

RWU Faculty Senate
Minutes, revised per April 5 meeting
March 1, 2017
2:15-4:15
Upper Commons Side Dining Room

Present: Boggs, Emmer, Hall, Hollingsworth, McKinley, Melton, Menton, Moskowitz, Norvell, O'Connell, Roberts, Sawoski, Schroth, Scully, Smolowitz, Soto, Speakman, Tehrani, Thangaraj, Topf, Updike, Wells, Winfield

Absent: Duffy, Gumb, Pearce, Langdon

Guests: President Farish, Provost Workman, Vice Provost Cole, Associate Provost Shea, Student Senator Quintal, GECPC Chair Paul Bender, Profs. Judith Platania, John Schlinke, Susan McMullen, Laura D'Amore

1. Approval of minutes of February 1, 2017 19 approve 1 abstain

2. **Announcements –**
 - a. Resolutions from Student Senate
 - i. Regarding changes in the shuttle schedule and routes to Bristol and Almeida. This will be forwarded to the Parking and Transportation Committee that is being formed by VP Williams. Student and faculty representatives are needed on this committee. The Faculty Senate will provide two representatives.
 - ii. Indigenous Peoples Day. The Student Senate has passes a resolution urging the university to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. The Faculty Senate had taken a similar resolution to the president two years ago and it was rejected. Pres. Farish will form a group to develop an appropriate way to celebrate the accomplishment of indigenous peoples. Two Faculty reps will be provided by the Senate.
 - iii. Bookstore. Students have met with the bookstore about price and availability of books. Bookstore personnel noted that late faculty orders are part of the problem. The Executive Committee will meet with bookstore reps to address concerns.

3. President Farish's remarks
 - a. **Chief Diversity Officer Search** is proceeding. Three candidates, out of a larger pool of eight who received airport interviews, will be invited to campus for interviews this month.
 - b. Wells Fargo. The Board has approved Pres. Farish's recommendation that RWU no longer do banking business with Wells Fargo. A Request for Proposals will be issued for new banking services

- c. Pres. Farish has advised the governor that the proposal for two years of free public college has implications for four-year private institutions. The potential for the problem is expanding when other states including New York are considering this same course of action.
 - d. Question: Schedule of Administrator evaluations. Pres. Farish will provide an update on this process shortly.
4. Provost Workman's remarks
- a. The Cost Center Analysis asks the question, how much does each credit cost us to deliver and what are our yields? After a private consultant failed in their attempt to complete the analysis, RWU is doing the analysis internally. Will collect three years of data as a hedge against anomalies. Question – what are the implications of this analysis? These conversations can guide us to more effective recruitment and marketing of the resources that we have. The report, which is yet to be finalized will be available to the faculty when it is complete. A request was made to have the data from the first and second years.
Question from Senator: are Alumni donations considered when assessing a program's "value?" Answer: no. [added as amendment, 4/5/2017 Senate meeting]
 - b. As has been reported, graduation rates have improved to 64%. One step that has been taken is to move submission of graduation applications to the spring of the students' Junior year.
 - c. The registrar search has yet to yield an optimal candidate. Associate Registrar Linda Vieira is doing an admirable job in interim. The successful candidate must be familiar with the state-of-the-art technology in this area.
 - d. The search for a School of Justice Studies Dean is proceeding to final phases. The search committee will be having a conversation with the Provost this Friday.
 - e. Question: status of adjunct mailing list is being worked on. Lori Barry can forward communications to current adjuncts. Recent communications about snow days did not reach all adjuncts.
 - f. Question: update on Providence parking protocol. Parking for most staff, faculty, and students is a block and a half away from the building. A small number of spaces under the building are reserved for small number of employees who work there full-time. The question regarding why faculty working in the building do not have access to those spaces remains unanswered.
 - g. Reorganization –The College of Arts and Sciences will be split into 1. The School of Art, Education and Humanities. 2. The School of Natural and Social Sciences. The position descriptions for the Deans are on the website. It was noted that these descriptions were not reviewed by the faculty of these schools.
 - h. Question: is the location of the additional building for the School of Engineering rendering the CAS building less accessible? Is this the best solution for SECCM's space problem? The enrollment demands of SECCM require that this additional building be built. Fundraising \$4.5 million for the project. URI is getting \$150 million in state dollars for its engineering program. In this environment, resources must be devoted to maintaining this successful program.

5. Executive Committee report

- a. Meeting of February 15 (Notes are in Appendix A)
- b. Response re. inquiry about computing average class size (Appendix B)
A question was raised about caps of classes, which appear to be creeping upward, especially in GSB. Are caps determined by pedagogy, or by number of chairs in the room?
- c. Response to faculty concerns about portal (CIO Ford’s email—Appendix C)
- d. Board committee reports
- e. Course Survey committee work is underway
- f. Independent Study committee work is underway
- g. Graduate governance group. Document was distributed for review. It will be placed on the April agenda for discussion and recommendation.
- h. Motion: (Speakman/Tehrani) Approved without objection.

The Faculty Senate recommends that the Provost reiterate to the Deans to approved policy for hiring adjuncts as passed by the Faculty Senate in 2011, approved by the President and Provost, and reiterated in 2015.

Regarding the selection of adjuncts, credentials shall be reviewed by the faculty members of the relevant department or program, which shall be provided with sufficient time for such review. Upon majority vote of the department or program faculty, the applicants’ names be forwarded to the school or college dean for inclusion in the adjunct faculty pool for the designated courses. Upon the majority vote of the department/program faculty, the selection of adjunct faculty can be delegated to another entity (e.g., chair, dean). (Senate Nov 2011).

The provost responded by insisting that hiring is a managerial function and can be time sensitive. Senators responded by noting the administration’s prior commitment to faculty review of qualifications of applicants.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Curriculum: Motion: (O’Connell/Hall) **The FSCC recommends that the Faculty Senate adopt the following changes to the curriculum.** Approved without objection

CASNEW	COURSE	POLSC	390 Globalization and its Critics
	2/8 Motion to approve: Hall, McMullen; Approved 8-0-0-2		
MNR	PROG	AQS	Aquaculture & Aquarium Science Minor
	2/8 Motion to approve: Tehrani, Hall; Approved 8-0-0-2		
NEW	COURSE	AQS	318 Aquatic Animal Health and Lab
	2/8 Motion to approve: Moskowitz, Pearse; 8-0-0-2		
MNR	COURSE	AQS	264 Principles of Aquatic Animal Husbandry Lab
	2/22 E-BALLOT: 7-0-0-3		
NEW	COURSE	POLSC	345 Rich States, Poor States
	2/22 E-BALLOT: 6-1-0-3		
NEW	COURSE	AQS	451 Aquaculture/Aquarium Science Senior T

President Speakman tabled the issue in reaction to Provost Workman's statements on the matter which incorrectly indicated that this was an issue unique to Political Science and had been resolved.

- e. **FCAS Reorganization.** Several faculty colleagues have raised questions about the reorganization plan. For purposes of discussion, the Chair of the Steering Committee has crafted the following motions.
 - i. Move that the Social Science departments be in the same college as the humanities and performing arts.
 - ii. Move that the MPA program be placed in the same college as the social sciences.
 - iii. Move that MNS be a free-standing school.
 - iv. Move that the Social Science departments and the School of Justice Studies be merged into a single school.
 - v. Move that the Provost be requested to explain to the Senate why the faculty-administration commission on re-organization was not permitted to consider the other professional schools (in addition to SED).
 - vi. Move, regarding the proposed position of SED Assistant Dean of Assessment and Compliance, that the Provost be requested to explain how this need be a full-time position.

Lively discussion ensued. Senators pointed out that a proposal of this significance should have been placed before the Senate and it was not. Further, the "commission" convened by the provost, which included four faculty, had parameters that were so narrow as to lead to a foregone conclusion. Pres. Farish asked why the Senate had waited so long to make its objection known. [The Provost announced the reorganization plan to the faculty in an email on 1/23/17, nine days before the next Senate meeting; it was taken up at the following Senate meeting.]

It was further pointed out that the job descriptions for the deans of the new schools were posted without any review or comment from faculty in the affected programs.

Motion to table Topf/O'Connell 18 approve, 2 opposed, 1 abstain

9. Adjournment

Next meeting, April 5, 2017 at 2:15

Appendix A
Executive Committee meeting with Provost and President
February 15, 2017

Present: Pres. Farish, Provost Workman, Senators Speakman and Soto

1. **Wells Fargo:** Pres. Farish will recommend to the Board that RWU discontinue doing business with WF. The cost to the university may be \$100,000.
2. **Multicultural Competency Seminars:** They going well. SECCM, SAAHP and SCS have all had group sessions. LS will have on shortly as will SJS. FCAS sessions are on Wednesday afternoons throughout February. Seven attended on 2/8.
3. **Chief Diversity Officer:** Witt/Kieefer is the search firm. Seven finalists are doing airport interviews. Three or four will visit campus.
4. **Latino Policy Institute Director:** search is ongoing. No search firm. It is widely posted.
5. **Course caps:** last year's average course size was 19.43, which is consistent with the information provided to students and families at Admissions events
6. **Office of Enrollment Management and Marketing:** new staff include VP Brian Williams, AVP for Marketing Lynn Mello, Director of Editorial Services Rob Hancock. Amy Tiberio remains the Director of Admissions.
7. **Communications:** Ed Fitzpatrick, the Director of Media and Public Relations, is one of five people handling media and p.r. (Of the others, one is assigned to SCS, one is assigned to the LS, one in Admissions and Enrollment and one in Advancement)
8. **Organization Chart:** The Executive Committee requests one given that both personnel and positions have changed significantly in recent months.
9. Many university publications will move from hard copy to online format.
10. Regarding **college credit earned while in high school**, there are a number of programs underway, including dual credit programs where the student takes a course at RWU SCS and receives credit towards HS degree as well as RWU credit which can be used at any college. Students at Juanita Sanchez can earn up to fifteen credits this way.
11. **Registrar Search** continues. None of the three candidates interviewed on campus were acceptable to the provost. Need both technical savvy and management skills.

12. **FCAS Reorganization.** Provost suggests a subgroup to work on implementation and impact on procedures and processes, such as Curriculum. He needs four faculty members for each of the two schools to comprise the search committees for the two deans. The Senate can decide how to determine who should sit on those committees.

13. **Parking.** There have been days when there are virtually no spaces on campus. Some of the solutions offered are not feasible given that the property in question is not owned by the university. VP Jerry Williams will convene a task force to work on this problem. The Faculty Senate will send some representatives. The possibility of “hot” parking spots that can be reserved by smart phone should be considered.

Compiled by June Speakman

2/20/17

Attachment B

Method for Computing Class Size

RWU uses the method provided by the Common Data Set. Total number of students in all sections divided by the total number of sections, with section defined below.

Undergraduate Class Size in the Fall 2016 term

Class Sections: A class section is an organized course offered for credit, identified by discipline and number, meeting at a stated time or times in a classroom or similar setting, and not a subsection such as a laboratory or discussion session. Undergraduate class sections are defined as any sections in which at least one degree-seeking undergraduate student is enrolled for credit. Exclude distance learning classes and noncredit classes and individual instruction such as dissertation or thesis research, music instruction, or one-to-one readings. Exclude students in independent study, co-operative programs, internships, foreign language taped tutor sessions, practicums, and all students in one-on-one classes. Each class section should be counted only once and should not be duplicated because of course catalog cross-listings.

Class Subsections: A class subsection includes any subsection of a course, such as laboratory, recitation, and discussion subsections that are supplementary in nature and are scheduled to meet separately from the lecture portion of the course. Undergraduate subsections are defined as any subsections of courses in which degree-seeking undergraduate students enrolled for credit. As above, exclude noncredit classes and individual instruction such as dissertation or thesis research, music instruction, or one-to-one readings. Each class subsection should be counted only once and should not be duplicated because of cross-listings.

Appendix C

CIO Ford's Response to issues raised at Senate meeting of 2/1/17

Attended meeting with Daryl and we were asked to answer questions about the Portal upgrade, and listen to their complaints.

- Turn off Facebook / Twitter web parts (faculty senate and student reps all agreed). **(Turned off on 2/1/17) - SOLVED**
- Would like the portal to offer a more personalized view per user (moving of web parts, etc.). **This functionality is not offered by the Ellucian Portal, RWU will put in an enhancement request to Ellucian, there is no guarantee they will implement it. - SOLVED**
- The old roster allowed users to click on a student and get more info on that student (like a student profile). **- IT will review what options are available on the roster; this functionality may have been lost when the roster was customized to include student photos and preferred name information. Advisors should have access to student profiles from their advisee options.**
- Some class rosters do not have pictures on this (reported by Joseph Roberts I believe). Confirmed he was not on wireless or off campus. **- 2/8/16: Change to the roster program was made to correct the picture issue. New photo ID pictures were loaded for all students on 2/8 as well. Reminder, pictures are not available on the RWU Wi-Fi network or from off campus. - SOLVED**
- Degree Audit does not print well - **IT Researching/Testing this. 2/15: This is a known issue with IE, Firefox, and Safari with Ellucian. They recommend using Chrome, which works great. - SOLVED**
- Cannot print rosters - **IT Researching/Testing this.**
- Possible to email class roster to themselves? Or better yet export into excel or CSV? **IT needs to research - Would be a hefty customization, and then need to be replicated once we went to self-service.**
- Student representatives stated that sometimes they cannot log into the mobile app, and other times they are booted out and need to re-login. **IT to review logs and test**

Appendix D

RWU General Education Revision Proposal

Goals: (1) Align courses and programs with General Education Outcomes and build sustainable assessment into the program. (2) Expand student & faculty choice & build on programs strengths. (3) Encourage broader participation in the General Education Program.

Current	GECPC Addition 1	GECPC Addition 2	Jacobs Proposal
CORE 101-105*	Roger Seminar**; C1-5 Outcomes-based Courses	Roger Seminar**; C1-C5 Outcomes-based Courses	Roger Seminar** + C1-C5 Outcomes-based Courses
WTNG 102	No Change	No Change	No Change
WTNG 200/300	No Change	No Change	No Change
MATH 1XX or Above	QL Outcome-based course	QL Outcome-based course	QL Outcome-based course
Existing Core Concentrations	Interdisciplinary Minor w/ Integrative Capstone	Disciplinary Minor w/ Integrative Capstone outside of School or Division (or from an existing CC****)	4 Course Clusters
CORE Interdisciplinary Senior Seminar			CORE Interdisciplinary Senior Seminar

*Not all students currently take the CORE 101 or 105

**In the Jacobs proposal, the Roger Seminar is a stand-alone seminar. It is not a requirement for all students. Under the GECPC plan the seminar would likely need to meet C1-C5 outcomes.

***Grid Restrictions: current grid restrictions would remain in place pending school or program review

Integrative learning is the process of making connections among concepts and experiences so that information and skills can be applied to novel and complex issues or challenges. –Ithaca College “What is Integrative Learning?” (https://www.ithaca.edu/icc/what_is_it/)

Purpose of the Committee

The General Education Curriculum and Planning Committee (GECPC) will function in a manner similar to that of school level curriculum committees in reviewing curricular proposals from the faculty or groups of faculty. It will also take a leadership role in planning the evolution or replacement of the University's General Education Program.

From: Curricular and Administrative Oversight of the General Education Program at Roger Williams University (2014)

Mission and Outcomes of the RWU General Education Program (approved May 2015)

The RWU General Education program fosters inquisitive, reflective, and creative learners who use a breadth of knowledge and skills to enrich their personal, public and professional lives. Throughout this program students will learn how to synthesize information from across their academic experience, to examine the world holistically, appreciate the diversity of their local and global communities, and participate in them effectively and ethically.

To ensure that our program produces such graduates, the RWU faculty asks students, across all four years, to:

- I. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of diverse human cultures, histories, arts, languages, literatures, and the physical environments on which these depend.
- II. Communicate purposefully, ethically, and effectively in a variety of formats and situations including written, oral, and artistic.
- III. Engage in self-reflection and ethical reasoning.
- IV. Synthesize knowledge and make connections within, across, and beyond disciplines.
- V. Learn and employ the literacies and habits of mind that inform the work that we do: information literacy, artistic production and aesthetic appreciation, quantitative literacy, critical inquiry and analysis.