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## Council for Research and Research Policy and Facilities Committee Combined into Council for Research as a Standing committee of the Faculty Senate

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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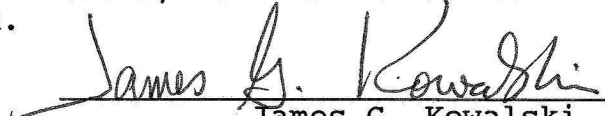
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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island  
FACULTY SENATE  
BILL  
Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Robert L. Carothers  
FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Council for Research and Research Policy and Facilities Committee Combined into Council for Research as a Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate, 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 26, 1996.
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 17, 1996, 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.

October 1, 1996  
(date)

  
James G. Kowalski  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

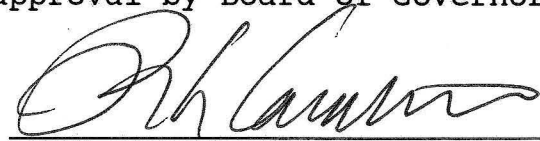
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ENDORSEMENT

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

10/6/96  
(date)

  
President

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island  
FACULTY SENATE  
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
#95-96-4  
April 29, 1996

PROPOSAL FOR COMBINING THE COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND  
THE FACULTY SENATE RESEARCH POLICY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
INTO THE FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH

**BACKGROUND:**

It has been suggested several times over the last few years that the functions of the two major research committees at the University of Rhode Island should be combined. Both groups are delegated with responsibilities for promoting research, faculty comprise the majority of members of both groups, the members often overlap (the Chair of REPOFAC is automatically a member of the Council for Research), and frequently matters brought before one group are of interest or concern to the other. In addition, while the level of activity of the Faculty Senate Research Policy and Facilities Committee (REPOFAC) varies from year to year, the Council for Research meets regularly. During the current academic year, it became clear to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee that a single standing committee of the Faculty Senate would best serve the interests of the faculty. Therefore, we are recommending to the Faculty Senate that the functions of the Research Policy and Facilities Committee be incorporated into the Council for Research and that the Council for Research become a standing committee of the Faculty Senate.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

I. Replace existing sections 5.55.10-5.52.13 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL on the Council for Research and 4.55 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate on the Research Policy and Facilities Committee with the following new sections 4.55-4.58 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate:

4.55 The Council for Research shall consist of faculty active and experienced in research, creative and scholarly activities, administrators and students concerned with various aspects of the research effort at URI. Its main objectives shall be to promote and facilitate research activities at the University, to ensure that research and other creative and scholarly activities are seen as being of equal importance with the instructional function of the University and to see that the close relationship between the two is recognized. The Council shall attempt to achieve this objective by serving as the representative voice of the university research community and by seeking aggressively to improve in all ways possible the environment for research at URI. Specifically the Council shall: a) provide information to the President in response to all inquiries

regarding research from the Board of Governors and the State Legislature; b) seek to identify all problems which hinder research efforts at URI and provide recommendations on their correction, or apply pressure to make needed changes; c) upon request, advise all campus groups and offices on matters relating to research; d) review and recommend policies for the management of research affairs at URI; e) review and recommend programs to solicit research funding for URI and participate in them; f) serve as the advisory council for the Vice Provost for Research; g) promote comprehensive understanding of the notion of research in order to enhance the well-being of all creative scholarly activities at URI; h) submit to the Faculty Senate recommendations for changes in research policy; and i) submit an annual report of its activities to the Faculty Senate and the President.

4.56 The membership of the Council shall be chosen to reflect the diversity of the academic disciplines of the faculty. The Council shall comprise seven faculty members appointed in accordance with the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate (See section 6.1); three faculty members from the research community chosen by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; one member of the Council of Deans, chosen by that council; one director (or associate or assistant director) of a research center or bureau and one college business manager chosen by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; one graduate student chosen by the Graduate Student Association; one undergraduate student appointed by the undergraduate Research Grant Committee; and the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School or the Vice Provost and Dean's designee as a voting ex officio member. The two students shall be appointed yearly. The members appointed by the Senate, the Council of Deans, and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall be appointed to three year terms commencing in September. Wherever the same person or body is charged with selecting two or more members, the members' terms shall be staggered. The Council shall elect its chairperson for the year from among the faculty members of the Council at its first meeting in September. The name of the chairperson shall be made known to the University community and reported to the Faculty Senate and the President.

4.57 The Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School shall be responsible for calling the initial meeting of the Council each fall. Subsequent meetings of the Council shall be held at the call of its chairperson, as often as necessary, but at least twice each semester. Items for its agenda, which may be submitted to the chairperson, shall normally come from the President, the Council of Deans, the Faculty Senate or its Executive Committee, research bureaus and centers, principal investigators, or the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School.

4.58 Among its duties, the Council shall solicit proposals from the faculty; shall allocate among faculty on a competitive basis financial support for a "Faculty Development" program (using guidelines developed by the Council); and shall advise the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School on the allocation among faculty on a competitive basis of financial support for a "Proposal Development" program (using guidelines developed by the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School in consultation with the Council for Research). Support in both programs shall be for faculty salary and fellowships, student support, operating expenses, travel, and equipment.

II. Revise sections 8.90.22-8.90.30 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL to read as follows (changes are in **boldface**):

8.90.22 Permanent Authorization for Centers. Permanent authorization to operate centers, institutes, bureaus, or partnerships, including authorization to operate after an initial three year period described in 8.90.21, shall be subject to review by units and departments involved in the center as well as review by the colleges of the involved departments. Following college review, proposals shall be forwarded with departmental and college recommendations to the **Council for Research** for consideration. The **Council** shall recommend to the Faculty Senate action on center proposals.

8.90.23 DELETE (This section is no longer applicable under the procedures for new programs approved by the Faculty Senate.)

8.90.30 Review. Centers, including, institutes, bureaus and partnerships, shall be reviewed every three years by the **Council for Research** who shall submit recommendations, including recommendations for continuation or dissolution, to the **Faculty Senate**.

III. Replace all references to the Council for Research and the Research Policy and Facilities Committee in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL and Faculty Senate By-Laws with the Council for Research.

The recommendations in this report were first moved at the May 9, 1996 meeting of the Faculty Senate. Since By-Laws changes may not be voted upon at the meeting at which they are first moved, these recommendations are resubmitted to the Faculty Senate for approval at this time.