

**Roger Williams University  
Faculty Senate  
Agenda  
December 6, 2017  
2:15-4:30, Upper Commons**

- A. Roll Call
- B. Announcements
- C. President Farish's remarks
- D. Provost Workman's remarks
- E. Adoption of Minutes of November 1, 2017
- F. Update on Indigenous Peoples' Week – Senator Annie Winfield
- G. Acceptance of Committee reports – Admissions and Enrollment Committee, Diversity Committee, University Life Committee
- H. Old Business
  - a. Motions from the Academic Standards and Policies Committee:
    - i. The Faculty Senate recommends that the Independent Study designation no longer be used for senior or graduate theses. Those departments that offer theses, but do not have a course number assigned to those projects, should add the Thesis course to their program offerings in the catalog.
    - ii. The Faculty Senate recommends that the deadline for submission of Independent Study proposals to the relevant Dean be designated as “within seven days of the first day of classes,” and that the Dean act on these proposals within seven days of their submission.
    - iii. The Faculty Senate affirms the faculty's belief that independent studies are an important element of an RWU education. Consequently, the Faculty Senate recommends the appropriation of adequate funds to support this high impact practice of one -on-one student faculty collaboration.
    - iv. The Faculty Senate recommends that the designation “independent study” not be used for low-enrolled classes. The latter, if essential for the students' progress towards graduation, should be listed as courses on the students' transcript.
- I. New Business
  - a. Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee motions:

Motion to approve the following curriculum proposals that were approved by the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee on November 15, 2017.

    - 1. GECPC Proposals

MOTION: To approve the recommendations to remove the core concentration restrictions for Computer Science/Marine Biology, Biology and Environmental Science and Political Science/History and American Studies.
    - 2. Public Health Proposals (documents previously sent)

Minor Changes  
B.S in Public Health to change requirement for infectious diseases courses

B.A. in Public Health to add POLSC 240 to list of courses that fulfill the statistical analysis requirement

B.S./B.A. in Public Health to add a minimum GPA requirement for students majoring in Public Health

Passed 6-0-0 with a strong recommendation to specify a numeric GPA in place of/in addition to a letter grade specification

Minor in Public Health to add POLSC 240 to list of courses that fulfill the statistical analysis requirement

3. COMM Proposals

Minor Changes

B.A. in Communication & Media Studies, changes to requirements  
Global Communication, CORE Concentration, Add course options

4. Community Development Proposals

New Course CD 557 Thesis Research Proposal Development

New Course CD 558 Graduate Thesis Capstone

New Program Community Development, MA

5. Computer Science Proposals

Minor Changes

COMSC410 Artificial Intelligence, change to catalog copy

- b. The Faculty Senate charges the University Life Committee with inquiring into the new Outlook security measures (login and synch with Calendar and Contacts in particular).(Speakman, ).
- c. Summary of GECPC work – GECPC Chair Bender
- d. Motion: That the president of the Faculty Senate contact the registrar to request:
  - a timeline for replacing Curricunet
  - an outline of the process they envision for determining a replacement for Curricunet
  - the role that they envision faculty will play in each stage of the process.(Cutting, )
- e. Report from Deans' Council – Senators June Speakman and Joseph Roberts
- f. Motion: That the university take substantive steps to ensure safe routes for walking and bicycling between campus and Bristol Center (MacPhee, )  
Background: Currently, the only safe way for students, faculty, and staff to travel to and from campus is by motor vehicle. As the university moves toward promoting sustainability as a core principle, we face the challenge of encouraging students, staff, and faculty to use sustainable modes of transportation to a campus located on two busy streets. The roads surrounding campus lack sidewalks and bike lanes, and there is only one crosswalk on the south end of campus. Working with the Town of Bristol to create pedestrian and bicycle friendly routes between the university and town services and amenities will not only reduce the

university's carbon footprint, but also will facilitate our core principle of community engagement.

- g. Motion: Request that University Life obtain information on the shelter in place drill – specifically why there was no notice in the Upper Commons Dining Room (Soto, Bosco).  
Background: During the drill on Monday, November 27, in this location there were many students and others, yet no public notice of the need to shelter in place was seen/heard.
- h. Lab fee report from Academic Standards and Policies Committee
- i. Solicitation of questions for School of Continuing Studies for Academic Standards and Policies Committee