1976

One Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: University Year for Action - Spring, 1977 and Fall, 1977

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled One Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: University Year for Action - Spring, 1977 and Fall, 1977,
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 October 28, 1976.

4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Regents, completing the appropriate endorsement below.

5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on November 18, 1976, 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 Regents for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Regents, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

Daniel P. Bergen
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.

2. Approved Disapproved

3. (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Regents is not necessary.

President

Form revised 6/74
ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Regents

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.

2. Approved.

(date) President

ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Regents, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

(date) (Office)

ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Regents.

(date) President

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

(date) Chairman of the Faculty Senate
Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee One Hundred and Twentieth Report

At its meeting of October 4, 1976, the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee considered the following curricular matters now submitted to the Faculty Senate.

SECTION I

Curricular Matters Submitted to the Faculty Senate for Confirmation:

A. That the Faculty Senate approve the following recommendations regarding the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning:

1. That the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning be continued for the Spring and Fall semesters of 1977.

2. That the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning be empowered to authorize designated faculty instructors to assign credit for the work contracted for by students enrolled in UYA 301X, 302X, 303X, and 304X.

3. That the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning review and approve learning contracts for all students participating in the UYA program.

4. That the President appoint the members of the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning upon recommendation of the Curricular Affairs Committee. The Committee on UYA Experiential Learning shall consist of full-time faculty members selected for their expertise in experiential learning, including those members of the current Committee on UYA Experiential Learning who wish to continue serving on the committee. The President shall appoint the chairperson of the committee subject to confirmation by the Curricular Affairs Committee.

5. That the Committee on UYA Experiential Learning report to the Curricular Affairs Committee no later than the first CAC meeting in March 1977. The report will include recommendations as to whether the UYA program should be continued in its present form, modified or terminated after the expiration of the federal grant in February 1978.

B. That the Senate approve the following temporary University Year for Action courses for Spring 1977 and Fall 1977:

1. UYA 301X, 302X University Year for Action Field Experience 1,11 3-12 each Learning experience gained during participation in the University Year for Action program. The experience will be defined by a contract between the student and the instructor, which will be reviewed and must gain the approval of the UYA Committee on Experiential Learning. (Practicum 6-24). Pre: Junior or senior standing, participation in the University Year for Action program, and permission of the student's academic adviser and the UYA Committee on Experiential Learning. UYA Field Experience may be repeated once for a maximum of 24 credits. The Committee on Experiential Learning will determine the number of credits appropriate for each student. S/U credit only Staff
2. UYA 303X, 304X University Year for Action Seminar 1, 11, 3 each
On-site seminar focused on problems of daily field experience activities.
Additional topics of discussion and related readings to be determined by
the instructional team consisting of the program coordinator, instructor
and agency supervisor. Pre: Concurrent registration in 301X (for 303X)
and 302X (for 304X). Required for and open only to students enrolled
in the University Year for Action Program. S/U credit only. Staff

Background Information:

A. UYA Contract Requirements:

1. Require initial contract (first draft) 6 weeks before conclusion of the
   semester preceding the semester in which the student will take 301X and
   302X. (This will afford the committee sufficient time to receive and
   review contracts, meet to discuss and return, as necessary, to the
   students for revision. The student, in turn, will have ample time to
   make the recommended revisions and submit back to committee before
   final exam week.)

2. Require final contract (final draft) 4 weeks after the semester begins.
   (Four weeks should be sufficient time in which the students can evaluate
   their learning contracts in light of the existing opportunities the agency
   feasibly affords and make necessary revisions accordingly. It will probably
   be an additional two weeks before the committee reviews the final drafts,
   meets and accepts the final contracts, barring any revisions it still deems
   necessary.)

3. These contract requirements shall be in effect for both semesters. This
   will force the students to analyze critically learning outcomes from the
   first semester in order to shape their learning experiences for the second
   semester. In this way they could justify continuing to aspire toward
   some of the same objectives; however, now we could expect them to be more
   specific regarding behavioral objectives, perhaps more innovative regarding
   learning strategies, or, perhaps more comprehensive regarding evidence of
   accomplishing objectives.

B. UYA Contract Guidelines:

The Committee on UYA Experiential Learning will develop and distribute a "packet" for the students which will serve to orient them to their responsibilities in the UYA Program subsequent to their interview and acceptance.

1. The packet will include a sample copy learning contract. Each of the four
   columns will include a brief description specifically defining the terms
   used in the learning contract. (This is important since non-Education
   students may not be familiar with contract terminology. It may also
   facilitate the students' successful completion of satisfactory contracts.)
   A Bibliography with helpful, appropriate references, e.g., Mager's
   Preparing Instructional Objectives or Popham's Criterion - Referenced
   Measurement will be attached.
B. Section II (continued)

2. The packet will include chronological listing of deadline dates for contract submissions.

3. The packet will include a list of approved instructors. The student is responsible for contacting a potential instructor. If none of the instructors on the list agrees to work with the student, the Committee may approve additional instructors.

C. Grading of Field Experience: S/U and letters of evaluation:

If UYA 301X and UYA 302X are each 12 credit field experience courses, a specific plan is needed to clearly articulate the basis upon which the 12 credits will be awarded. This should be determined by the student, instructor, and agency supervisor in light of the student's predetermined learning objectives. It will be difficult to maintain uniform standards for letter grades in this experimental program because of the variety of projects and because of involvement of agency supervisors with varied academic backgrounds. The students will therefore, receive S/U grades and letters of evaluation. The letters of evaluation will become part of the student's permanent record on file in the Office of the Program Coordinator for University Year for Action (UYA).

D. Spring 1977 Calendar for Interviews and Contracts:

On basis of a 15-week semester for Spring 1977 (Week #1 beginning Tuesday 1/18 and Week #15 extending from Monday 5/2 through Friday 5/6), the following calendar for interviews and contracts will be implemented.

**Friday, February 18** - Application Deadline for Fall, 1977.

**Monday, February 14** - Final revised contracts due for the Spring 1977 semester (this is 1 month after the semester commences).

**Monday, February 14 to Monday, February 21** = 1 week for Committee to review final contracts (1 week should suffice since there should be no major problems at this stage of contract revision)

**Monday, February 21 to Monday, March 21** = 1 month for interviewing new applicants to UYA for Fall, 1977 (Might want to make 5 weeks in length by starting Monday, February 14 through Monday, March 21).

**Monday, March 7** - Meeting of faculty instructors and Experiential Learning Committee

**Monday, March 21** - Rough draft of initial learning contract for Fall, 1977 due 6 weeks before end of semester, allowing Committee realistic opportunity to review and make recommendations before final week of classes.