

# Faculty Senate Meeting

## Minutes #9

**May 9, 2013**

1. The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:07 p.m. in the Cherry Auditorium, Chester Kirk Building, Chairperson Larsen presiding.

All members were present except Senators Buxton, Conley, Eaton, Ferszt, Hu, Hutchinson, Kaufman, Kim, Mandel, Matthew, Meagher, Mendon-Deuer, Paton, Shin, Thomas, and Ye; Vice Presidents Dougan and Weygand; Vice Provost and CIO Bozylinsky, Vice Provosts Katz and Libutti, (Vice Provost McCray was represented by his designee); Deans Bonn, Corliss, Higgins, Larrat, Maslyn, Richmond, Sullivan and Wright (Deans Kirby and Zawia were represented by their designees).

2. Chairperson Larsen announced that the Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting #7, March 21, 2013, and #8, April 18, 2013, had been posted on the web. He asked if there were any questions, additions or corrections to the Minutes. There were none.

Chairperson Larsen ruled that in the absence of any comments or corrections, the Minutes were approved.

### 3. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### A. Announcements

1) Chairperson Larsen said that afternoon's meeting was the first meeting of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate. He welcomed all of the new Senators taking their seats that afternoon:

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES

Ben Anderson (2016)  
Susan Brady (2016)  
Holly Dunsworth (2016)  
Nancy Eaton (2016)  
Charles Kaufman (2016)  
Annu Matthew (2016)  
Barbara Meagher (2016)  
Damon Rarick (2016)

#### BUSINESS

John Dunn (2016)  
Eugene Lee (2016)

#### ENGINEERING

Faye Boudreaux-Bartels (2016)  
Zonqin Zhang (2016)

#### ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

Marian Goldsmith (2016)  
William Gordon (2016)

Lenore Martin (2016)  
Michael Sullivan (2014)

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY  
Susan Menden-Deuer (2016)

HUMAN SCIENCE AND SERVICES  
Kyle Kusz (2016)  
Linda Welters (2016)

NURSING  
Debra Erickson-Owens (2016)

PHARMACY  
Lisa Cohen (2016)  
Ruitang Deng (2016)

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES  
Brian T. Gallagher (2016)

2) Chairperson Larsen announced that for the last three academic years the Faculty Senate and the Provost have presented a joint award for Faculty Outstanding Service. He said that Professor Mary MacDonald from the University Library was the recipient of the Faculty Outstanding Service Award for 2013.

Chairperson Larsen read the following to Professor MacDonald:

The spirit of this award is to thank faculty members who have been exceptional citizens, which you very much have. You are the foremost proponent of Information Literacy on campus, developing awareness of this crucial skill for the 21st Century for the entire University. You are also a fierce proponent of effective measurement of programs and use of those assessments to continually improve teaching and scholarship. Your work was described by a nominator as "... not only as a tool to help us evaluate our work, but as a way for us all to improve our teaching and to enhance our offerings and scholarship." Your work on the Learning Outcomes Oversight Committee and with the Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation are testaments to your commitment to these increasingly vital parts of university service. Furthermore, you have served four terms on two critical curriculum-oriented Faculty Senate committees - the Curricular Affairs Committee and the University College General Education Committee. These terms show your commitment to the curriculum of the university, and you are described by one chair as "She has often found ways to harmonize the CAC's efforts to maintain consistent academic standards with the diverse pedagogical styles and nomenclatures used by faculty at our institution.

He told Professor MacDonald that she was honored for more than her hard work. He said that she has been described as "a wonderful collaborator with boundless energy" and "unfailingly enthusiastic." He said that the Faculty Senate and Provost DeHayes "acknowledge and celebrate the respect and affection that your peers have for her. You make this university a better place. Thank you so much."

3) Chairperson Larsen recognized Senator Rice who read the following resolution:

*Whereas, Sheila Black Grubman has announced her retirement from serving the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate for forty years as its coordinator, and*

*Whereas, all through those forty years, she has exemplified professional service at the University of Rhode Island by deftly persuading the most dogmatic faculty members and headstrong*

*administrators to do the right thing, and*

*Whereas, she has served as a key keeper of the institutional memory of the Faculty Senate, and go-to person for neophytes plumbing the depths of the University Manual in search of solutions for the crisis de jour, and*

*Whereas, she has earned the respect of all in her service to foster and maintain a spirit of community throughout the University by way of her pleasant and unassuming manner, and*

*Whereas, she has served with distinction for many years before and since she received recognition by the University of Rhode Island Foundation Administrative Excellence Award in 1988, and*

*Whereas, she was honored for her service to the University of Rhode Island by being named by the Association for Professional and Academic Women in 1992 as their APAW Woman of the Year, now*

*Therefore be it Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate congratulates Sheila Black Grubman and wishes her well in her retirement, and*

*Be it further Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate and Provost's Outstanding Service Award having been awarded annually to the most deserving faculty member for their service to our campus community be henceforth known formally as the*

***Sheila Black Grubman University of Rhode Island  
Faculty Senate and Provost's Outstanding Service Award***

Senator Rice presented the large plaque for the Sheila Black Grubman Outstanding Service Award with the names of the first three recipients: Professor Sandy Hicks, 2011; Professor Walter von Reinhart, 2012; Professor Mary MacDonald, 2013. He said the plaque would be placed permanently in the University Club.

The resolution was adopted by unanimous applause.

4) Chairperson Larsen expressed his appreciation to Vice President Peter Alfonso for graciously agreeing to sponsor the reception at the University Club after the meeting. He encouraged everyone to attend. He noted that the reception gives Senators, ex officio members, and guests an opportunity to meet one another and to continue any discussions we might have begun during the formal meeting.

5) Chairperson Larsen thanked the members of the 2012-13 Executive Committee for their efforts and support that year: Vice Chairperson David Byrd and Senators Marilyn Barbour, Kathleen Davis, Bahram Nassersharif, Nedra Reynolds and Michael Rice. He also thanked Ms. Black Grubman and Ms. Neff. He expressed his appreciation to the members and chairs of Faculty Senate Committees and told President Dooley, Provost DeHayes and Vice Provost Beauvais how much he appreciated working with them during the 2012-13 academic year.

He advised members of the Senate to be open to each other's ideas and not be suspicious of motivation, but rather assume that everyone has a different perspective that should be taken into account. He urged that Senators act as they wanted their students to behave: read everything in advance, share information with their colleagues, and bring their perspectives back to discussion.

Chairperson Larsen asked for and received the Faculty Senate's permission to move the President's Report forward so it could be presented without interruption.

#### 4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President Dooley announced that, as listed on the Agenda, he had approved all of the legislation that had been forwarded to him.

B. President Dooley expressed his appreciation to Chairperson Larsen for his leadership and commended the Executive Committee for all of the time and energy they expended on behalf of the University. He also thanked Senators for their commitment to faculty governance and service. He noted that he was appreciative as well of Ms. Grubman's use of "discussion ensued" in the Minutes of the Faculty Senate.

Senator Trubiano moved to change the order of business and move to unfinished business. The motion carried

#### 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairperson Larsen announced that at the end of the April 18 Meeting, the following resolution was under consideration:

The Faculty Senate of the University of Rhode Island reaffirms the long-standing tradition, and policy, of having a firearms-free campus.

He said that in addition, a substitute motion to ask the President not to proceed further until all sides on the matter further was on the floor.

Chairperson Larsen said that the motion to ask the President not to proceed further might no longer be relevant. He stated that if there were no objection, he would remove it from the floor.

He said that the main motion was back on the floor:

The Faculty Senate of the University of Rhode Island reaffirms the long-standing tradition, and policy, of having a firearms-free campus.

Discussion ensued.

Following discussion, Senator Rice moved to terminate debate.

The motion to terminate debate carried, 27-6.

The main motion carried, 28 - 4 with one abstention.

The Senate resumed its regular order of business with item 3, B.

3. B. Vice Chairperson Byrd announced that the Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings through April 22, 2013 were available on the web. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

C. Professor Barbour presented the Report of the Nominating Committee for members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for 2013-14. She explained that the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2013-14, Senator David Byrd and Senator Michael Rice, were elected in February. In addition, Senator Kathleen Davis and Senator Bahram Nassersharif were elected in May 2012 to two-year terms on the Executive Committee, which continue through 2013-14. She then placed in nomination the name of Senator Michael Cerbo, University Libraries for the two-

year term on the Executive Committee. Professor Barbour asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Senator Rice nominated Senator William Gordon from the College of the Environment and Life Sciences.

Nominations were closed.

Chairperson Larsen asked Vice Provost Beauvais and Ms. Morrissey to serve as tellers.

During balloting, the Senate moved to the next order of Business.

D. Vice Chairperson Byrd moved that the Faculty Senate approve the amendment to section 4.50.10 of the University Manual recommended by the Constitution, By-Laws and University Manual Committee (deletion in italics):

4.50.10 College Faculties. Faculty members assigned to a college of the University shall constitute the faculty of that college. A faculty member affiliated with more than one college shall be considered a member of the faculty of each. The dean of the college shall be the presiding officer. The college faculty shall elect a secretary and committees, including a *scholastic standing committee and curriculum committee*.

Discussion ensued.

Following discussion the motion carried.

Vice Chairperson Byrd moved approval of the following resolution:

*Whereas, Peter Larsen has served as Chairperson of the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate with distinction during the 2012-2013 academic year, and*

*Whereas, right from the beginning of his tenure during the "dog days" of summer, Chairperson Larsen has provided the leadership to confront and solve a number of issues affecting the faculty, and*

*Whereas, throughout his tenure, Chairperson Larsen has provided leadership to plan for and manage major transition in the Faculty Senate Office, and*

*Whereas, Chairperson Larsen has distinguished himself as the "master of the metaphor" when describing the nature of issues big and small at the University, now*

*Therefore, Be it Resolved that the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate offers its most heartfelt thanks for his service and wishes him well in all his future endeavors.*

The resolution was adopted by unanimous applause.

Provost DeHayes asked for permission to express his appreciation to Chairperson Larsen for his commitment and dedication during the 2012-13 academic year.

C. Professor Barbour announced that Senator Michael Cerbo has been elected to the two-year term on the Executive Committee. She then placed in nomination the name of Senator Susan Brady, College of Arts and Sciences for the one-year term on the Executive Committee. Professor Barbour asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Senator Rice nominated Senator William Gordon from the College of the Environment and Life Sciences.

Nominations were closed.

During balloting, the Senate moved to the next order of business.

## 5. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Dean Killingbeck presented the Graduate Council's Report No. 2012-13-7 to the Faculty Senate. He asked if there were any questions about the changes. There were none. He then moved approval of the report. The motion carried.

3. C. Professor Barbour announced that Senator Susan Brady was elected to the one-year term on the Executive Committee. Professor Barbour thanked Senators Brady, Cerbo, and Gordon for accepting nomination for positions on the Executive Committee.

The Senate moved to the next item of business.

5. B. Professor Brand presented the Five Hundred Sixth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee. She said that Section I was informational and asked if there were any questions. There were none. She then moved approval. The motion carried. Professor Brand noted that Section II required confirmation by the Faculty Senate and moved approval. The motion carried.

C. Professor Ordoñez presented the Annual Report of the Council for Research for 2012-13. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

D. Professor Barbour presented the Report of the Learning Outcomes Oversight Committee (LOOC) for 2012-13. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

E. Professor Harps-Logan presented the Annual Report of the Athletics Advisory Board for 2012-13 and responded to questions from the floor.

## 6. FORUM

Dr. Goldsmith provided an update on the status of online and distance Education at URI. She used a series of Power Point slides and responded to questions throughout her presentation.

7. Chairperson Larsen asked if there was any additional unfinished business. There was none.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Larsen asked if there was any new business. There was none.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Black Grubman