
University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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TO:    President David Dooley
FROM:  W. Michael Sullivan, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Council for Research Report No. 2016-17-1 is forwarded for your consideration.

2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on November 17, 2016.

3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.

4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate’s By-Laws, this bill will become effective December 8, 2016 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.

W. Michael Sullivan
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate
November 17, 2016

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate
FROM: President of the University

a. Approved 

b. Approved subject to Notice of the Council on Postsecondary Education 

c. Disapproved 

Signature of the President

11.29.16
(date)
Report to the Faculty Senate from the Council for Research
November 17, 2016

Angela Slitt, Associate Professor, Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, & Chair, Council for Research

#1. Background and rationale for change. A Subcommittee of the Council for Research reviews procedures and distribution of research overhead funds (10.72.10 – see below). The current manual language reads that the Subcommittee shall be chaired by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and the Chair of the Council for Research shall be Vice Chair. There is an inherent conflict of interest for Dr. Sonnenfeld to be leading a group that is meeting to evaluate the overhead spending and distribution. Both the Council for Research and Dr. Sonnenfeld agree the language should be modified and request that the Council for Research Chair be the Chair for the subcommittee. The following language is to help provide context for the changes to 10.72.11:

University Manual Chapter 10 – Administrative Procedures

10.72.10 Procedure for Revisions to the Distribution of Facilities and Administrative (Overhead) Funds. At the beginning of each fiscal year, a subcommittee of the Council for Research shall review procedures and distribution of Facilities and Administrative funds (research overhead funds). The review shall: a) evaluate the current expenditure and distribution plan with regard to URI’s changing needs and resources; b) examine, as desirable, F&A distribution plans at other peer public research institutions; c) produce a report including, as appropriate, any recommendations for changes in distribution to be considered for implementation in the subsequent fiscal year. #12–13–15

10.72.11 The subcommittee shall be chaired by the Vice-President of Research and Economic Development and the Chair of the Council for Research. The subcommittee shall also consist of four additional faculty members from the Council for Research elected by the Council before its last meeting in the spring and one designee each of the President, the Provost, and the Vice President for Administration and Finance. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development may be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the subcommittee. #12–13–15

Proposed changes incorporated:
10.72.11 The subcommittee shall be chaired by the Chair of the Council for Research. The subcommittee shall consist of four additional faculty members from the Council for Research elected by the Council before its last meeting in the spring and one designee each of the President, the Provost, and the Vice President for Administration and Finance. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development may be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the subcommittee. #12-13-15