

# Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual Committee

## Report 2016-17 # 3

February 23, 2017

### **Segment 1: Changes to University Manual Chapters 3 and 5, Informational Items**

Below please find changes to University Manual Chapters 3 and 5. The changes are either editorial or incorporate prior Senate legislation into the University Manual, are, therefore, reported as informational items.

#### **Chapter 3**

#### **CHAPTER 3 – THE COLLEGES, SCHOOLS AND DIVISIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**3.10.10** The University of Rhode Island comprises nine colleges, the Graduate School, the Graduate School of Oceanography, and other ancillary research and extension services. The Academic Health Collaborative comprises the College of Health Sciences, the College of Nursing, the College of Pharmacy, an Office of Shared Services, and the Institute for Integrated Health and Innovation. #14-15-27C

**3.21.11 The College of Arts and Sciences** comprises the following divisions, schools, departments, and programs:

- Arts and Design: Departments of Art and Art History (#05-06-23), Landscape Architecture (#07-08-11) (#14-15-24D), Music, Theatre
- Humanities: Departments of English, History, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Philosophy
- Harrington School of Communication and Media (#07-08-10):
  - Departments of Communication Studies, Journalism, and Writing and Rhetoric (#09-10-30)
  - Graduate School of Library and Information Studies
  - Public Relations Program
  - Film/Media Program
- Social and Behavioral Sciences: Departments of Economics, Military Science and Leadership (#05-06-23), Political Science, and Sociology and Anthropology
  - Africana Studies Program, Criminology and Criminal Justice Program, Gender and Women’s Studies Program
- Natural and Quantitative Sciences: Departments of Chemistry, Computer Science and Statistics, Mathematics, and Physics

~~has a School of Communication #07-08-10 and the following departments:~~

- ~~• Art and Art History (#05-06-23)~~
- ~~• Chemistry~~
- ~~• Communication Studies~~
- ~~• Computer Science and Statistics~~
- ~~• Economics~~

- ~~English~~
- ~~History~~
- ~~Journalism~~
- ~~Landscape Architecture (#07-08-11) (#14-15-24D)~~
- ~~Library and Information Studies~~
- ~~Mathematics~~
- ~~Military Science and Leadership (#05-06-23)~~
- ~~Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures~~
- ~~Musie~~
- ~~Philosophy~~
- ~~Physies~~
- ~~Political Science~~
- ~~Psychology~~
- ~~Sociology and Anthropology~~
- ~~Theatre~~
- ~~Writing and Rhetoric (#09-10-30)~~

**3.21.12 The College of Business Administration, which also includes:**

- Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design #15-16-15D
- Schmidt Labor Research Center #16-17-2C

**3.21.13 The College of Engineering comprises has the following departments:**

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Electrical, Computer, and Biomedical Engineering (#05-06-28)
- Mechanical, Industrial, and Systems Engineering (#08-09-24)
- Ocean Engineering

**3.21.14 The College of ~~Health~~ ~~human~~ ~~Sciences~~ ~~and Services~~ comprises has the following departments (#14-15-27C):**

- Communicative Disorders
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Kinesiology (#03-04-11) (#03-04-13)
- Nutrition and Food Sciences (#14-15-27C)
- Physical Therapy (#05-06-16)
- Psychology (#14-15-27C)
- ~~School of Education~~
- ~~Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design~~

**3.21.15 The College of Nursing**

**3.21.16 The College of Pharmacy comprises has the following departments:**

- Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences (#03-04-18)
- Pharmacy Practice

**3.21.17 The College of the Environment and Life Sciences comprises has the following departments:**

- Biological Sciences (#04-05-10)
- Cell and Molecular Biology
- Environmental and Natural Resources Economics

- Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science
- Geosciences
- Marine Affairs
- Natural Resources Science
- ~~Nutrition and Food Sciences~~
- Plant Sciences & Entomology

**3.40.10 The Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies Continuing Education** is a two-campus college that shall provide educational opportunities for traditional students direct from high school and adult students who have had some or no college experience with undergraduate courses, and students currently in the workforce who want to retrain or enhance their skills through graduate and certificate programs. It comprises the following units:

- School of Education (Kingston campus)
- School of Professional and Continuing Studies (Providence campus), including the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Office of Strategic Initiatives (both Kingston and Providence campuses) #15-16-15D

~~shall provide to persons in Providence and other communities in the state not only individual courses of instruction but also academic programs leading to certificates, baccalaureate degrees and graduate degrees. The Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education shall be responsible for developing credit and/or non-credit offerings and schedules that shall address the special needs of students who are unable to undertake full-time university study. It shall conduct professional institutes, seminars, conferences, short courses, and in-service courses related to the general continuing education program; and carry on a program of counseling and psychological testing for individuals and organizations.~~

**3.40.11 The Summer Session** shall present programs in the colleges and departments of the University to permit students to accelerate or enrich their studies. It shall also offer an expanded program of graduate work, workshops, conferences, travel courses, and clinics of special interest to professional workers, and courses appealing to avocational and intellectual interests. #12-13-21

~~3.40.12 The Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education, assisted by the Associate Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education, shall be responsible for the administration of the college and of Summer Session. The Dean shall appoint temporary lecturers for credit courses with the approval of the department chairpersons and the deans of colleges concerned.~~

**3.40.13** The Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies Continuing Education shall be the administrative authority for offerings of any approved course in the college ~~and summer session~~, including all courses for credit such as seminars, special problems and workshops and including conferences, institutes, short courses and in-service courses off-campus. Professors are not authorized to make individual arrangements for special courses without the approval of the academic deans of colleges concerned and of the Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies Continuing Education. The Office of Enrollment Management Services shall not accept nor record grades for students in any course not previously authorized by the academic dean concerned and of the Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of College of Education and Professional Studies. #15-16-15D dean.

**3.40.14** The Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education and Professional Studies, in cooperation with departments shall determine lists of the college's offerings. The Dean ~~of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~ shall, in consultation with the appropriate department chairperson and college dean, determine time and place of offerings and establish minimum enrollments for ~~the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of C~~continuing ~~E~~education classes. Immediately upon cancellation of under-enrolled classes, the Dean ~~of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~ shall notify departments of such cancellation. #15-16-15D

**3.40.15** The Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of ~~Continuing~~-Education and Professional Studies shares with the Interdisciplinary Studies Faculty academic responsibility for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) program. The Dean shall review all proposals approved by the BIS Curriculum Committee for (1) the creation, modification, or abolition of BIS concentrations; (2) the modification of the general education component of the BIS program; and (3) the creation, modification, or abolition of BIS courses. The Dean shall consult with affected departments before forwarding curricular proposals to the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee. The Dean shall consult with the appropriate college deans concerning proposals which have staffing or course scheduling implications. [#15-16-15D](#)

**3.40.16** The Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of ~~Continuing~~-Education and Professional Studies shall appoint university faculty members as instructors for special BIS courses with the approval of the appropriate department chairperson and college dean. The Dean shall appoint temporary lecturers for special BIS courses upon recommendation of the BIS Special Faculty Committee. The Dean may reappoint temporary lecturers for the BIS Pro-Seminar. [#15-16-15D](#)

~~3.57.10 The Instructional Development Program shall assist faculty and teaching assistants who want to increase their teaching effectiveness. It shall also attempt to promote an institutional environment in which effective teaching is actively encouraged, expected, discussed and systematically rewarded.~~

## Chapter 5

### CHAPTER 5 – COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY

**5.76.10 Administrator Evaluation Committees** shall be established within each administrative unit to conduct administrator evaluations as described in sections 10.90.10 – 10.90.17. [#13-14-26](#)

**5.76.11** Each administrator evaluation committee shall normally consist of 5 members. Three members shall be selected from a slate of nominees or volunteers generated from the administrator’s constituent group (defined in section 5.76.12) by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The administrator shall choose one member of the committee. In addition, the President or Provost as appropriate shall choose one member of the committee. All members of the committee shall usually come from the constituent group. [#07-08-4](#) [#13-14-26](#)

**5.76.12** The constituent groups shall be defined as, but not limited to, the following: a) for academic deans with college faculties: all tenure-track college faculty; b) for the Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of ~~Continuing~~-Education and Professional Studies: all tenure-track faculty who are currently teaching, or who have taught at the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of ~~Continuing~~-Education and Professional Studies (ASFCEPSC) in the preceding five years and academic department chairpersons who participate in programs at ASFCEPSC; c) for the Dean of University College for Academic Success: all tenure-track faculty who are currently teaching URI 101 or who have served as advisors to University College during the five years immediately preceding the evaluation and all academic department chairpersons; d) for the Dean of the Graduate School: all tenure-track graduate faculty; e) for the President, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and all Vice Provosts: all tenure-track faculty. [#07-08-4](#) [#13-14-26](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

## INFORMATIONAL CHANGES INCORPORATED

### Chapter 3

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Graduate School of Library and Information Studies  
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- **Social and Behavioral Sciences:** Departments of Economics, Military Science and Leadership (#05-06-23), Political Science, and Sociology and Anthropology  
  
Africana Studies Program, Criminology and Criminal Justice Program, Gender and Women's Studies Program
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- Physical Therapy (#05-06-16)
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- Marine Affairs
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**5.76.12** The constituent groups shall be defined as, but not limited to, the following: a) for academic deans with college faculties: all tenure-track college faculty; b) for the Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies: all tenure-track faculty who are currently teaching, or who have taught at the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies (ASFCEPS) in the preceding five years and academic department chairpersons who participate in programs at ASFCEPS; c) for the Dean of University College for Academic Success: all tenure-track faculty who are currently teaching URI 101 or who have served as advisors to University College during the five years immediately preceding the evaluation and all academic department chairpersons; d) for the Dean of the Graduate School: all tenure-track graduate faculty; e) for the President, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and all Vice Provosts: all tenure-track faculty. [#07-08-4 #13-14-26 #15-16-15D](#)

## **Segment 2: Additional Chapter 5 changes and changes to the Faculty Senate By-laws requiring Senate approval**

Below please find additional changes to University Manual Chapter 5, as well as a proposal to change the Faculty Senate By-laws.

The changes proposed to Chapter 5 require Faculty Senate approval.

The changes to the Senate By-laws also require approval by the Faculty Senate, need a two-thirds majority vote to be approved, and cannot be voted on at the meeting at which they are first moved.

## **Chapter 5**

### **CHAPTER 5 – COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**5.70.11. The Joint Committee on Academic Planning** shall be chaired by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs with the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate serving as JCAP vice chair. Members of the Committee shall include the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; Special Assistant to the Provost for Academic Planning; Associate Vice President for Community, Equity, and Diversity; Dean of Students in Student Affairs; Vice President for Research and Economic Development; Dean of the Graduate School; a Dean appointed by the Provost; [a representative from the Alan Shawn Feinstein Providence Campus appointed by](#)

~~the Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~; four members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee; chairs of the following Faculty Senate committees: Curricular Affairs, Academic Program Review, and University College and General Education; the ~~Academic Chair Presidents~~ of the Student Senate and President of the Graduate Student Association or their designees. Other individuals from the URI community, such as the Assistant Vice President for Business Services, may be called upon to participate and contribute. [#09-10-26](#) [#12-13-4](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

**5.78.10 The Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning** shall propose, examine and recommend institutional policies and practices for developing, planning, evaluating, and implementing online and distance learning offerings with a focus on quality, sustainability, and connection to the mission of the institution, with the approval of the Faculty Senate and the Provost. Such policies may include, but are not limited to, those regarding standards for faculty training and assurance of quality in the delivery of online offerings, expectations of students, student learning outcomes and assessment (in collaboration with the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation and appropriate entities), class size guidelines, intellectual property, compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and reasonable accommodations dealing with access and digital divide issues. In addition, the committee shall consult with the appropriate University personnel on policies regarding national trends (i.e., interstate practices and regulations) associated with distance learning. [#12-13-1](#)

**5.78.11** The committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Provost and Faculty Senate in the development and implementation of a strategic plan for online offerings, including web-enhanced, blended, and online courses; online certificate programs; and online and distance degree programs, including majors and minors. In its work, the committee will consult with the appropriate committees and the various colleges. [#12-13-1](#)

**5.78.12 Membership.** The committee shall comprise the Director of the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning who shall serve as Chair, and the Assistant Director of Online Learning and the Director of Media & Technology Services by virtue of their positions. The Provost shall appoint a designee from the Office of the Provost, and a dean of a degree-granting college, ~~and a representative of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~. The Faculty Senate shall appoint six faculty members to staggered three-year terms. A graduate student and an undergraduate student, appointed respectively by the Graduate Student Association and the Student Senate, shall also serve on the committee. The faculty appointees shall represent the University Libraries, the Curricular Affairs Committee, the General Education Committee, and the Graduate Council and may represent more than one of these constituencies. Faculty appointees may succeed themselves once. [#12-13-1](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

**5.84.10 The Learning Outcomes Oversight Committee (LOOC)** shall create policies for URI student learning outcomes assessment, data distribution and frequency of measurement at the university-wide level, with the approval of the Faculty Senate and the Provost. Such policies would include but not be limited to external reporting and the release of assessment data, setting of standards for outcomes assessment, identification of strengths and limitations of existing assessment practices and recommendations for resource allocation to enhance assessment practices. [#06-07-25](#)

**5.84.11** The committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation relevant to faculty learning of best practices of student learning outcomes and assessment and oversee implementation and facilitation of approved policies by the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment and Accreditation. [#06-07-25](#)

**5.84.12** The committee shall also develop an ongoing review of the learning outcomes assessment process, interpret external expectations for university-wide learning outcomes assessment, including those of accreditation bodies and facilitate internal communication across units regarding ways of meeting those expectations. [#06-07-25](#)

**5.84.13** The membership shall include faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate: two from Arts & Sciences, one from each of the other degree-granting colleges and one from the University Libraries, one faculty representative of each of the following committees, the General Education Committee, the Curricular Affairs Committee, the Teaching Effectiveness Committee, and the Graduate Council. Faculty representatives should be individuals involved in assessment in their departments/colleges. All faculty appointments shall be for three-year staggered terms. In addition, administrative members shall include the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; the Dean of University College for Academic Success or the dean's designee; the dean of a degree-granting college; one designee of the Vice President for Student Affairs; one representative of the Office of Institutional Research; the Director of the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning or designee; and the Assistant Director of the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation. A graduate student ~~and~~; an undergraduate student, appointed respectively by the Graduate Student Association and the Student Senate, and a student representing the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of ~~Continuing Education~~ and Professional Studies; ~~appointed respectively by the Graduate Student Association, the Student Senate, and the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education Student Government Board~~ shall also serve on the committee. A faculty member appointed by the Faculty Senate in consultation with the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall chair the committee. ~~#06-07-25, #07-08-40 #14-15-31 #15-16-15~~

### **By-Laws of the Faculty Senate**

**4.30 The Undergraduate Academic Advising Committee (UAAC)** shall be responsible for coordinating advisor training to develop and improve university-wide advisement, ensuring that all academic advisors are informed and trained in best practices in advising, as well as in the university's academic requirements. The Committee shall also facilitate assessment of university-wide advising and make policy recommendations to the Faculty Senate on matters pertaining to the University College for Academic Success, such as admissions policy, length of time to be spent in the college, advanced standing, transfer students, advisement and counseling. ~~#12-13-34 #14-15-11~~

**4.31** The committee shall comprise four faculty representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one faculty representative each from the Colleges of Business Administration, Education and Professional Studies, Engineering, ~~Health~~ Human Sciences and Services, Nursing, Pharmacy, the Environment and Life Sciences, and the University Library; a representative of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of University College for Academic Success or designee ~~and the Associate Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education or designee~~; two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate, and one student representative appointed by ~~of~~ the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies. ~~CE Student Government Board~~. The representatives of the colleges shall be selected for their experience with and knowledge of academic advising. The faculty of each college shall elect representatives to 3-year staggered terms. The Chairperson shall be a faculty member chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same manner as other standing committees of the Senate. The list of faculty representatives shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. The committee shall be named promptly thereafter. ~~#12-13-34 #14-15-11 #14-15-27C #15-16-15D~~

**4.65 General Education Committee.** This committee shall study and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding the establishment, modification or abolition of General Education requirements for graduation to be applicable to degree candidates; consider other programs pertaining to the General Education Program and evaluate the effectiveness of the program; maintain liaison with the Curricular Affairs Committee and the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee for mutual information and joint action, and with the University administration for effective implementation of approved recommendations. ~~#14-15-11~~

**4.66** The committee shall comprise four (4) representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences and one from each of the other colleges and schools of the University; one from the University Library, the Provost

and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designated representative, the Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designated representative, ~~and~~ two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate, and the Director of General Education who shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member. The representatives of the colleges and schools shall be selected for their knowledge of general education, and their experience with advising undergraduate students. The faculty members shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same way as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees two of whom shall be provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college or school being represented, who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college or school faculty. The Chairperson of the Senate shall consult with the dean of a college or school before making his/her final decision. The list of nominees shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.67** The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Senate and approved by Senate. The term of the Chairperson shall be for two (2) years. Terms of faculty members shall be for three (3) years, with approximately one-third expiring each year. Terms of student members shall be for one year. Members may succeed themselves once. Members who do not complete their terms shall be replaced for the remainder of their terms following the same procedures outlined in 4.66. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.68** Any faculty member or faculty committee is permitted to request, in writing, consideration by the committee of a General Education item provided that the dean of the college and the college curriculum committee receive a copy of the request. Both the dean and the curriculum committee may attach their comments to the request. If the request concerns a specific course, it should be accompanied by a complete course outline. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.69** The General Education Committee shall be responsible for the assessment of General Education student learning outcomes. The General Education Committee shall appoint a Subcommittee on General Education Assessment (SAGE) which- is comprised of faculty members who represent the university in similar numbers and distribution as the General Education Committee and who have interest and expertise in assessment of learning outcomes and who represent the General Education outcome areas. Representatives from the General Education Committee may serve on the Subcommittee. This Subcommittee shall develop a process and be responsible for assessing General Education learning outcomes on a continuing basis. The Subcommittee shall report at least once each semester to the General Education Committee. The General Education Committee will forward subsequent recommendations to the Faculty Senate for approval. ~~#05-06-15~~ [#14-15-11](#)

**4.70 Director of General Education.** A Director of General Education, selected from the University faculty, shall coordinate and advocate for the General Education Program. The Director shall, in concert with General Education Committee, be responsible for the overall management of the General Education Program. The Director shall report to the Chair of the Faculty Senate, keeping the Faculty Senate Executive Committee informed of current issues as requested. The Director of the General Education Program shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member of the General Education Committee. Questions of jurisdiction regarding joint responsibility for the General Education Program shall be referred to the Faculty Senate. The Director shall be released from one half of his/her normal duties and shall be compensated for work done during summers. Normal duties shall include, but not be restricted to, teaching, assigned research, advisement, committee work and thesis direction.

**4.75 The Curricular Affairs Committee.** This committee shall study and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate on the following matters: the establishment, abolition, division or merger of colleges and schools of the University, at the undergraduate and graduate level, ~~including the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~; the establishment or abolition of undergraduate degrees or credit certificates awarded by the University in any of its divisions; the establishment, abolition, division or merger of departments of instruction, or other units or areas affecting instruction; the establishment, at the undergraduate level, of new experimental and interdisciplinary instructional programs not confined to one

college; the establishment, modification or abolition of curriculums or programs of study leading to degrees or credit certificates at the baccalaureate level ~~or lower~~, with due regard to requirements for accreditation when applicable; the introduction, modification or abolition of individual courses intended primarily for undergraduate instruction; unresolved problems arising in connection with the routine editing of course and curriculum numbers, titles, and descriptions to appear in the University Catalog. [#15-16-15D](#)

**4.76** In addition, the committee shall initiate action on matters within its jurisdiction by referring them to the faculties of colleges and schools concerned, shall review all such proposals originating in college faculties, the Senate or elsewhere and shall recommend procedures that permit matters within its jurisdiction to be handled expeditiously.

**4.77** The committee shall comprise four faculty representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one for each of the other baccalaureate degree granting colleges of the University, one from the University Libraries; the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her representative, and the Dean of University College for Academic Success or the Dean's representative, ~~and the Associate Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education~~. The representatives of the colleges shall be selected for their experience with and knowledge of academic programs, both general and local, and to be eligible shall hold the rank of instructor or above. The committee members, its chairperson and its vice chairperson shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same manner as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees, two of whom shall be provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college being represented, who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college faculty. The Chairperson of the Curricular Affairs Committee shall be entitled to have his/her normal duties reduced by one-third, normal duties being specified in Article IV, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate, and entitlement shall follow automatically upon appointment. Funds for the reduced time of the chairperson shall be provided in the budget of the Faculty Senate. The Chairperson of the Senate shall consult with the dean of a college before making his/her final decision. The list of nominees shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. The committee shall be named promptly thereafter. [#15-16-15D](#)

~~**4.82** The Curricular Affairs Committee shall maintain liaison with the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education for mutual information and joint action regarding policies and procedures for the assessment of students' prior college-level learning through non-collegiate activity. [#01-02-22](#)~~

**4.85 Committee on Information Technologies, Infrastructure, Computing, Communications, and Networking (CITICCN).** This committee shall contribute to the development and maintenance of the strategic plan in collaboration with Information Technology Services and review and make policy recommendations regarding the implications on academic and research planning, standards, services, physical facilities, and allocation of resources on all matters pertaining to information technology, infrastructure, computing, communications, and networking. [#14-15-3](#)

**4.86** The committee shall be comprised of one faculty representative each from the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education and Professional Studies, Engineering, Graduate School of Oceanography, Healthuman Sciences and Services, Nursing, Pharmacy, the Environment and Life Sciences, and the University Library; a representative of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; a representative of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, ~~the Associate Dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education or designee~~, and two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate and the Graduate Student Association. The Chief Information Officer shall serve as an *ex officio* member the committee. Representatives of the colleges and schools shall be selected for their knowledge of information technologies and their experience in research and teaching using technology. The faculty members shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same way as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college or school being represented who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college or school faculty. [#14-15-3](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

## CHANGES INCORPORATED

### Chapter 5

#### CHAPTER 5 – COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY

**5.70.11. The Joint Committee on Academic Planning** shall be chaired by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs with the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate serving as JCAP vice chair. Members of the Committee shall include the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; Special Assistant to the Provost for Academic Planning; Associate Vice President for Community, Equity, and Diversity; Dean of Students in Student Affairs; Vice President for Research and Economic Development; Dean of the Graduate School; a Dean appointed by the Provost; four members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee; chairs of the following Faculty Senate committees: Curricular Affairs, Academic Program Review, and University College and General Education; the Academic Chair of the Student Senate and President of the Graduate Student Association or their designees. Other individuals from the URI community, such as the Assistant Vice President for Business Services, may be called upon to participate and contribute. [#09-10-26](#) [#12-13-4](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

**5.78.10 The Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning** shall propose, examine and recommend institutional policies and practices for developing, planning, evaluating, and implementing online and distance learning offerings with a focus on quality, sustainability, and connection to the mission of the institution, with the approval of the Faculty Senate and the Provost. Such policies may include, but are not limited to, those regarding standards for faculty training and assurance of quality in the delivery of online offerings, expectations of students, student learning outcomes and assessment (in collaboration with the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation and appropriate entities), class size guidelines, intellectual property, compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and reasonable accommodations dealing with access and digital divide issues. In addition, the committee shall consult with the appropriate University personnel on policies regarding national trends (i.e., interstate practices and regulations) associated with distance learning. [#12-13-1](#)

**5.78.11** The committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Provost and Faculty Senate in the development and implementation of a strategic plan for online offerings, including web-enhanced, blended, and online courses; online certificate programs; and online and distance degree programs, including majors and minors. In its work, the committee will consult with the appropriate committees and the various colleges. [#12-13-1](#)

**5.78.12 Membership.** The committee shall comprise the Director of the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning who shall serve as Chair, and the Assistant Director of Online Learning and the Director of Media & Technology Services by virtue of their positions. The Provost shall appoint a designee from the Office of the Provost, and a dean of a degree-granting college. The Faculty Senate shall appoint six faculty members to staggered three-year terms. A graduate student and an undergraduate student, appointed respectively by the Graduate Student Association and the Student Senate, shall also serve on the committee. The faculty appointees shall represent the University Libraries, the Curricular Affairs Committee, the General Education Committee, and the Graduate Council and may represent more than one of these constituencies. Faculty appointees may succeed themselves once. [#12-13-1](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

#### By-Laws of the Faculty Senate

**4.30 The Undergraduate Academic Advising Committee (UAAC)** shall be responsible for coordinating advisor training to develop and improve university-wide advisement, ensuring that all academic advisors are informed and trained in best practices in advising, as well as in the university's academic requirements. The Committee shall also facilitate assessment of university-wide advising and make policy recommendations to the Faculty Senate on matters pertaining to the University College for Academic Success, such as admissions

policy, length of time to be spent in the college, advanced standing, transfer students, advisement and counseling. [#12-13-34](#) [#14-15-11](#)

**4.31** The committee shall comprise four faculty representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one faculty representative each from the Colleges of Business Administration, Education and Professional Studies, Engineering, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, the Environment and Life Sciences, and the University Library; a representative of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of University College for Academic Success or designee; two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate, and one student representative of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies. The representatives of the colleges shall be selected for their experience with and knowledge of academic advising. The faculty of each college shall elect representatives to 3-year staggered terms. The Chairperson shall be a faculty member chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same manner as other standing committees of the Senate. The list of faculty representatives shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. The committee shall be named promptly thereafter. [#12-13-34](#) [#14-15-11](#) [#14-15-27C](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

**4.65 General Education Committee.** This committee shall study and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding the establishment, modification or abolition of General Education requirements for graduation to be applicable to degree candidates; consider other programs pertaining to the General Education Program and evaluate the effectiveness of the program; maintain liaison with the Curricular Affairs Committee and the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee for mutual information and joint action, and with the University administration for effective implementation of approved recommendations. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.66** The committee shall comprise four (4) representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences and one from each of the other colleges and schools of the University; one from the University Library, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designated representative, the Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designated representative, two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate, and the Director of General Education who shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member. The representatives of the colleges and schools shall be selected for their knowledge of general education. The faculty members shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same way as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees two of whom shall be provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college or school being represented, who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college or school faculty. The Chairperson of the Senate shall consult with the dean of a college or school before making his/her final decision. The list of nominees shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.67** The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Senate and approved by Senate. The term of the Chairperson shall be for two (2) years. Terms of faculty members shall be for three (3) years, with approximately one-third expiring each year. Terms of student members shall be for one year. Members may succeed themselves once. Members who do not complete their terms shall be replaced for the remainder of their terms following the same procedures outlined in 4.66. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.68** Any faculty member or faculty committee is permitted to request, in writing, consideration by the committee of a General Education item provided that the dean of the college and the college curriculum committee receive a copy of the request. Both the dean and the curriculum committee may attach their comments to the request. If the request concerns a specific course, it should be accompanied by a complete course outline. [#14-15-11](#)

**4.69** The General Education Committee shall be responsible for the assessment of General Education student learning outcomes. The General Education Committee shall appoint a Subcommittee on General Education Assessment (SAGE) which is comprised of faculty members who represent the university in similar numbers

and distribution as the General Education Committee and who have interest and expertise in assessment of learning outcomes and who represent the General Education outcome areas. Representatives from the General Education Committee may serve on the Subcommittee. This Subcommittee shall develop a process and be responsible for assessing General Education learning outcomes on a continuing basis. The Subcommittee shall report at least once each semester to the General Education Committee. The General Education Committee will forward subsequent recommendations to the Faculty Senate for approval. [#05-06-15 #14-15-11](#)

**4.70 Director of General Education.** A Director of General Education, selected from the University faculty, shall coordinate and advocate for the General Education Program. The Director shall, in concert with General Education Committee, be responsible for the overall management of the General Education Program. The Director shall report to the Chair of the Faculty Senate, keeping the Faculty Senate Executive Committee informed of current issues as requested. The Director of the General Education Program shall serve as a non-voting *ex officio* member of the General Education Committee. Questions of jurisdiction regarding joint responsibility for the General Education Program shall be referred to the Faculty Senate. The Director shall be released from one half of his/her normal duties and shall be compensated for work done during summers. Normal duties shall include, but not be restricted to, teaching, assigned research, advisement, committee work and thesis direction.

**4.75 The Curricular Affairs Committee.** This committee shall study and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate on the following matters: the establishment, abolition, division or merger of colleges and schools of the University, at the undergraduate and graduate level; the establishment or abolition of undergraduate degrees or credit certificates awarded by the University in any of its divisions; the establishment, abolition, division or merger of departments of instruction, or other units or areas affecting instruction; the establishment, at the undergraduate level, of new experimental and interdisciplinary instructional programs not confined to one college; the establishment, modification or abolition of curriculums or programs of study leading to degrees or credit certificates at the baccalaureate level, with due regard to requirements for accreditation when applicable; the introduction, modification or abolition of individual courses intended primarily for undergraduate instruction; unresolved problems arising in connection with the routine editing of course and curriculum numbers, titles, and descriptions to appear in the University Catalog. [#15-16-15D](#)

**4.76** In addition, the committee shall initiate action on matters within its jurisdiction by referring them to the faculties of colleges and schools concerned, shall review all such proposals originating in college faculties, the Senate or elsewhere and shall recommend procedures that permit matters within its jurisdiction to be handled expeditiously.

**4.77** The committee shall comprise four faculty representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one for each of the other baccalaureate degree granting colleges of the University, one from the University Libraries; the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her representative, and the Dean of University College for Academic Success or the Dean's representative. The representatives of the colleges shall be selected for their experience with and knowledge of academic programs, both general and local, and to be eligible shall hold the rank of instructor or above. The committee members, its chairperson and its vice chairperson shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same manner as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees, two of whom shall be provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college being represented, who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college faculty. The Chairperson of the Curricular Affairs Committee shall be entitled to have his/her normal duties reduced by one-third, normal duties being specified in Article IV, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate, and entitlement shall follow automatically upon appointment. Funds for the reduced time of the chairperson shall be provided in the budget of the Faculty Senate. The Chairperson of the Senate shall consult with the dean of a college before making his/her final decision. The list of nominees shall be presented to the new Chairperson of the Senate when he/she is elected in the spring. The committee shall be named promptly thereafter. [#15-16-15D](#)

**4.85 Committee on Information Technologies, Infrastructure, Computing, Communications, and Networking (CITICCN).** This committee shall contribute to the development and maintenance of the strategic plan in collaboration with Information Technology Services and review and make policy recommendations regarding the implications on academic and research planning, standards, services, physical facilities, and allocation of resources on all matters pertaining to information technology, infrastructure, computing, communications, and networking. [#14-15-3](#)

**4.86** The committee shall be comprised of one faculty representative each from the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education and Professional Studies, Engineering, Graduate School of Oceanography, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, the Environment and Life Sciences, and the University Library; a representative of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; a representative of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and two representatives of the student body appointed by the Student Senate and the Graduate Student Association. The Chief Information Officer shall serve as an *ex officio* member the committee. Representatives of the colleges and schools shall be selected for their knowledge of information technologies and their experience in research and teaching using technology. The faculty members shall be chosen by the Chairperson of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate in the same way as other standing committees of the Senate, except that they shall be named from a list of nominees provided for each vacancy by the faculty of the college or school being represented who shall nominate them in a manner to be determined by each college or school faculty. [#14-15-3](#) [#15-16-15D](#)

Michael Cerbo  
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Will Krieger  
Michael Rice  
Fritz Wenisch  
Travis Williams

**PS:** Admonition to people who propose items that also impact University Manual passages:  
If items will be recommended  
Through which the Manual is amended,  
One should make certain that one knows  
What's changed through what one does propose,  
Present it simultaneously  
With what approved one likes to see.