

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)
Minutes of Meeting #36 March 25, 2020
Via WebEx

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) WebEx meeting was called to order at 9:03 by Chair Nassersharif. Vice-Chair Echevarria and Senators Barbour, Gindy, Hicks and Morokoff were in attendance. Guest: President Dooley

2) MEETING WITH PRESIDENT DOOLEY

The President provided an update on topics associated with the COVID-19 virus at URI. The President reported that the May commencement is being postponed and students are being polled for alternative commencement suggestions. He will share the poll results with the URI community. The President also reported that URI students have been sent prorated refunds of housing and dining. Remaining students have been consolidated on campus in rooms by themselves. Belongings of students who have left the campus have been boxed and stored. Counseling through telehealth for students has been on-going. URI research is on-going with strict guidelines of sanitizing and social distancing in place. In the library, a closed stack system is in place. Requested library materials are left at the main desk for pick-up. Vice Provost Libutti and his team have continued to reach out through social media campaigns, virtual tours of campus and student conversation events to recruit and retain students. There exist opportunities for faculty to reach out to prospective students through WebEx and social media. An initial meeting via videoconference of the new Board of Trustees is planned for April. The leadership is hoping for a Board gathering and orientation in June. President Dooley is looking forward to the April 2nd meeting during which the Senate will vote on an optional alternative grading scheme for the Spring 2020 semester.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) FSEC meeting # 35 March 18, 2020 minutes were approved.
- b) The Faculty Senate meeting minutes of February 20, 2020, were approved.

3) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Chair Nassersharif announced a special one-hour meeting of the Faculty Senate on April 2, 2020, at 4 PM to discuss and vote on the urgent issue of giving the students access to an optional alternative grading scheme for the Spring 2020 term.

4) ONGOING ITEMS

- a) The FSEC discussed the merits of the S/U grading options. Discussions will continue on this topic with a special FSEC meeting at 9 am on March 27th at which time a motion on a grading scheme for Spring 2020 will be developed to be presented to the Faculty Senate for voting on April 2. The Presidents of the Student Senate and Graduate School organizations will be contacted and asked for their input.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 11:52 AM