

Roger Williams University
Faculty Senate
Agenda
September 5, 2018
2:15-4:30, Upper Commons

- A. Roll Call
- B. Announcements –Welcome to new Senators, condolences to Maia Farish
- C. Interim President Workman’s remarks
- D. Acting Provost Cole’s remarks
- E. Adoption of Minutes of May 2, 2018
- F. Acceptance of Committee reports
Executive Committee
- G. Remaining Senate Positions – SAAHP and SSNS:MNS
- H. Standing Committee Openings - Status
- I. Old Business
 - a. SCS Working Committee
- J. New Business
 - a. Registrar Dan O’Driscoll – Catalog and curriculum system update
 - b. Senator(s) to attend Deans Council on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon
 - c. Bylaws update – committee descriptions
 - d. Motion from Senator Topf:

“The Faculty Senate finds that the Board of Trustees has established a search process for the next president that:

- (A) is unacceptably secretive;
- (B) improperly suppresses all opportunity for faculty to meet and talk with finalists, or even to know who they are;
- (C) signals a mistrust of faculty that offends the dedication and commitment to RWU that the faculty has always shown;
- (D) shows disrespect for faculty by failing to justify, or even explain, this new process.

This resolution, upon passage, shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees.”

- e. Motion to make a change to the Faculty Senate Constitution (Topf, Knights):

[Add to Senate Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. (1) (A):]

In the event that a school or division fails to select a representative to a committee herein listed by September 15, the chair of the committee shall notify the faculty of that school or division that its seat on the committee is vacant unless the faculty selects a member within five workdays. If the school or division fails to fill the seat by that time, the chair shall so notify the Senate Executive Committee, and proceed to select a faculty member to fill the seat from among all RWU full time faculty. The selection process is at the discretion of the chair. The selection shall be approved by a majority of committee members. The chair shall promptly inform the Executive Committee of the selection, and

shall certify that a majority of the committee approved. This provision shall apply only to the following committees:

Admissions and Enrollment
Diversity
Steering
University Life

Background: At our organizational meeting August 2, we discussed the problem of schools and divisions that do not select members to sit on Senate standing committees. One solution offered at our meeting was to permit certain committees to fill those seats with faculty from other schools. The proposed amendment attempts to balance more flexibility in filling committee seats on the one hand, and some committee accountability on the other. The provision applies only to the four Senate committees listed that generally deal with university-wide matters and can reasonably function without a representative from a specific school.

- f. Referral of the following to committees:
 - Career Center update
 - Academics 101 program
 - Graduation ceremony

- g. Elections – Open Senate seats, General Education Committee and Board Liaisons