ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

Minutes
September 12, 2012, 2:00 P.M.
Library Seminar Room

1. Roll Call

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<tr>
<td>Peter Alfieri</td>
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<td>Nermin Kura</td>
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<td>June Speakman</td>
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<td>James Beitler</td>
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<td>Bruce Marlowe</td>
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<td>Becky Spritz</td>
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<td>Ben Carr</td>
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<td>Dave Moskowitz</td>
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<td>Jeff Staats</td>
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<td>Patrick Charles</td>
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<td>Cliff Murphy</td>
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<td>Matt Stein</td>
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<td>Michael Emmer</td>
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<td>Hubert Kamdem Noussi</td>
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<td>Anne Tait</td>
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<td>Steve Esons</td>
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<td>Roxanne O’Connell</td>
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<td>Minoo Tehrani</td>
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<td>John Fobert</td>
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<td>Joseph Roberts</td>
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<td>Mel Topf</td>
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<td>Kamille Gentles-Pear</td>
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<td>Lauren Rossi</td>
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<td>Laura Turner</td>
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<td>Diane Harvey</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Tony Ruocco</td>
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<td>Sean Varano</td>
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<td>France Hunter</td>
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<td>Mark Sawoski</td>
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<td>Yajni Warnapala</td>
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<td>Hasan-Udlin Khan</td>
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<td>Ferd Schroth</td>
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<td>Kerri Warren</td>
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<td>Valerie Sloan</td>
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<td>Rom Woodruff</td>
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In Attendance: President Farish, Provost Workman, Associate Provost Cole, Student Representative Tom Sojka.

Student senate passed motion to declare September 8th “Josh Stein Day”.

2. Announcements/Communications
   a. in memory of Josh Stein


   b. Pres. Farish

Welcomes senators back. Summer activities: review literature on state of affairs in higher education. President reports 3755 undergraduates currently. October count will be smaller. New target 1110, made transfer by 4, 14 short on freshman, net about 10 short. 1/3 of families (95-125k annual income) have no savings. Need >$25K is largest single group. Leads to unsustainable borrowing by student’s family. Our current yield rate is 15%. Problem: our net price is in top 3% of nation. Reputation is not quite there. We are on “bad boys” list.
President proposes that we need to define what is meaning of our degree. Second, rethink financial system. With a discount rate 24%, net tuition revenue flat. Recruitment process will not likely get better next year.

c.  Provost Workman

Prov. Workman greets senators. He reports he is currently working on the “value proposition”. We currently have strengths that will help make the case to parents. Retention is “OK” but could be better. Provost is creating a retention task force, Showcasing faculty achievements will be a new initiative. Degree audit committee is working on improvements. Will do a search for dean of FCAS, faculty to name two members for search committee.

9/12/2012 2:36:32 PM

3. Executive Committee comments
   a. Update on issues awaiting administration action
      i. creation of committee to evaluate administrators
      ii. Faculty gathering space
      iii. 8 week semesters—role of faculty
      iv. Administration access to faculty email

President: Email access policy in development, current mechanism is that only possible through a presidential order. Only do this in the case of an external problem. President Farish reports there is no mechanism that allows administration casual access to email.
   v. Adjunct hiring policies
   vi. SET implementation of new instrument

Diversity statement has been passed, president has it. Policy manual committee began work but was diverted to bargaining team this summer. Progress will pick up in the fall.

b. Caucus notes
Distributed to senators, will be included in senate minutes.
   c. 3 plus 3 Committee Faculty Representative
   Motion: The Faculty Senate will provide a representative to the 3 plus 3 committee.

Lisa Newcity is already serving. Motion to provide a representative to this committee (Tehrani, Woodruff) passes, (1 abstention). No volunteers from senators. Valerie Sloan and Peter Alfieri nominated. Election conducted. Peter Alfieri elected.

d. Degree Audit Faculty Representative
   Motion: The Faculty Senate will provide two representative to the Degree Audit Committee.
Motion to provide representatives to this committee (Tehrani, Moskowitz). Motion Passes with 1 abstention.

e. future reports from Board reps and Deans Council liaison
Senate President will request reports at the October meeting.

f. obligations of Senators: attendance, voting/abstention/quorum, time limits per issue/per senator
Pres. Speakman discussed responsibilities of senators.
Motion to end regular meetings at 4:00 PM. (Val Sloan, Varano) Motion is defeated. 5 abstentions.

9/12/2012 3:05:10 PM
4. Election of Committee Chairs. All chair candidates ran unopposed.
   Academic Standards and Policies Committee:
   Dave Moskowitz voted.

   Admissions and Enrollment Committee:
   Laura Turner.

   Curriculum Committee:
   Tony Ruocco.

   Diversity Committee:
   Mike Emmer

   Faculty Development Committee:
   Kamille Gentles-Peart

   Steering Committee:
   Mel Topf

   University Life Committee:
   Joseph Roberts

5. Duties of Chairs 9/12/2012 3:12:57 PM
Pres. Speakman asks committee chairs to select time and to ensure participation or to ask divisions for another representative.
   a. meeting time
   b. agenda and minutes published prior to Senate meeting
   c. motion to accept minutes
President Speakman presents new senate procedures. When minutes are accepted by the senate then all motions contained within are approved. Potential to project minutes on screen. Exec committee will discuss an appropriate procedure.
VP Tehrani requests committee chairs to post minutes to senate website. Gladys Loa can train chairs.

d. motions for Senate consideration
Potentially make a request for course release or compensation for curriculum committee chair.

9/12/2012 3:28 PM
6. Referral of issues to Committees for study and recommendations
   a. School for Continuing Studies
Ongoing area of concern and focus. Sen. Tehrani states this is an ongoing issue in the faculty senate curriculum committee. What is role and mission of School of Continuing Studies? Sen. Emmer asks provost for vision. Prov. Workman responds that understanding and refining the role of continuing studies, graduate and online education is high on his agenda.

Motion (Khan, Esons) Create an ad-hoc committee of the senate with representatives of each school to consider and report back issues and concerns related to the schools vis-à-vis the School of Continuing Studies. Motion passes with two abstentions.

Motion. Election committee to conduct election. Approved with 4 abstentions.

   b. SAT optional policy
Motion: (Sloan, O'Connell) Refer to the Admission and Enrollment Committee. Approved with no nays and two abstentions.

Motion (Roberts, Topf) Also refer to Academic Standards and Policies Committee. Motion Passes (13-12-4)

   c. Online course approval process/policies re. day students
Motion (Murphy, Varano): Refer this issue to the special committee to develop Online & Distance Education Policies. Motion passes with 3 abstentions.

Motion: (Moskowitz, O'Connell) Executive committee will ask president to ensure that existing policies governing day students taking online courses be fully enforced. Motion passes with 2 abstentions.

Motion: (Tehrani, O'Connell) Refer to Academic Policies and Standard Committee the issues of regular day students registered for regular classes but physically absent. Motion passed with 4 abstentions.

   d. Distinction between online and face-to-face classes
Motion (Varano, Topf) Whereas RWU has been expanding its involvement in online education; whereas many members of the RWU Faculty Senate and across the wider faculty have expressed concerns with the administration of online programs, I move that the Faculty Senate request that the Provost form a special committee to develop Online & Distance Education Policies & Procedures.

Motion passes with 4 abstentions.

e. Hiring policies re. new and open administrative positions
Motion: (Tehrani, Alfieri) Executive committee follow up with president. Motion passes with no abstentions heard.

9/12/2012 4:15 PM

f. Governance and support for interdisciplinary programs
Motion: Refer to steering committee (Tehrani, Fobert) Motion passes with one abstention.

7. Motion regarding By-laws and Constitution rewrite (Topf, Tehrani)

MOVE that the Steering Committee undertake a comprehensive review of the text of the Senate Constitution and of the Senate Bylaws and provide recommendations as to any appropriate changes. Recommended changes may include complete redrafting of articles and sections. The committee shall submit its recommendations to the Senate on or before the Senate's regular February 2013 meeting.

Motion Passes unanimously.

9/12/2012 4:17 PM

8. New business
Motion: (Alfieri, Tehrani) Refer to the Academic Standards and Policies the process of approving faculty led programs abroad.
Motion Approved with 5 abstentions.

9. Adjourn 9/12/2012 4:25 PM