

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

Green Hall, 35 Campus Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881 USA p: 401.874.2616



Serial Number #17-18-19

TO: President David Dooley
FROM: Mark Conley, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee Report #2017-18-1, Changes to By-laws Section 6.1 and 6.2, New Section 6.3, and Renumbering of Current 6.3 to 6.4, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on December 7, 2017.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective December 28, 2017 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.

Mark Conley
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

December 7, 2017

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved ☒.
- b. Approved subject to Notice of the Council on Postsecondary Education ____.
- c. Disapproved ____.

Signature of the President

3.30.18

(date)

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, AND UNIVERSITY MANUAL COMMITTEE 2017-18 REPORT # 1
Presented to the Faculty Senate, November 16, 2017

*[How can committee membership
Be brought about such that it's hip?
To Model 1 it must conform,
Which came to be the Senate's norm.
Below, a method is presented;
We hope it does not seem demented.]*

The By-laws changes proposed in this report are meant to adapt the current rules for the selection of members and chairs of standing Faculty Senate committees to the model the Faculty Senate adopted at its October 19, 2017 meeting.

Changes to By-laws Section 6. Selection of Committees

Replace the current By-laws sections 6.1 and 6.2 by the following new sections 6.1 and 6.2, inset a new section 6.3, and renumber the current 6.3 section to 6.4¹:

6.1 Appointing Committee Members and Committee Chairs. The Executive Committee, with the consent of the Senate, shall appoint for three-year terms faculty members and for two-year terms chairpersons of standing committees and subcommittees to replace those faculty members and chairpersons whose terms are about to expire. These appointments shall be on a staggered basis so that one-third of the members of each committee are replaced each year and so that the chairpersons of half the committees are replaced each year. Besides students (see By-laws 4.13), only elected Faculty Senate members shall be eligible to serve on standing Faculty Senate committees. At the May organizational Faculty Senate meeting, all newly elected senators shall submit to the Senate Chair lists of at least three standing committees and/or subcommittees on which they are willing to serve. These committees and/or subcommittees may be listed in an order of priority. A newly elected senator who will have to miss the organizational meeting shall send the list to the Faculty Senate office prior to the organizational meeting, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Executive Committee shall use these lists to nominate, during the summer, for Faculty Senate approval (see below), new committee and subcommittee members for three-year terms to replace those committee members whose terms are about to expire. When the term of a committee or subcommittee chair is about to expire, a new chair shall also be nominated for a two-year term (see By-laws 4.13). Ideally, chairs shall be chosen from those committee and/or subcommittee members whose remaining Senate terms are two years; committee chairs may, however, also be chosen from newly elected senators. While efforts will be made to nominate senators for a committee and/or subcommittee included in the list a senator submitted, there is no guarantee that this will be possible. If the only committee slots available for a senator differ from the committees contained in the list the senator has submitted, the Faculty Senate Coordinator shall contact the senator to determine whether he or she is willing to serve on a committee on which a slot is not yet filled. When the list of new members and new committee chairs is presented, at the first Fall Semester Senate meeting, to the Senate for approval, the Senate's action shall be limited to consenting to the nominees for each committee or to referring the matter back to the Executive Committee. Unless stated otherwise in the description of an individual committee, committee chairs shall receive the equivalent of one course release per semester. Prior to a senator's nomination for a committee connected with a workload reduction (committee chair; serving on the Curriculum and Standards Committee and simultaneously on one of its subcommittees), the senator's department chair shall be consulted about the workload reduction.

6.2 Committee Vacancies Due to Resignations or Other Reasons. If a position on a committee or subcommittee becomes vacant (resignation, retirement, or another reason), the Executive Committee shall identify and appoint an elected senator willing to serve on the committee or subcommittee for the remainder of the term of the individual whose position has become vacant. If the committee or subcommittee chair's position becomes vacant, a current member of the committee or subcommittee in question shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve for

¹ This passage is not reproduced in this report since except for the section number, no changes are proposed. It does not deal with standing Senate committees; thus, it goes beyond the task that was assigned to the CBUM Committee at the last Faculty Senate meeting. It might, however, be a good idea for the Executive Committee to take a close look at the passage to determine whether changes to it are appropriate.

the remainder of the previous chair's term; the committee position the new chair occupied shall be filled in accordance with the first sentence of this paragraph.

6.3 Transition from the present to the new system (provision to expire April 30, 2019): During the May 2018 organizational Faculty Senate meeting, all non-ex officio Faculty Senate members shall submit to the Senate Chair lists of at least three standing committees and/or subcommittees on which they are willing to serve. These committees and/or subcommittees may be listed in an order of priority. Senators who will have to miss the organizational meeting shall send the list to the Faculty Senate office prior to the organizational meeting, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall use these lists to nominate, during the summer, for Faculty Senate approval (see below), members and chairs of the standing Senate committees and subcommittees. Newly elected senators shall be nominated for three-year committee terms, senators who will still serve for two years on the Faculty Senate shall be nominated for two-year committee terms, and senators who will still serve for one year on the Faculty Senate shall be nominated for one-year committee terms. To make the future committee chair appointments on a staggered basis possible, half of the committee chairs shall be appointed to one-year terms, and half to two-year terms. While efforts will be made to nominate senators for a committee and/or subcommittee included in the list a senator submitted, there is no guarantee that this will be possible. If the only committee slots available for a senator differ from the committees contained in the list the senator has submitted, the Faculty Senate Coordinator shall contact the senator to determine whether he or she is willing to serve on a committee on which a slot is open. When the list of new members and new committee chairs is presented, at the first 2018 Fall Semester Faculty Senate meeting, to the Senate for approval, the Senate's action shall be limited to consenting to the nominees for each committee or to referring the matter back to the Executive Committee. Unless stated otherwise in the description of an individual committee, committee and subcommittee chairs as well as senators serving simultaneously on a subcommittee and the corresponding full committee shall have their teaching duties reduced by one course per semester. Prior to a senator being nominated for a committee position connected with a workload reduction (committee chair; serving on the Curriculum and Standards Committee and simultaneously on one of its subcommittees), the senator's department chair shall be consulted about the workload reduction.

[Renumber current section 6.3 to 6.4.]

Changes to By-law Section 3.5

Since under the new system, all members and chairs of standing committees are senators, the crossed-out sentences are superfluous.

3.5 The Chairperson may grant non-Senate members of the faculty, the student body, and the administration privileges of the floor at Senate meetings upon request made prior to the meeting. He/she shall, upon written request, grant privileges of the floor for an individual meeting to one faculty member representing a department not having a senator. ~~The Chairperson shall, without prior request, grant privileges of the floor to all members of a Faculty Senate committee when a report of the committee of which they are members is under consideration by the Senate. The Chairperson of a Faculty Senate committee, or his/her representative, shall have the right to make motions when a report of his/her committee is under consideration by the Senate even if he/she is not a member of the Senate.~~

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Cerbo
Louis Kirschenbaum
Will Krieger
Michael Rice
Robert Schwegler
Fritz Wenisch, Chairperson
Ryan Buck
Riley Temple

With change incorporated:

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