

MINUTES

CELS Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting – May 1, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2015 in CBLS 10, Dean John Kirby presiding. The following faculty and professional staff members were present: Abedon, Anderson, Arts, Atash, August, Bailey, Becker, Bengtson, Bidwell, Blackwood, Bourassa, Brown, D., Brown, R., Camberg, Clinton, Cohen, Dacey, DeGroot, Dewsbury, Duhaime, English, Forrester G, Forrester L, Frazier, Gold, Goldsmith, Gottschalk-Druschke, Green W., Greene, Guilfoos, Hamidzada, Heredia, Howlett, Husband, Irvine, Jenkins B, Jenkins V, Juda, Kalen, Karraker, Kirby, LaBash, Laliberte, Lang, Mallilo, Martin L, McGreevy, Medin, Mitkowski, Morreira, Nelson, Norris, Ogni, Opaluch, Palmer, Paquette, Paton, Payne, Preisser, Rhodes, Rice, Sebelia, Sheely, Sheridan, Silvia, Simeoni, Sperry, Sproul, Sun, Thompson, Thornber, Tovar, Trandafir, Uchida, H., Van Buren, Veeger, Venturini, Vetvois, Vieira, Wang, and Zhang Y.
2. The Minutes from the December 9, 2014 CELS Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting were approved.
3. Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a. Dean Kirby reported on the results of the Spring College Elections and welcomed the newly elected officers for the 2015-16 Academic Year. He also reported that it was voted to amend the bylaws as per June 1 to reflect that the Department of Landscape Architecture will be leaving CELS to join the College of Arts and Sciences. The Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences was authorized to leave the CELS once the URI Health Collaborative is finalized and fully approved. The election results are presented in Appendix I of these minutes.
 - b. Dean Kirby announced the status of CELS faculty & staff searches. The Fisheries Ecologist faculty position is now underway, and there is an offer out to the selected candidate for the Tourism Policy faculty member. Associate Dean Veeger has been tapped to chair the search for the multi-cultural post-doctoral position for Biological Sciences. Goal is to have people on board for the Fall.
 - c. Dean Kirby provided information about the status of upcoming faculty searches. For the University's 55 "strategic faculty hires" and the 15 normal annual replacement hires, Dean Kirby announced that the Provost said that there is an expected announcement on or about May 15, 2015 on the FY 2016 positions and shortly thereafter the FY2017 announcement. This means that the searches for both of the fiscal year may be going on simultaneously, particularly since some of the people need to be in place for the Fall Semester.
 - d. The 2015 CELS Excellence Awards were announced as is customary by the previous recipients:
 1. Staff Excellence Award: Valerie Jenkins
 2. Teaching Excellence Award: Peter Paton
 3. Research Excellence Award: Alan Rothman
 - e. Dean Kirby announced the following CELS Faculty retirements:
 1. Professor Paul Cohen CMB
 2. Professor Larry Juda MAF
 3. Professor Keith Killingbeck BIO

4. Professor Richard Koske BIO
- f. Dean Kirby reported on the promotion of the following CELS faculty members:
 1. Laura Meyerson -- to Full Professor
 2. Brad Seibel -- to Full Professor
 3. Anne Veeger -- to Full Professor
- g. Dean Kirby announced Service Longevity Awards for the following CELS Staff:
 1. Deb Ogni -- 10 years
 2. Pamela Thompson -- 25 years
 3. Donald Timpson -- 30 years
- h. Professor Goldsmith provided some information on the implementation plans for the revisions of the University General Education Program. There are a series of workshops held by the General Education Implementation Team on how to develop the proposals and how to modify existing courses to fit the new General Education Program. There are a particular need for courses that are integrative in cross-disciplinary subject content and a need for "Grand Challenge" type courses. The 2015-16 academic year will be rather hectic in the reviewing so as to begin offering the new Gen-Ed program in Fall 2016.
- i. Professor Maynard reported that Professor Emeritus Carl Beckman of Plant Sciences had passed away over the last weekend. Professor Beckman was a well-loved member of the Plant Science Department and the College.
4. Reports of Standing Committees:
 - a) Curriculum Committee: The Curriculum Committee report was given by Prof. Cathy English. She reported the committee's accomplishments of the past year as posted on the CELS Curriculum Committee website: <http://web.uri.edu/celsgov/curriculum-committee/> And she reported that the course and curriculum review tracking system implemented by the Faculty Senate has been up and running and accessible at: <http://www.uri.edu/facsen/tracker.html> Prof. English thanked outgoing members of the committee and introduced the 2015-16 Curriculum Committee membership.
 - b) Research Committee: Professor Geoffrey Green provided the report of the CELS Research Committee. The committee had plans to meet with each of the departments at the beginning of the Spring Semester, but the several days of snow closures during the semester thwarted those plans. The Research Committee plans visiting Departments in the Fall to assess departmental research needs and concerns.
 - c) Professor Brown and Associate Dean Sheely gave the report on the Cooperative Extension and Outreach Coordinating Committee. In addition to the elected faculty and staff members of the committee, there are three extramural members of the community currently serving to help guide the directions of CELS Extension and Outreach priorities. These extramural members are Kenneth Payne, Shannon Brawley and Deborah Imondi.
 - d) Professor Stolt provided a brief report of the Space Committee activities over the last year. He reported that a space request form had been finalized and that five space requests had been processed and committee recommendations had been forwarded to Dean Kirby for approval and

implementation. He announced that he would be stepping down as chair of the Space Committee and a new chair would be elected at the next meeting of the Committee.

- e) Professor Simeoni provided the report of the Commencement Committee. The committee had been working diligently on preparations for the May 16 Graduate Student Ceremony and for the May 17 Undergraduate Ceremony. Details of his report are in Appendix II of these Minutes. Professor Simeoni expressed a need for additional Faculty Marshals at Graduation and urged any faculty member willing to serve as a marshal to contact him or any of the other members of the committee

5. Old Business:

There was no old business

6. New Business:

There was no new business

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Rice, Secretary of the CELS Faculty

Appendix I -- CELS SPRING 2015 ELECTION RESULTS

For Senator in the URI Faculty Senate 2015-2018 Representing CELS:

Alison W. Roberts (BIO)

Michael A. Rice (FAVS)

For Membership on the CELS Curriculum Committee:

Nancy E. Karraker (NRS)

Rebecca N. Brown (PLE)

James J. Opaluch (ENRE)

For Membership on the CELS Research Committee:

Tracey Dalton (MAF)

James J. Opaluch (ENRE)

For Membership on the CELS Extension and Outreach Coordinating Committee:

Rebecca N. Brown (PLE)

For Membership on the CELS Bylaws Committee:

Katherine Petersson (FAVS)

For Membership on the CELS Space Committee:

Thomas Mather (PLE)

Thomas Boving (GEO)

Mark Stolt (NRS)

Referendum Measures Submitted to the Faculty for Referendum:

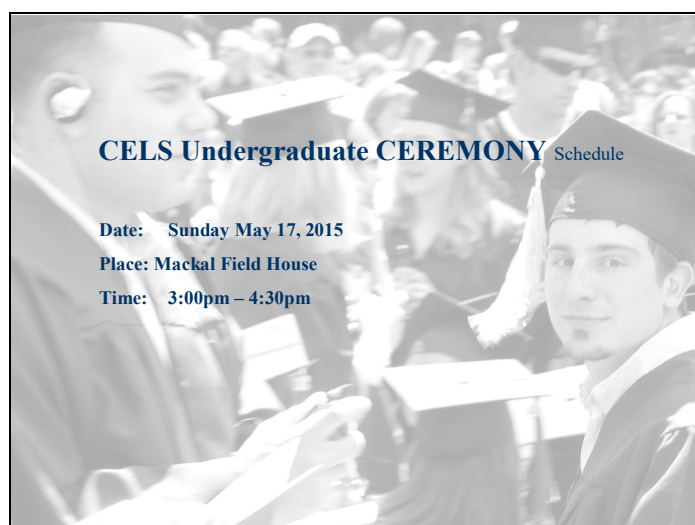
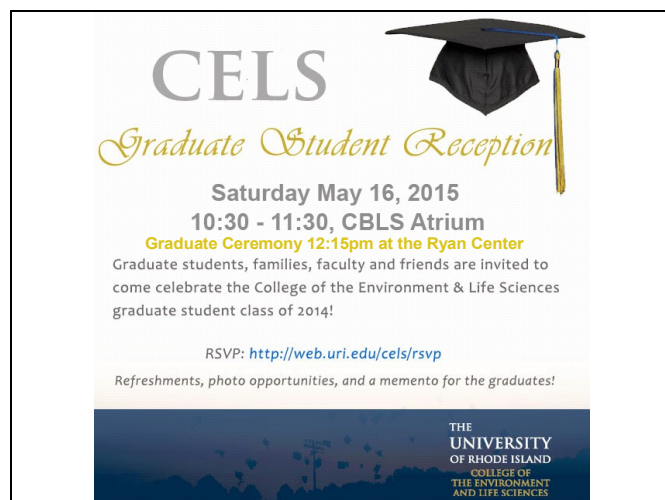
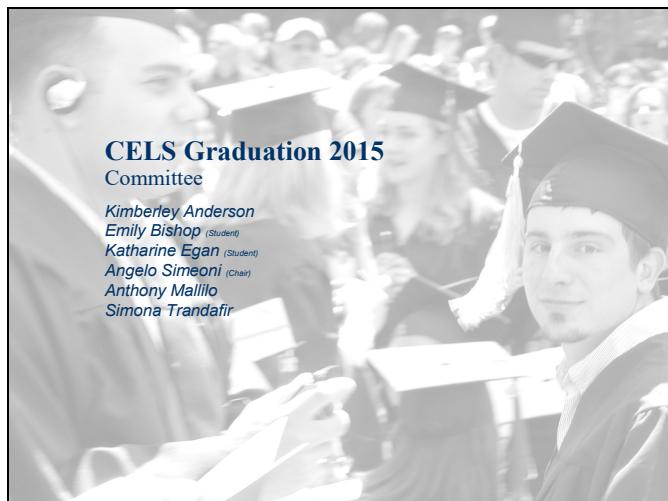
Referendum Measure 1: Shall the Faculty of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences amend the Bylaws by striking Section 1.3.9 to release the members of the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences to join a new College of Health Sciences (or URI Health Collaborative) effective at the time of its formation by Act of the Faculty Senate, Approval By the President and Final Approval by the Rhode Island State Board of Education?

YES

Referendum Measure 2: Shall the Faculty of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences amend the bylaws by striking Section 1.3.3 to release the members of the Department of Landscape Architecture to join the College of Arts And Sciences effective at the time of final approval by the President of the University of Rhode Island?

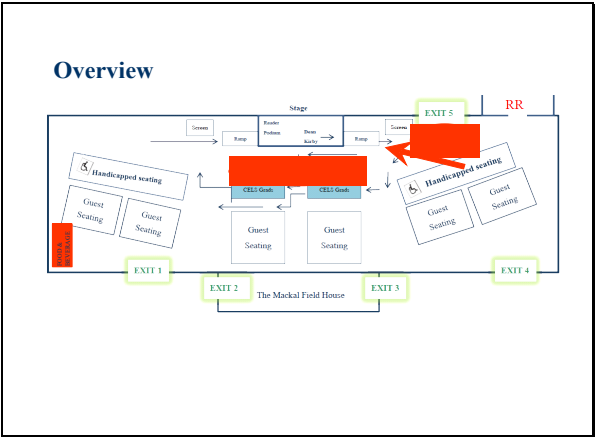
YES

Appendix II Commencement Committee Notes



CELS Undergraduate CEREMONY FACULTY SURVEY RESULTS

	How likely are you to attend the May 2015 CELS graduation in the past?	Do you plan to attend the May 2015 CELS Commencement ceremony?	Will you need a Cap & Gown to be provided to you by the College?	Can we contact you in regards to being a Faculty Marshall for the CELS 2015 Commencement Ceremony?	
SUMMARY	37 RESPONDENTS	33Y / 4N	32Y / 5N	7Y / 30N	12Y 25N



Department Meeting Locations
(Post Ceremony)

