination.

6.40.21 The Provost or appropriate Vice President shall review the information received, request additional information if necessary, and make a final decision. The Provost or Vice President shall transmit a decision to the student, the University member and the director of Disabled Student Services.