

Executive Committee Meeting  
October 17, 2017  
Minutes

Pending Items from October 4, 2017 Faculty Senate Meeting

- Status of Engineering Building
  - President Farish said there will be a Building and Grounds Committee of the Board of Trustees which will have this issue as its first task, and he will recommend to the Board that a faculty representative serve on this committee. Nothing moving forward on the engineering building at this time.
- President Farish was provided with the following motion which was also communicated to the Board of Trustees: Response to Engineering Building Siting Process: The Faculty Senate votes no confidence in the process by which the decision was made to site the SECCM expansion between The Gabelli School of Business and the current SECCM building. The Senate urges the Administration to delay implementation of the project to allow for an enhanced and an inclusive planning process, further consideration of alternative sites, and enhanced fundraising efforts
- President Farish reported that there are six new members on the Board of Trustees.
- President Farish has been spending a good deal of time on the Indigenous Peoples Day/Week conversation at RWU, also with the Board, which is reluctant to go too far, too fast. He would like to engage another expert in the matter, perhaps someone in particular at Brown University, and he hopes to resolve this matter by the end of February.
- President Farish reported that RWU will implement an aggressive growth and recruitment program for the Providence campus that will grow the student population from 1800 to 3000 over the next 3-4 years. There will be further clarification the role/purpose of SCS in a way that will help reduce confusion regarding the SCS.
- Schedule and documentation for ASEM planning
  - Clarification of use of Cost Center Analysis for this plan
    - There was some discussion of this process. Provost Workman reviewed the template of questions and data that will be provided to the schools/departments, and he outlined the most immediate aspects of the plan as he sees them at this early stage. According to Provost Workman, the Academic Strategic Enrollment Management (ASEM) Program aims to assist with targeted recruitment strategies and to begin a curriculum re-management effort that will target programs/majors to assess the nature of the student body; student demand for academic programs; the cost to deliver each program; and to examine ways to more understand out the skills currently provided by our curriculum meet those in demand in the job market.

This is a 3-5 year plan that will begin with school-based meetings scheduled by November 18. In addition to the school-based meetings, Brian Williams and Jennifer Dunseath will be available for program/major-specific meetings as requested by faculty.

The program will use institutional data (from IR, Finance, Enrollment Management), cost center analysis data, and data provided by Burning Glass (a real-time labor market data provider/bot) that will help put our curricular programs in sync with the job market.

Programs/Majors will be asked to complete the "Reflective Prompts" on the Information Template before winter break. Ideally these prompts will serve as proposals for support of curricular changes.

The Provost will review the proposals and will make judgements about which programs to target first for implementation. Follow-up meetings with the Provost and the Deans are expected to begin in February, thus launching the 3-5 year program.

Because of the nature of this program, some ambiguity does remain about the process moving forward. This is a long-term plan, and a complicated one--there are bound to be adjustments that need to be made as we go along. The Provost indicated there would be access to the data on a Bridges ASEM site).

Updates by Executive Committee of items from Senate Meeting of October 4

- Faculty Liaisons for Board of Trustee Committee
  - Stephen O'Shea - Advancement
  - June Speakman - Retention
  - Rachel McCormack - Academic Affairs
- Foundation elections proceeding - professional schools representative this week
- Deans' Council - June Speakman 10-11 a.m. and Joseph Roberts 11 a.m. -12 p.m.
- Motion approved in response to the President's remarks at Convocation: Resolved that the Faculty Senate offers its thanks to President Farish for affirming, before students and parents at convocation, his strong support for academic freedom and freedom of speech.
- Student Course Survey – Conflict with RWUFA – tabled at Senate. Provost Workman is interested in examining the whole review process at some point, and said RWU will continue to use the current, though flawed, survey.
- School of Continuing Studies – Assignment of 3 areas of interest: Curriculum, Adjunct Hiring, Course Delivery to standing committees
- Undecided Liberal Arts - Entering students – concerns – to be addressed by Admissions and Enrollment Committee who is contacting Brian Williams.
  - Since 2012, how many entering students have been classified as Undecided Liberal Arts (UND/LA)?
  - Of these students, how many applied to RWU for admission to each of the professional schools, but were rejected and placed into UND/LA?
  - What were the freshman-to-sophomore attrition rates for this cohort of applicants?
  - What is the 4-year graduate rate for the 2012 and 2013 members of this cohort?
  - Were students in this cohort informed of the reason they were classified as UND/LA?
  - Do the professional schools do any subsequent professional outreach to these students during the fall or spring semesters of their first year to gauge their interest in the professional school to which they originally applied?

- Arts Management Minor – status to be examined by Academic Standards and Policies Committee

#### Pending Items

- Hiring processes for adjuncts – this was reviewed at Deans' Council, and the Faculty Senate requested faculty be informed of when job ads for adjuncts are posted.
- Compensation for school/college curriculum committee chairs – due to financial implications, has priority – Provost Workman stated this has been resolved, although he was not able to clarify it and said he would check with Lori Barry to confirm.
- Availability of NEASC report – this is still pending
- Addition of adjunct faculty to the All-Faculty mailing list – Whenever Lori Barry sends an ALL-FAC email, she will also send an ALL-ADJ FAC email going forward.

#### New Business

- There have been problems scheduling multi-section exams as the requests for them have increased. Registrar O'Driscoll is seeking comments on scheduling 4 slots on a Saturday for these exams beginning in Spring 2018.
- ROTC – concerns with the possible impact of the ban on transgender individuals serving in the military have been discussed with President Farish by concerned students. He would like to get a committee to work on how the University can plan to address the impact of this policy on our program and students. He asked for faculty representation on this committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Executive Committee, Faculty Senate