2000

Report of the Centers Review Coordinating Committee: Proposal for a Permanent Center for Student Learning Development

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate


2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on May 11, 2000.

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 June 1, 2000 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.

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.

Form revised 9/98
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ABSTRACT

The Center for Student leadership Development in the Memorial Union has been operating on a temporary basis since November 1997. It coordinates the minor in Student Leadership in conjunction with the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and supports leadership conference, program series workshops and is involved in the establishment of new leadership honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa. Funding for the Center's activities has come exclusively from the Memorial Union budget.

The Ad Hoc Centers Review Coordinating Committee voted to recommend approval on a permanent basis of the Center for Student Leadership Development to be funded solely by the Memorial Union and compete within the Division of Student Affairs at the Class B level (recommends that proposed new programs compete for resources on an equal basis with all other University activities).

BACKGROUND

The Memorial Union has been providing co-curricular student leadership opportunities for over three decades. Beginning in 1992, the Memorial Union has in conjunction with the Department of Human Development and Family Studies sponsored courses in student leadership. In 1995-1996, the Memorial Union was re-organized and a new department, the Center for Student Leadership Development, was added and awarded temporary Center status by the Provost in the fall of 1997.

Although section 8.85.17 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL states that "the Council for Research shall serve as the coordinating and review committee...for proposals for new centers, including partnerships, bureaus and institutes" it also provides that the "Executive Committee may establish or recommend establishing a special committee to serve as the coordinating and review committee for a proposal." After reviewing the proposal, it was agreed that the Center for Student Leadership Development had implications beyond those of a research center and an ad hoc Centers Review Coordinating Committee was established comprising representatives of the Curricular Affairs Committee, the Graduate Council and the Council for Research. The Faculty Senate approved the Ad Hoc Centers Review Coordinating Committee at its first meeting in September 1999. The following members were designated by their constituent committees: Maling Ebrahimpour, Graduate Council; Chet Hickox, CAC, Chair; William O'Malley, Graduate Council; Margaret Ordonez, Council for Research and Sue Fisher Vaughn, CAC.

In March 2000, copies of the proposal for the Center were forwarded to the following groups for their review and recommendations: The Curricular Affairs Committee, the Graduate Council, the Council for Research, the Council of Deans and the Joint
Educational Policy Committee. In addition, the Ad Hoc Centers Review Coordinating Committee asked the Budget Office to review the financial implications of the proposal.

On March 29, the center received unanimous support from the Council of Deans. The Curricular Affairs Committee voted on April 10 to recommend approval of the center on the basis that it would be supported solely by the Memorial Union and agreed that if additional funding is sought, it compete on a Class B Level within the Division of Student Affairs. The proposal was reviewed by the Graduate Council on April 20, 2000. Concerns about graduate students participating in the 400-level leadership courses were raised. It was determined on April 28 that the 400-level courses offered by the Department of Human Development and Family Studies (HDF 497, 498) as part of the Leadership Studies minor are "not for graduate credit." Neither the Joint Educational Policy Committee nor the Council for Research took any action with regard to the proposal.

In the Budget Office review, Budget Director Linda Barrett noted on April 11, that "the program proposal would appear to make no demand on new budgetary resource commitments beyond those presently committed to its support." She also noted that the "Memorial Union has totally supported all staff, programs, curricular and administrative expenses."

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SECTION II

RECOMMENDATION

The Ad Hoc Centers Review Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal and considered all of the comments forwarded to them by the various bodies. On April 28, 2000 they voted to recommend to the Faculty Senate that Center for Student Leadership Development be approved on a permanent basis funded solely by the Memorial Union. It is now presented to the Faculty Senate for approval at the Class B Level - - to compete for resources on an equal basis within the Division of Student Affairs. The proposal is in the format required by the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

CENTER FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name of Institution

   University of Rhode Island

2. Name of administrative unit involved

   Student Affairs; Memorial Union

3. Title of proposed organizational unit

   Center for Student Leadership Development

4. Intended date of organizational change

   August 2000. Center was approved on a temporary basis in November 1997.

5. Intended location or organizational unit

   University of Rhode Island
   Kingston Campus
   Memorial Union, Main Office, room 210
6. **Institutional review and approval process**

Vice President of Student Affairs 3/13/00  
Department of Human Development and Family Studies 3/15/00  
College of Human Science and Services 3/21/00  
Centers Review Coordinating Committee 4/28/00  
Faculty Senate 5/11/00  
President

7. **Summary of proposed organizational change**

Permanent status for the Memorial Union department (Center for Student Leadership Development) which has on a temporary basis designed and facilitated existing programs and at URI related to student leadership development.

8. **Signature of the President:**

9. **Person to be contacted during the review**

Bruce Hamilton  
Director, Memorial Union  
874-2726  
hamilton@uri.edu

Christine M. Wilson  
Assistant Director for Student Leadership, Memorial Union  
874-5282  
cwilson@uri.edu

**B. RATIONALE**

The Memorial Union has been providing co-curricular opportunities for over three decades. In conjunction with the Department of Human Development and Family Studies the Memorial Union sponsored the first for-credit leadership courses. These courses were offered through the Department of Human Development and Family Studies beginning in 1992 initially as experiential courses, later as topics in permanent courses. In 1995-1996, the Memorial Union was re-organized and a new department, the Center for Student Leadership Development, was added and awarded temporary Center status by the Provost in the fall of 1997.

In spring 1998, the Faculty Senate approved the interdisciplinary academic minor in Leadership Studies, which is administered by the Center for Student Leadership development staff for the Department of Human Development and Family Studies.

In 1998, the Faculty Senate approved the interdisciplinary academic minor in Leadership Studies, which is administered by the Center for Student Leadership Development. During the current academic year over 200 students were enrolled in the HDF classes; seven student leader positions were supported; two conference have been held, four program series offered, over 40 individually designed workshops have been facilitated, and a new leadership honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa is being organized.
The Center for Student Leadership Development has been the driving force behind student leadership development at URI, and therefore seeks formal recognition and the permanent title “center.”

C. INSTITUTIONAL ROLE

The University is committed to the development of its students: academically, intellectually, experientially, and socially. Both faculty and staff strive to prepare students for their future careers and community lives. The Center for Student Leadership Development’s classes, conferences, workshops, retreats, programs and student positions support the University’s aspirations and mission.

Further, the Center staff has forged deep connections with numerous units on campus. Major programs and conferences are planned and facilitated with and for staff from the Multicultural Center, Talent Development, Women’s Center, Student Life, Residential Life, University College, Feinstein Center for Service Learning, Student Involvement, and various academic departments.

D. INTERINSTITUTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Because of its extensive and unique curricular/co-curricular and extensive agendas, the Center for Student Leadership Development is currently the benchmark program in Rhode Island.

E. RESOURCES

The Memorial Union has totally supported all staff, programs, curricular, and administrative expenses. The formalization of this Center requires no provision of new resources or space.

F. EVALUATION

The student participants evaluate all curricular and co-curricular components. Results are compiled and included in the Center’s yearly reports. Evaluative input is considered as each class and program is re-worked.

In addition, the Center staff monitors all national and many international collegiate leadership programs. The Center’s classes and programs have also been benchmarked against the CAS (Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education) Standards and the Kellogg Foundation’s “Hallmarks of Exemplary Projects.” The Center meets 95% of the CAS Standards and 87% of the Hallmarks.

The faculty, staff, students, and members of the Advisory Board will continually evaluate the Center’s entire operation. Finally, as required by 8.90.22 and 8.90.30 of the University Manual, the Center will be reviewed every three years.
MEMORANDUM

TO:       Bruce C. Hamilton, Director
          Memorial Union/Student Involvement

FROM:     M. Beverly Swan
          Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE:     November 17, 1997

SUBJECT:  Temporary Authorization for the Center for Student Leadership Development

Under provisions set forth in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL (Section 8.90.21 - Temporary Authorization for Centers), I am providing you temporary authorization for the Center for Student Leadership Development. This action shall be retroactive to September 1, 1997 and will expire no later than August 31, 2000. Such temporary authorization does not require Board of Governors' approval.

It is understood that this Center will combine a number of leadership programs that have been housed in the Memorial Union for a several years. It also will permit and foster an expansion of these opportunities in the future.

Because this is only a temporary authorization, I urge you to evaluate the functioning of the Center, and if appropriate, proceed with the process to seek approval as a permanent center. This process is most commonly initiated within the division of Academic Affairs. Within your division, it would be appropriate to have your Vice President, Dr. John McCray, forward the request for permanent approval to the Faculty Senate when you are ready. Please be aware that it typically takes the better part of a year to get full approval of the Board for such entities.

rhb

c:         R.L. Carothers
           J.H. McCray
           B.M. Lord
           M.R. Goldsmith