

Minutes of the October 25, 2017 Meeting of the CELS Executive Council

Call to Order: A meeting of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences Executive Council was held at 3:00 pm at the CBL 435 conference room. Members present were Department Chairs Dalton, Gomez-Chiarri, Mitkowski, Opaluch, Preisser, and Sun; Associate Deans, Sheely, and Thornber; *ex-officio* member Palmer; and Faculty Secretary Rice. Absent members were Department Chairs Gold, and Savage; Associate Dean Veeger; *ex officio* members Silvia, Morreira, Van Buren; and Dean Kirby. Associate Dean Thornber presided. Prof. Paton represented NRS.

Approval of the Minutes: *It was moved by Gomez-Chiarri and seconded by Opaluch to approve of the October 11, 2017 Minutes of the Executive Council. The minutes were approved unanimously upon minor amendment.*

Announcements:

Carol Thornber:

- 1) It was announced that the major business of the meeting was to have a round table discussion with the University Architect and the consulting architects of TLB Architecture, LLC of Cheshire Connecticut who are working on the preliminary design characteristics of a new general purpose laboratory building to be shared by CELS, the college of Pharmacy and the Ryan Institute of Neurobiology.
- 2) Guests in attendance were members of the design team: Architect Timothy Brewer of TLB; Architect Michael Fortuna of TLB, Ryan Carillo of URI Campus Planning and Design; Christopher Mc Mahon, URI University Architect and Jeffrey Ulricksen, URI University Space Coordinator
- 3) There was an overview of preliminary work undertaken by the design team which included meetings with administrative representatives of the concerned units including the two deans and the Ryan Institute director. The team also visited labs (both research & teaching) in existing buildings.
- 4) Department Chairs were previously provided a questionnaire on current space utilization and a projection of space needs two and five years out, the responses are being analyzed.
- 5) General discussion ensued covering the following topics:
 - Lessons learned from recent buildings
 - Nature of shared "core" facilities to be considered
 - Possibility of flex research & teaching space
 - New research trends that might be accommodated
 - If emerging new pedagogies would have effect on design or space utilization
 - Thoughts on immediate needs for space and possible reassignment
- 6) The next step plan is to hold a "Design Workshop with All Stakeholders" on November 17 to review benchmarking and identify available space for new assignment.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: There was no new business

Adjournment: It was moved by Opaluch and seconded by Mitkowski to adjourn at 4:00pm

Respectfully submitted:

Michael A. Rice, Faculty Secretary