

Roger Williams University
Faculty Senate
Agenda
October 3, 2018
2:15-4:30, Mary Tefft White

- A. Roll Call
- B. Announcements
- C. Interim President Workman's remarks
- D. Acting Provost Cole's remarks
- E. Adoption of Minutes of September 5, 2018
- F. Acceptance of Committee reports
 - Executive Committee
 - Curriculum Committee Motion

The Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee requests that the Executive Committee reviews with the interim President and acting Provost the proper make-up of school curriculum committees and the proper procedures (according to the current RWU Curriculum Policies) for them to follow. Further, move that the Executive Committee ask that the interim President and acting Provost make sure that all schools are acting within those guidelines to ensure that curriculum moves through the process as smoothly and quickly as possible (Stevens,).

- G. Presidential Search -Search Committee Co-Chair and Trustee Marcia Morris and Vivian Brocard, Isaacson Miller
- H. Old Business
 - a. Report on governance of the School of Continuing Studies (now University College).

The Senate last May charged Jennifer Pearce and Mel Topf with meeting with the Provost and SCS Dean Jamie Scurry, for the purpose of developing and proposing to the Senate a credible and effective means of Senate governance of SCS. Professors Pearce and Topf agree that the proposals from the administration do not sufficiently address the longstanding issues regarding SCS governance, and therefore make no recommendations to the Senate. (Topf)
 - b. Reintroduction of May motion regarding severance of Senate responsibility for governance of SCS (See motion below)
 - c. Faculty Senate Bylaws Changes
 - Description of Academic Standards and Policies Committee:**

The Academic Standards and Policies Committee shall have the following duties:
 - a) Review policies related to students' academic success
 - b) Academic progress at both undergraduate and graduate level
 - i. Advising
 - ii. Rate of progress
 - iii. Grading
 - c) The chair of this committee will be a member of the appeals committee for students' academic petitions. He/She shall act as a liaison with the Center for Academic Development

- d) When charged by the Senate, the Academic Standards and Policies Committee shall make recommendations for changes regarding academic policies
- e) When the Academic Standards and Policies Committee deems it is necessary to do so, the Committee shall review the academic policies (other than the duty delineated in item #1).
- f) The Chair of the Academic Standards and Policies Committee shall collect all the Faculty Senate relevant approved motions that have been further approved by the Provost and the President, and at the end of each Faculty Senate year and provide a copy to the Faculty Senate Secretary.

Description of Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

This committee will be responsible for program coordination and facilitation of curricular innovation, helping to coordinate program development in the several University academic constituencies. Other duties **may** include library, technology issues, study abroad and core. (Article V, Section 6, Item 2)

Description of Faculty Development Committee

The committee shall collaborate with members and departments of the RWU community to facilitate development opportunities pertaining to scholarship and teaching for RWU faculty. It shall oversee the granting of the Excellence in Teaching Award.

I. New Business

a. Motion – Senator Topf

Presidential search. MOVE that, upon consideration of the Search Committee’s September 20 memorandum to the Faculty Senate, and of discussion from Marcia Morris, co-chair of the Search Committee, the Faculty Senate resolves as follows:
 (A) That the Senate’s motion of September 5 objecting to the search process, is hereby withdrawn;
 (B) That the Senate hereby accepts the search process that the Board of Trustees has established as entirely proper and sufficient for a successful search.
 (C) That the extremely limited participation of faculty in the search is appropriate for the reasons offered by the Board. (Topf)

b. Motion – Senator Pearce

Move that the Faculty Senate sponsor the following event (Pearce,):

Faculty Happy Hour

What: An informal BYOB wine, beer, and snacks for full and part time faculty.

Who: Sponsored by faculty groups such as the Faculty Senate, school curriculum committees, etc. who will bring extra supplies to share. This is in the spirit of “buying a colleague a drink” to build connection and comradery.

When: On the first Friday of every month, from 3-6PM

Where: On campus, perhaps in the Sailing Center, or other location

Why: To increase awareness of the sponsoring groups’ work on campus, facilitate communication between representatives of committees and their constituents,

provide an informal environment for faculty to connect across disciplines, and recruit and retain faculty members involved in self-governance.

How: University would supply a suitable place for mixing and mingling, faculty would supply the food and beverages.

c. Motion for Faculty Senate: (Ozer/MacPhee, Topf)

The Faculty Senate requests that the Registrar's Office provide quiet locations (e.g., the fieldhouse) for fall 2018 final exams in classes affected by noise from the SECCM construction project.

d. Process for providing 2 additional faculty nominees for the Presidential Search Committee - Executive Committee

FACULTY SENATE
MOTION FROM MEL TOPF (Item H(c) above)

MOTION: Whereas the Faculty Senate has responsibility for governance of academic programs including course and other requirements for degree, diploma and certificate programs offered by the University; and

Whereas the Senate has long experienced great difficulty in exercise of governance over programs in the School of Continuing Studies; and

Whereas President Farish has effectively confirmed to the Senate Executive Committee that SCS courses and programs cannot feasibly be subject to Senate governance in that he has acknowledged that SCS is “different” since it must “move quickly” on decisions regarding programs and participants, and that SCS programs do not fit the traditional model, for example non-credit-bearing courses and other programs offered ad hoc as requested by agencies and other organizations. [Executive Committee minutes, 11/14/17].

Therefore, the Senate hereby acknowledges that it cannot reasonably bear responsibility for effective governance of the SCS, and hereby resolves that it is no longer responsible for overseeing the standards, policies, or curricula offered by the SCS.

Further, the Senate shall so inform the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, in that the most recent self-study submitted to NEASC in 2017 indicated no such limit on Senate Governance.