

Agenda
General Faculty - Graduate Faculty Meeting
December 12, 2013

1. Call to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Cherry Auditorium, Chester Kirk Building.
2. A moment of silent remembrance:

John Montgomery, Professor of Mathematics

Franziska Noring, Assistant Professor Emerita of Consumer Studies and Human Development and Family Studies

Stephen B. Wood, Professor Emeritus of Political Science
3. Disposition of Minutes of General Faculty - Graduate Faculty Meeting of September 19, 2013 (attached)
4. Approval of degree certification for December 2013:
 - a. Provost DeHayes: Undergraduate degrees
 - b. Dean Zawia: Graduate degrees
5. Adjournment immediately followed by Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes
General Faculty - Graduate Faculty Meeting
September 19, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order by Provost DeHayes at 3:05 p.m. in the Cherry Auditorium, Chester Kirk Building.
2. Provost DeHayes asked those assembled to observe a moment of silence in memory of faculty members who had passed away since the last meeting of the General Faculty-Graduate Faculty and he read the names of the following:

Lewis Alexander, Professor Emeritus of Geography and Marine Affairs
Aaron Alton, Professor Emeritus of Marketing
Stephen Brand, Research Professor of Education
Carl Gersuny, Professor Emeritus of Sociology
Robert Hill, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences
Martha Kellogg, Associate Professor Emerita, Library
Robert Rohm, Professor Emeritus of Art
Douglas M. Rosie, Assistant Provost and Professor Emeritus of Chemistry
Norma Jean Schmieding, Professor Emerita of Nursing
E.R. (Sury) Suryanarayan, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

3. The Minutes of the General Faculty - Graduate Faculty Meeting of April 18, 2013 were approved as distributed.
4. Approval of Degree Certification:
 - a. Provost DeHayes moved to recommend to the Board of Education approval of the potential candidates for the award of undergraduate degrees whose names appeared on the list of graduates dated August 2013 subject to certification by the Colleges and the Director of Enrollment Services. The motion passed.
 - b. Dean Zawia moved to recommend to the Board of Education approval of the candidates for the award of graduate degrees whose names are certified by the Graduate School for August 2013. The motion passed.
5. Provost DeHayes introduced President Dooley.

President Dooley greeted the assembly. He acknowledged that this occasion was owed to an invitation by Senate leadership to resume a tradition of addressing the faculty at the first General Faculty-Graduate Faculty meeting of the academic year.

The President said he would speak about opportunities and challenges. He said that the global challenges to higher education are familiar: reduced or static state support to higher education, diminished federal support for research, rising cost of tuition (and pressure not to increase tuition), aging facilities, and diminishing numbers of high school graduates particularly students prepared for college. Challenges specific to Rhode Island include a slower than average economic recovery, and new a Board with an unprecedented governance structure. The President also cited the as yet unsettled faculty contract.

The President remarked that, in spite of the daunting list of challenges, URI can cope and thrive. He proceeded to acknowledge record applications, record enrollment, an

academically stronger freshman class, increasing graduation rates, increasing diversity, opening of new facilities (Fascitelli Fitness and Wellness Center and the Ryan Family Student-Athlete Development Center), two new living learning communities, the academic accomplishments of the URI student-athletes, and efforts by the fraternities and sororities last year to raise more than \$150K for Habitat for Humanity.

The President continued to say that students and families are attracted to URI for many reasons but foremost among them is that they are excited about working with the faculty that they have met or heard about at orientation and information sessions.

President Dooley listed a few, among many, significant faculty accomplishments: Professor Alan Rothman and colleagues at the Institute for Immunology and Informatics were awarded \$20 million over the course of a few months from the National Institutes of Health; Nancy Eaton and Sheri Wills were named American Council on Education Fellows; Nikolai Petro received a Fulbright Scholarship; Gail Scowcroft received \$1 million to promote climate change education; the School of Education received \$1.2 million to help train STEM teachers; Jim Prochaska was honored for outstanding contributions to health psychology from the APA; Victor Faye-Wolf and Lisa DiPippo continued a distinguished conference in the northeast on cyber security; Renee Hobbs hosted two national workshops on digital literacy; Mark Conley worked with local choirs in Mozambique; and Donald Cunnigen presented at a conference on youth unemployment in Africa. He also acknowledged the 7th Annual Ocean State Summer Writer's Conference, the online faculty fellows program, and other collaborative research efforts.

The President stated that URI is able to attract millions of research dollars to the state to improve education because of the scholarly competitiveness of the faculty. He continued to comment on the role and responsibility of the University, as a Land Grant College, to work to be an economic driver of the state. Recent important contributions include the launching of the Business Engagement Center to be directed by Katharine Flynn of the URI Foundation, the new Intellectual Property Policy, new Overhead (F & A) Policy, increases in licensing agreements, 3 start-up companies, increases in private sector investment of URI research, and 22 new patents.

The President reported that the economic impact of URI on the state in FY12 was \$726 million. URI supported 8000 jobs and provided \$392,000 million in wages. He stated that every state dollar invested in the university returns \$6.70 in state wide economic activity.

Future opportunities will be realized through the new Chemistry building (planned fall 2013 ground-breaking), the new Nursing Education Center in Providence, the new LBGTQ Center on the Kingston campus; new recruiting, marketing, and fundraising initiatives; the recommendations of the Administration and Management Review Committee to create efficiencies; and by continuing to implement the Academic Plan.

President Dooley concluded that the institution must continue to expand, improve, and enhance research and scholarship by increasing graduate programs, building the research enterprise, growing international student enrollments, revamping the general education requirements, and increasing online access to learning materials. In his final statement, he said that fundamental to our existence is the importance of building a community that fosters inquiry, respects diversity, values difference, doesn't seek to avoid it, but seeks to understand that a difference is often an opportunity to learn and gain wisdom.

Dean Brownell thanked the President for acknowledging the professional achievements of the faculty in his talk, urged him to consider this event next year, and she recognized two additional Fulbright scholars, Annu Matthew and Tim George.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. and was followed by a meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff for David Byrd, Secretary