Welcome to the University of Rhode Island
The Faculty Senate

Through RI General Law §16-32-10 academic responsibility at URI is delegated to the President and the Faculty Senate.

With the President’s concurrence, the Faculty Senate has the authority to formulate policy concerning teaching and research, study, exercise, discipline, and government.

The University of RI Faculty Senate has oversight of the University Manual, which contains the rules and regulations that govern faculty and students. Additional oversight functions include curriculum approval, which provides for the establishment, abolition, and merger of programs, departments, courses, and curriculum, including general education.

Functions of the Faculty Senate

To facilitate its charge, the Faculty Senate is composed of a six-member Executive Committee, six standing committees, and special committees as needed. Once elected to serve a three-year term, Senators are assigned to a Standing Committee based upon their interests. Senators may also serve on joint committees of the Faculty Senate and the President.

The Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual Committee reviews university governance operations, proposes changes, reviews proposals, makes recommendations for changes from various sources and construes the meaning of the Faculty Senate Constitution and By-Laws and the University Manual.

The curriculum committees include the Curriculum and Standards Committee, responsible for the approval of programs, new courses, and course changes, and the General Education Committee, responsible for approval of new GE courses and evaluating program effectiveness.

Essential links for faculty include Curricular Procedures and how to propose a program or course.

The Committee for Research & Creative Activities and its two subcommittees, the Competitive Grants and the Center Review subcommittees, serve as the university community’s representative voice in all matters related to research, creative, and scholarly activities and seeks to improve the environment for research at URI.

The Service & Community Life Committee supports the university’s mission by studying and recommending policies to enhance effective faculty governance and oversight; the supportive and diverse nature of the URI community; and URI’s engagement with the broader local, national and international community.

The Academic Calendar Committee is responsible for approving the University calendars, making recommendations for modifications and considering calendar matters referred by the Senate or the Executive Committee.
The **Teaching, Advising, & Assessment Committee** considers and makes recommendations promoting good teaching, advising, and assessment at the University; assesses university-wide advising and makes policy recommendations to the Faculty Senate on all advising matters pertaining to the University College for Academic Success.

The **Committee on Technology & Infrastructure** contributes to the development and maintenance of the strategic plan in collaboration with Information Technology Services. It makes policy recommendations regarding the implications on academic and research planning, standards, services, physical facilities, and allocation of resources on all matters pertaining to information technology, infrastructure, computing, communications, and networking.

Visit the [Faculty Senate Committee](#) page, the University Manual [Appendix B](#) or [Appendix C](#) for more in-depth information on Faculty Senate Committees, their structure, and responsibilities.

### 2021-2022 FACULTY SENATE MEETINGS

Faculty Senate meetings are scheduled from 3 to 5 pm on the third Thursday of the month during the academic year unless noted otherwise. Faculty Senate meetings are held in the Hope Room at the Higgins Welcome Center on Upper College Road. Agendas and invitations to meetings are available 72 hours in advance of meetings, and posted on the [meetings web page](#).

All faculty are welcome to attend Faculty Senate meetings!

Senate Orientation- September 9, 2021
Meeting #1- September 30
Meeting #2- October 21
Meeting #3- November 18
Meeting #4- December 9
Meeting #5- January 27, 2022
Meeting #6- February 24
Meeting #7- March 24
Meeting #8 April 14
Meeting #9 April 28

The Faculty Senate Office
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2020-2021 FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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