

**Roger Williams University
Faculty Senate
November 1, 2017
Meeting Minutes
2:15-4:30, Upper Commons**

A. Roll Call

Present: Bosco, Cutting, Duffy, Engvall, Hall, Hollingsworth, Kenney, Knights, MacPhee, McKinley, Melton, Moskowitz, O'Connell, Pearce, Roberts, Schroth, Shelton, Soto, Speakman, Stevens, Thangaraj, Topf, Updike

Absent: Emmer, Sawoski, Sorger, Winfield

Open Seats: SHAE:HUM, SSNS:MNS, SAHP (2)

Student senator: Cheyenne Quintal

B. Guests: D Farish, D O'Driscoll, A Workman, M Marsella, A Lambert

C. Announcements - none

D. President Farish's remarks

ROTC issue – Spoke to Student Senate and the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate about forming a committee to address our plan with regard to the transgender ban. But due to order from Federal Judge blocking this ban, President Farish suspends his request for this committee at this time. The ROTC program will operate as usual going forward.

Indigenous People's Committee will meet again next week. There is a book (*Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem*) by Carol Delaney, who is currently at Brown University that sheds new light on Columbus so the President wants to bring this to the committee for discussion in hopes of establishing a protocol for creating a format for a campus conversation that will be helpful to us and will not necessitate involving the Board of Trustees. Will resolve in time for next year's calendar.

Concerns about how power outages in the recent storm were handled on campus. Plan is from to use funds from CAPEX for a permanent generator in the Rec Center, Stonewall, and Baypoint. We will also develop a robust Plan B for future power outages that involves backup for any existing generators that might fail.

Notices of closings/openings of campus during outage– there were batch/spooling problems with notices, such as delays, but working on improving the notice process.

Question about shuttle and safety. Senator Pearce conveyed her concerns about safety of students left late at night alone in town due to the shuttle being full. The President agreed this is not acceptable and will work on increasing the frequency and if needed, the capacity of shuttles.

- E. Provost Workman's remarks – Beverly Tatum speech is next Wednesday night – hope many will attend.

Career Fair had its largest attendance with 724 students. A Career Fair App was available allowing students to register for employers and view their websites. We can track this data and will be able to connect it to the ASEM project.

Status of Hassenfeld faculty grants – 10 applications that involve 27 students. These are being reviewed.

SHAE Dean's Search had 78 applicants and we are down to 10. Timeline for finalist decision is late November/early December.

There are 13 searches for faculty. Senator Updike asked whether these new positions or replacements? Most are replacements. She made note that the Physics area has requested a new faculty, but has not heard either way. She is hoping they get a response soon.

CDO Ame Lambert will be conducting training for search committees.

Academic Strategic Enrollment Management (ASEM) Meetings are beginning. The Provost provided a list of some of the data being provided to faculty. It was noted that not all faculty appear to have access to this data on Bridges. This is due to delays resulting from the recent storm and power outages, and will be resolved – note this data has been added for all faculty.

Senator Speakman asked whether the President will be sending a list of the new board members (reference from Executive Committee minutes). President Farish said the list would be distributed shortly.

Senator Speakman asked whether there is a strategic plan for SCS and whether it is available, noting that the Executive Committee minutes reference a high growth planned there. President Farish said this came from the recent board retreat and that planning for SCS is part of the campus plan. Focus of Providence campus is to develop revenue streams and serve non-traditional populations because it is understood that non-traditional students are the best opportunity for new revenue streams. The plan will be available before the next Senate meeting and will be discussed and reviewed with Senate. Senator Shelton asked whether strategic plans for all the schools will be available. Yes they will be, and the ASEM project will work toward that end. Senator MacPhee asked about the ASEM process for chairs. Chairs will convene before meeting with their departments.

- F. Chief Diversity Officer Ame Lambert – introduction and remarks – all have access to climate survey – saw that the CDO position was desired here so glad this has happened. She invited the Senate to work with her on improving the University. She highlighted the gathering on January 23 for the entire faculty and she hopes there is a strong contingent from the Faculty Senate. We will be discussing who we want to be as a campus. CDO Lambert is committed to the goal of holding the administration accountable for holding to its stated values regarding diversity.

- G. Adoption of Minutes of October 4, 2017 (Cutting/Speakman). Passes Unanimously.
- H. Update on Indigenous Peoples' Week –no report
- I. Update on Graduate Council from Senator Hall. They have met twice. This is a new committee chaired by Sean Varano. An immediate priority is addressing the hooding and graduation ceremonies, which have not been done in a satisfactory way for these students. The committee has a 3rd meeting on November 17. They will be working on a Graduate Student Handbook, and are searching for the one already in place. They have a Student Life Subcommittee working with students on their needs. Senator Speakman asked whether the curriculum process has been addressed yet. It has not.
- J. Acceptance of Committee reports – Curriculum Committee, Academic Standards and Policies, Executive Committee (Roberts/O'Connell). The Curriculum Committee was asked to itemize motions for individual votes. The other reports were accepted unanimously.
- K. Question on Academic Standards and Policies report regarding Arts Management. Senator Shelton asked whether there was anything further found about students told they could no longer be in the minor. Senator Speakman said she could find no evidence of this. President Bosco clarified that the Arts Management Minor is not limited to Visual Arts students, as had been reported. Senator Duffy asked that the list of eligible majors for the minor be corrected in the committee minutes. This will be corrected. The committee will check further into this to help clarify the relationship between the Arts Management Minor and GSB.
- L. Set up separate motions for FSCC
 Senator Speakman asked about the Community Development courses being approved before the program. These will be reviewed with the program for next reading. Chair Stevens will adjust minutes to reflect that Community Development courses have had their First Readings. Senator O'Connell suggested that the minutes include titles of course in addition to course numbers. Stevens will submit revised minutes.
 Motion – Math changes (Shelton, Pearce) - Passed unanimously
 Motion – GECPC proposal – Proposal 1 (Updike, Shelton) – 12 -6- 1

There was a wide ranging discussion of this proposal. Topics included whether this shifts general education to a distribution requirement model, question about whether sufficient time was spent creating this element of allowing courses that meet the required outcomes to be counted as CORE100s. A concern was raised that this is a subtle roll-out for such a significant change. Others said that the COREs are not identical in their delivery and using outcomes would provide a commonality. It was noted that the approach for CORE is no longer lens based, but outcomes based. This change would be helpful for small programs. Discussion clarified that respective CCUCs will have oversight regarding proposed courses to count as Core 100s by way of a curricular review process. Move the question (Topf Shelton). Passed 16 – 3 – 0.

Senator Stevens, Curriculum Committee Chair can send an email to clarify this. She compared the GECPC curriculum process to that for other curriculum committees. She added that the GECPC and Dean Jacobs are willing to schedule meetings about this. Student Senator Quintal observed that students have opportunities to meet students from outside of their majors through the current Core design, suggesting that this interaction would be compromised if Core-equivalents were listed as discipline-based courses. How will this affect LLCs?

Senator O'Connell noted that Curricunet is not a communication vehicle for curricular matters. Registrar O'Driscoll will work Curriculum Committees on this issue.

New Business

- a. Information on Burning Glass – to be used as part of the Academic Strategic Enrollment Management process – Senate Vice President Renee Soto showed a Prezi on this. The University has 5 licenses: Admissions, Graduate Programs, Career Center, Institutional Research, SCS. Administrators in these areas can provide information requested by faculty.
- b. Report from Deans' Council – no report, minutes are coming.
- c. Bookstore ordering too few texts – Bookstore Manager Michele Marsella responded to this issue -
 - i. Goal is to get books into hands of students as needed
 - ii. Textbook manager did leave and new person didn't work out
 - iii. Rushed everything we could – order 100 % freshmen books/look at upper division and use history. Place reorders promptly.
 - iv. Orders placed for only 60% of classes; therefore, students with classes using those same books, but which weren't ordered, got some that were part of the 60% who did order.
 - v. They do a rental program too.
 - vi. Senator Roberts asked when spring orders should be in. Michelle said no later than Dec. 15th.
 - vii. Motion: To ask the University Life Committee to work with the Bookstore on developing a set of deadlines and strategy to encourage faculty to meet those deadline (Speakman, Roberts). Passed 20 – 0 – 1
That University Life includes the Bookstore manager as one of its members (Roberts, Soto). Passed unanimously.
- d. Motion - That the Academic Standards Committee investigate the policy regarding online courses, with special attention to the issue of whether first year students (students who have completed fewer than 30 credits) should be allowed to enroll in them (Bosco, O'Connell). Passed 20 – 0- 1.
Discussion included questions about the rationale for this, concern that online courses are not appropriate for all students, students are more comfortable with online than we think, may be a broader issue.
- e. Motion - The Faculty Senate recommends that retired faculty members retain membership on the All-Faculty email list (Speakman, Moskowitz). Passed 15 - 3 – 2.
Discussion included that retired faculty should stay connected to the community; concerns about the faculty list being used for voting, technical problems are solvable, concern about retired faculty involvement in issues that are about current matters. A question was raised inquiring whether access to All-Faculty email is contingent on employment status.
- f. General access to All Faculty and All Student email lists
The concern came from faculty involved with faculty led study abroad having no access to all students to inform of programs. There is access to the All University List for department chairs. Access for All Students is through John King's Office. It appears that some faculty have access to this list whereas others don't.

Motion: That the Executive Committee bring to its meeting a request for clarification on the policy regarding access to the All University email list and to relay the Faculty Senate's concern about unequal access (Speakman, O'Connell). Passed unanimously.

Motion that program directors have access to teaching evaluations of their full-time and adjunct faculty members (Shelton, Moskowitz) – Passed unanimously.

Motion to authorize Senate President to resolve committee memberships for Study Abroad and Library Committees (Speakman, Shelton). Passed unanimously. Senators Roberts and Stevens volunteered to serve on the Library Committee. An election will be held for the Study Abroad Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.