

URI Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2019

1. The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 3:07 PM in the Beupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Sciences by Chair Leonard. Ex-officio in attendance: All members were present except for Senators Aberdam, Blanpied, Bovy, Byrd, Greaney, Haile, Hashemi, Hatfield, Kolbe, Kovarsky, Loose, Meenach, Meyerson, Rogers, Ruemmele, Schniederjans, Sodhi, Taveira, and Xu. Others in attendance: Professors Krieger, Bartels, Boudreaux-Bartels, DiCioccio, Bide, Ohley and Director of Learning, Assessment and Online Education Goldsmith. Ex-officio in attendance: President Dooley, Provost DeHayes, Vice Provost Bodah, Vice Provost Beauvais, Dean Boughida, Dean Larrat, Associate Dean Veeger for Dean Kirby, Associate Dean Seitsinger for Dean Rollo, Senior Associate Director of Enrollment Services Humphrey, Student Government President Marotta.

2. Disposition of Minutes: Minutes of the Faculty Senate #8 [April 18, 2019 Minutes](#) were posted with the agenda. Senate Chair Leonard asked if there were any additions, corrections to or questions about the minutes. As there were no corrections or questions, the minutes were approved.

3. REPORT OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. Announcements – Senate Chair Leonard thanked Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Ako-Adounvo for sponsoring the reception after the Faculty Senate meeting and encouraged Senators and guests to attend and socialize after the meeting.

Chair Leonard also welcomed newly elected Faculty Senators who will serve their terms until Spring 2022 (unless noted otherwise).

ARTS AND SCIENCES

Geoff Leatham, Communication Studies

Ryan Trimm, English

Michaelangelo La Luna, Languages

Melissa Villa Nicholas, Library and Information Studies

Christine Mok, English

James Haile, Philosophy

BUSINESS

Jessica Strubel, Textiles, Fashion Merchandise & Design

Yuwen Chen, Supply Chain Management

Sean Rogers, Entrepreneurial Management

ENGINEERING

Resit Sendag, Electrical Engineering

ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

Jason Kolbe, Biological Sciences

Laura Meyerson, Natural Resource Science

Michael Rice, Fisheries, Animal & Veterinary Science (2020)

Thomas Sproul, Environmental & Natural Resource Economics (2020)

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Christopher Roman, Physical Oceanography

HEALTH SCIENCES

Sarah Amin, Food & Nutrition Sciences

Disa Hatfield, Kinesiology

NURSING

Denise Coppa, Nursing

PHARMACY

Roberta King, Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences

Marilyn Barbour, Pharmacy Practice

Chair Leonard thanked outgoing members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Senators Honhart and Derbyshire. Faculty Senators who have just completed their terms were also thanked by Chair Leonard for their service over the last year.

b. Activities of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee –

Senate Vice Chair Nassersharif presented the minutes of [Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting April 11, 2019](#), there were no comments.

c. Professors Derbyshire and Krieger presented the [Report of the Nominating Committee](#). They asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Voting commenced. It was later announced Senators Barbour and Hicks were elected to two-year terms and Senator Gindy was elected to a one-year term on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee by the members of the Faculty Senate. Senators Barbour, Hicks, and Gindy were congratulated.

d. Chair Leonard reminded new Senators that service on a committee is a requirement for all Faculty Senators. A survey will be sent out to all new Senators to indicate their preference for service on Faculty Senate standing committees. Senator Vice-Chair Elect Echevarria reminded members that the Committee Chairs are allowed a workload adjustment, so if they are interested in being a committee chair, they may want to discuss it with the department chair now.

e. Chair Leonard called on Philosophy Department Chair Bartels to address the Faculty Senate on the desire to create a new award in honor of Fritz Wenisch entitled the “Fritz Wenisch Award for Exceptional Contributions to the Faculty Senate.” He explained that this award is to honor Professor and former Senator Wenisch dedication, not only to the University through his decades of teaching, but also to the Faculty Senate as a Senator and Chair of the Faculty Senate Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee (CBUM) for more than 20 years with his breadth of knowledge of the University Manual and parliamentary procedure. The award would be given only to Senators and those who go above and beyond for the Senate and the Senate Committees. The award, while not having a monetary component, will recognize, acknowledge, and thank the hard work of the awardee.

A motion was made and approved to create the Fritz Wenisch Award for Exceptional Contributions to the Faculty Senate.

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Dooley thanked the Senators for all their hard work and their continued service.

The President assured that Senate that he and the Provost will keep the Faculty informed on the State legislation and the State's financial situation where URI is concerned.

He remarked that the University and the faculty continue to succeed, and which is exemplified each year; each year's successes highlight the new and exciting things for the next year.

5. REPORTS OF JOINT, SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES

a. The Graduate Council Report was presented by Associate Dean Rusnock. Curricular matters, which require confirmation by the Faculty Senate, included fifteen course changes, eighteen new course proposals and two Notice of Change. A motion was made to accept the Report. The motion was seconded, and the report was approved.

Two curricular Reports from the Graduate Council were presented by Graduate School Dean Zawia of the Graduate School, Curricular Reports [#2018-19-14](#) to change the Masters in Education-Adult Education track from a hybrid program to a fully online program and [#2018-19-15](#) a proposal to create a Graduate certificate in Natural Resources and The Environment. A motion was made to accept the two report. The motion was seconded, and the reports were approved.

b. Professor Bide, former Chair, [reported on the Committee for Research and Creative Activities\(RCA\) Centers subcommittee](#). He explained that Centers, Institutes, Bureaus, and Partnerships were discussed in Chapters 3, 4 and 8 of the University Manual. The RCA Committee found some Centers were mentioned in the University Manual, while others were not. Provost DeHayes expressed that perhaps the Manual should include definitions, the processes and procedures for the establishment and/or removal but questioned if the Centers should be listed individually; the framework is important to have published.

A Motion was made and approved to have CBUM review current University Manual language on Centers, Institutes, Bureaus, and Partnerships, for possible revision and clarification so that it may be voted on in the future by the Faculty Senate.

A Motion was made and approved to have CBUM review the listing of Centers to consider removing those found to be defunct and/or inactive.

A motion was made and approved for existing Centers to maintain current status be continued and Centers not authorized but active be given temporary status until a revised process for certification be put in place.

Professor Bide thanked the hard work of all the Committee and subcommittee members throughout the academic year.

c. Senator Hicks, Chair of the Constitution, Bylaws and University Manual Committee reported on the work of the committee. She announced the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure will replace the Sturgis Code of Parliamentary Procedure used in Senate meetings.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee (CBUM) [recommendations concerning the Honors Program](#) were discussed. A motion was made and approved to make changes to the University Manual and Faculty Senate By-laws with regard to the Honors Program.

A motion was made and approved to accept the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to change University Manual Language Chapter 5 Committees of the University 5.76.11, 5.76.12 and Chapter 10 Administrative Procedures 10.90.10-11 on [the Review of Administrator Evaluation Process](#).

d. Professor Ohley updated the Faculty Senate with a report and recommendations on the work of the [Technology and Infrastructure Committee](#). Report recommendations were referred to CBUM to be brought forward at a later date. The Provost suggested that Chief Information Officer Kaugars be an ex officio member of the Committee and the Chair of the Technology and Infrastructure Committee serve on the ITGOV Committee.

e. Provost DeHayes, Chair and Committee Vice Chair Nassersharif reported on the activities during the 2018-2019 academic year of the [Joint Committee on Academic Planning \(JCAP\)](#) which addresses academic planning and University accreditation. Six pre-proposals for new degrees were presented to JCAP for comment and guidance, the 2019 Academic Summit was planned, held on Jan. 17th, and debriefed and interdisciplinary Work Guidelines were formulated and provided to the URI community.

f. The Director of Learning Assessment and Online Education Goldsmith reported on [the Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning](#). Over the last year the Committee Task Force identified two replacements for Sakai. After drafting an RFP two replacement systems were identified. Brightspace was sent an award letter and should have a contract by July with integration beginning in October. The Committee has also been working on URI Online funded by the State of RI, a comprehensive initiative that will provide degree completion pathways for adult learners, professional degree offerings for industry, and academic programs at the University.

g. Director of Athletics Bjorn provided the Annual [Report of the Athletics Department](#) which included A10 Championships in Men's Soccer, Women's Rowing and Track and Field.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Director of Office of Innovation in General Education DiCioccio presented [Excellence in General Education Awards](#) to recognize a strong commitment to teaching general education courses and developing strong outstanding courses. The award was given to CELS Professor Simona Trandafir, Environmental and Transportation Economics, and College of Arts and Sciences Senator Michael Honhart, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies.

b. Chair Leonard and Provost DeHayes presented the Sheila Black Grubman Faculty Outstanding Service Award to College of Engineering Professor Faye Boudreaux-Bartels.

c. Vice Chair Nassersharif presented a motion for a resolution honoring and thanking Chair Leonard for her service to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate. The motion was approved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Leonard asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.