1988

Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #1987-88-1: Final Examinations

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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TO: President Edward D. Eddy
FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled **Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #1987-88-1: Final Examinations**

   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 **January 28, 1988**.

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 **February 18, 1988**, 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.

   **January 29, 1988**
   
   Wendy B. Holmes
   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

   **2/4/88**
   
   President

Form revised 4/86
The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the following amendment to section 8.51.15 of the University Manual which is the addition of a new sentence at the end of the existing paragraph (the change is underlined):

8.51.15 Final examinations shall be given in all courses unless an exception is made by vote of a department. The department chairperson shall notify the Scheduling Officer of all courses in which no final examination is being given and courses in which a take-home examination is being given. All final examinations with the exception of take-home examinations shall be administered during a specific period to be determined by the Registrar. In courses for which no final examination is to be given and in which the instructor wishes to adminster any other examination during the last five days of classes, that examination shall be given instead at the time and place originally provided for a final examination.

Rationale: The Committee's recommendation is in response to a request from Assistant Vice President Swan that the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee review those sections of the University Manual which concern final examinations and recommend to the Faculty Senate legislation to cover the issue of the administration of examinations during the last week of classes.

In her July 3, 1987 memorandum to Faculty Senate Chairperson Wendy Holmes, Assistant Vice President Swan stated that the Office of the Academic Vice President had been receiving "an increasing number of complaints from students and from faculty members about the administration of examinations during the last week of classes and during other inappropriate times." She reported that during the spring semester 1986 she had received more than the usual number of complaints, most of which had been from "faculty members who felt they had lost a significant amount of class time because students in their classes were busy preparing for examinations in other classes."

Also forwarded to the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee with Assistant Vice President Swan's request were copies of Dr. Swan's correspondence from Dean Gelles and Professor Wenisch regarding this matter.

After reviewing all of the materials included with Assistant Vice President Swan's request and following considerable deliberation, the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee agreed that end-of-the-semester examinations should be administered during the specified examination period rather than during the last week of classes and that a clear statement to that effect should be included in the University Manual. Therefore, the Committee voted on December 1, 1987 to recommend to the Faculty Senate that section 8.51.15 be amended by the addition of the new last sentence. This sentence had been proposed by Dean Gelles in a June 26, 1987 memorandum to Assistant Vice President Swan.

Members of the Committee:

Martha Barden, NUR
Lewis Hutton, SPA, Chairperson
Patricia Jensen, LSC
Andrew Laviano, MGT
Alan Marcus, CVE
Albert Silverstein, PSY
Andrea Stergiou, undergraduate student
John F. Demitroff, Registrar, ex officio
The Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee recommends the approval of the following new sections of the University Manual which concern University jurisdiction over off-campus conduct:

9.27.10 Jurisdiction of the Student Judicial System Over Off-Campus Conduct. Off-campus conduct shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Student Judicial System if one of the following conditions is met: 1) an infraction of a community standard of behavior as listed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook occurs at an official University event, such as a field trip, or at a University sanctioned event as defined in section 8.51.12 of the University Manual; 2) an off-campus action performed by a person while he or she is a student is of a nature such that it would be subject to the Student Judicial System if it had occurred on-campus, the person against whom the action is directed is a member of the URI community (student, faculty, or staff) and the accuser can show, to the satisfaction of the representative of the Office of Student Life to whom the accusation is to be presented first, that the infraction constitutes evidence that the person accused might perform an on-campus infraction which would pose a threat to the life, the health, the safety, or the property of a member of the University Community.

9.27.11 If a student is accused of an off-campus offense under 2) of section 9.27.10, and if the representative of the Office of Student Life to whom the accusation is presented first determines that there is cause for presenting the matter to the University Judicial System, the student shall have the right to dispute the jurisdiction of the University Judicial System. If the student makes use of this right, the case shall be presented to the Vice President for Student Affairs for a disposition of the issue of jurisdiction. The student shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Vice President for Student Affairs. This appeal shall be heard by a person who is designated by the President, and who is not a member of the staff of the Office of Student Life. The decision on jurisdiction arrived at by the President's designee shall be final. After an affirmative judgement on jurisdiction has been reached through this procedure, the student shall still have the right to plead guilty, and to choose administrative action.

Rationale:

The Office of Student Life is commonly faced with the question of jurisdiction over off-campus conduct. As the University Manual is silent on this issue, decisions have been made on an ad hoc basis. In defining the limits of University jurisdiction over off-campus conduct and establishing procedures to be followed in such cases, the recommendations provide needed guidance to the Office of Student Life and make clear to students under what circumstances their off-campus conduct may be subject to University action. These recommendations were approved by the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee on November 4, 1987 and subsequently reviewed by the University Legal Counsel.

Members of the Committee:
Norman Campbell, PHP
Leo Carroll, SOC, Chairperson
Robert Gough, PLS
Chet Hickox, MGT
Sandra Ketrow, SPE
Peter Ladd, student
Jeff Sochrin, student
Fritz Wenisch, PHL
Thomas Dougan, ex officio