

Minutes of Meeting

Regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate of Rochester Institute of Technology

Thursday, January 26, 2023

12:15 – 1:50 PM

1720/30 Global Cybersecurity Institute

Attendance: See Below

Agenda Item No. 1: Call to Order; A. Newman (12:15)
Meeting called to order
Agenda Item No. 2: Approval of Agenda; A. Newman (12:15)
Motion: Ivan, Hamad, approved by acclamation
Agenda Item No. 3: Communication Officer's Report/Approval of Minutes; A. Newman (12:16)
No communication officer present, as Lauren Hall became COLA Dean and is ineligible to continue in role. Newman: Minutes were sent out, asking for December approval. Newman, Scott 2nd. Approved by acclamation.
Agenda Item No. 4: Executive Committee Report; A. Newman (12:17)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominations for replacement Communication Officer have been solicited• Provost Granberg has announced move to take up another career opportunity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Granberg<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Expressed appreciation for time and experience with Senate■ Would like policies forwarded to Provost's office before the end of the semester■ President Munson is moving quickly to open a search, using the firm, Isaacson & Miller. He is hoping to have replacement in place by the fall■ Malachowsky has been chosen to represent Senate on the search committee• Another mixer with Senate committee members is planned for this semester• There will be a Global Governance Conference in Dubai from 25 Feb - 1 March. Five RIT Senators will attend.
Agenda Item No. 5: Staff Council Update; J. Prescott (12:23)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Held closed meeting including new members discussing employee morale. Tina Ross will give a presentation on compensation and wage bands at the next meeting

Agenda Item No. 6: Student Government Update; L. Dibble (12:24)

- Currently working on elections committee, looking for Academic Co-ops chair
- Briefed on new bylaws
- The position of Graduate Senator is being split into two - one to represent Masters students and one for PhD students
- Have received many PawPrints re: Greek housing, use of online payments

Agenda Item No. 7: Executive Committee Communications Chair Nominations; H. Ghazle (12:25)

- Hull: Senate needs to elect a new Comm Officer. The only nomination to this point is Stephen Aldersley
- Lawley: Move to close nomination, Hamad 2nd. Aldersley elected by acclamation
- Applause and congratulations

Agenda Item No. 8:E24-Faculty Grievance Amendment; S. Connelly (12:28) *Presentation file below*

- Connelly:
 - Provided background on the evolution since April 2021 of the Faculty Affairs Committee's proposal to amend E.24
 - At the 12/1/22 meeting of the Senate, L. Williams, on behalf of the President and Provost, presented friendly amendments to extend certain deadlines from 5 to 10 days, at three junctures of the revised Grievance policy, and provided a rationale including potential travel of important parties for same.
 - After concerns re: the extension to 10 days were expressed in the Faculty Affairs Committee, Connelly, Magin and A. Newman proposed a compromise of 7 days, which was accepted by the Provost and President.
 - It was felt that the compromise should go back for discussion to the FAC.
 - The FAC was polled as to their approval of the original 5-day deadline, the 7-day compromise or the 10-day option. As a result of the vote (1 vote for 5 days, 5 votes for 7 days, 4 votes for 10 days with 4 abstentions) the FAC approves the extension to 7 days. As part of their deliberations, the FAC also voted unanimously to delay implementation of the revised E.24 until the beginning of AY 2023/24.
 - There are still certain elements of the policy raising concern. For example, disadvantage to non-tenure-track faculty, and the ability for grievances to disappear.
- Stated Motion in slides: Change to 7 day deadline at the noted points.
 - Lawley: Dismissal with cause policy calls for use of grievance policy, but policy unavailable to terminated employees
 - Bamonto: What about Spring 2022/23 since it doesn't take effect until fall?
 - Granberg: This was the only change requested by Provost and President. Since there are currently grievances in process the new policy should not begin until the fall
 - Puchades: Was the specified timeline the only change, and was there previously a specified timeline?
 - Granberg: Indications were that the previous timeline was thought of as too long, as long as a semester to complete
 - A. Newman/Connelly: New timeline would be about 1-1.5 Months
 - Aldersley: Business days?
 - Yes
 - Ulin: It seems that some steps are more complicated than others. Did you consider differing lengths for steps?
 - Ghazle: FAC did talk about time/days, and so forth. The policy allows some flexibility for changing deadlines with agreement. There are informal pre-grievance elements to allow resolution before official steps are taken.
 - Ghazle: The Grievance Committee is responsible for confirming that the process is

followed

- Motion Called - A. Newman
 - Vote: 34 Aye, 0 Nay, 2 Abstain
- Motion Passed

[E 24 Presentation](#)

Agenda Item No. 9: ICC - BS in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (WGSS); H. Nickisher (12:48)

Presentation files below

- Presentation on review of COLA B.S. WGSS Degree - Nickisher
 - Offers flexible/modular curriculum w/ 6 concentrations, flexibility for double majors/minors
 - Supports activism, empowerment
 - Aligns with RIT vision/mission/values, could help with retention of minority students through expanded offerings and safe academic exploration
 - Unanimously approved by ICC
- Questions:
 - Dibble: Expressed support as SG Woman's Senator, personal career experiences
 - Thomas: How does WGSS align with STEM?
 - Nickisher: It's flexible by components, core, area, concentration, electives that can enable students to align with STEM
 - Thomas: Are we losing female students by not having this program?
 - Nickisher: Indications are such
 - A. Newman: Reports show that populations in GCCIS, etc. show deficiencies in female students. In CAD, we have a high population of female students, but that's not at all true in other areas of the . university
 - Zanibbi: As an historical perspective, Until the 70's, Computer Science was 50/50 men/women. I think having this program now is a really good. idea, and I hope my colleagues will benefit.
 - Lutzer: In an interdisciplinary program like this, my question is who will be responsible for assessing program outcomes, certifying completion and authorizing curricular changes? How does the program function?
 - Nickisher: It currently functions as a de facto department, appointed by the dean per WGSS policies, the program director approves these and other changes and student exceptions, etc. Will continue as it is right now.
 - Kray: The program includes several courses that directly connect with STEM content. Also, you know we talk a lot about the retention of female students. A recent RIT survey showed that our students are 4 times as likely to identify as non-binary or transgender compared to other universities. A program that allows students to talk through issues of gender identity, beyond just females, will provide a helpful forum for discussion.
 - Dibble: Comment - aware of female students leaving, though not sure if this would affect this, but likes the potential effect of this proposal.

[ICC Presentation](#)

Agenda Item No. 10: RIT Libraries Advisory Council Charter; M. Trauernicht (1:04) *Presentation files below*

Trauernicht: Presentation on proposed amendments to the Libraries Advisory Council Charter reflecting Senate discussion of the charter in Spring, 2021.

- The remodeled library will be open before Fall semester.
- The Advisory Council will hopefully be up and running in the fall
- The Council is mainly intended as a communication vehicle between the library and RIT population
- Sponsored by Provost, headed by Trauernicht, no formal authority
- Voting Makeup: 2 Senators from the Research & Scholarship Committee, 2 students, 2 members of Staff Council.
- 6 ex officio members
- Terms: 2-3 years, 2nd term possible, ex officio members serve at the pleasure of V.P.
- AY: Appointments in early fall (by 3rd week), chair elected by voting members, 2 meetings fall and spring
- Overlapping terms
- Malachowsky clarification: 2 or 4 meetings total?
 - 4 total, 2 in fall, 2 in spring
- Motion to approve the makeup of this committee by Senate
 - Faber, Lawley 2nd
 - Objection to voting by acclamation
 - Lawley: This committee needs representation from instruction as well as academics
 - Vote: 25 aye, 1 nay, 12 abstain
- Motion Passed

[RIT Libraries Presentation](#)

[RIT Libraries Doc1](#)

[RIT Libraries Doc2](#)

Agenda Item No. 11: Changes to the RIT Academic Calendar; C. Hull & S. Johnson (1:16) *Presentation files below*

- Hull: Calendars are built via rules, and rules are reviewed every 5 years by the Campus Calendar Committee.
- Proposed Change #1 (Hull)
 - The Committee surveyed faculty and learned that faculty don't like partial week, don't want shorter summer, want same semester length, and want longer winter break
 - As a result, the Committee is proposing a number of changes. The proposal is to eliminate one no-class day Fall/Spring, Move reading day to weekend, reduce exam days from 6 to 5.
 - No change for AY 23/24
 - In AY 24/25. calendar changes would include later start after summer, later December, longer January, Spring break same week # *but later), later end in early May
 - Options for Fall no-class day: Have Labour Day classes, 1 day October day with Tuesday to Monday schedule change, or Labour day and no October break
- Proposed Change #2 (Johnson)
 - Change MWF to MW only, with labs, etc. on Friday. MW would be similar to current TR classes,
 - 15 minutes between classes
 - TR classes are already the most popular with students

- Large classes are difficult to transition with 10 minute break
- Would lose 2 class period slots, complications with access services
- Joe L. has indicated that this is possible
- Questions/Comments
 - Laury: Fewer exam days could affect student with multiple exams on the same day
 - Hull: Similar to what occurred during quarters. Joe L has fixes
 - Lutzer: Science courses with weekly labs would be adversely affected
 - Hull: Consistent week structures may help this
 - Johnson: Friday is still open to labs
 - Venkataraman: What about 4-credit-hour courses?
 - Johnson: The same patterns are still in place similar to existing courses, Joe has indicated that it still would work
 - Eddingsaas: Disconnects between RIT's calendar and other school's breaks. Were public school schedules considered?
 - Johnson: Public schools vary in their schedules, especially for spring break
- A. Newman: Orders of the day, asked Calendar Committee to come back next meeting
 - Johnson/Hull, email with questions/comments, will consult Provost

[Academic Calendar Presentation](#)

[MWF to MW Calendar Presentation](#)

Agenda Item No. 12: RABC Report; B. Hartpence (1:39) *Presentation files below*

B. Hartpence, chair

- Nutshell: Many of the tasks/charges to RABC are difficult, RABC is constantly questioning where to get info from, especially given transparency problems they encounter
- COVID: Many units lost travel budgets, and these don't seem likely to return
- Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) analysis, Operations manual, policy review
 - Decided to split the committee into several sub-committees
 - ABB: Is currently under evaluation, with a goal for thumbs up/down by end of term, with follow-up on formulas, models ("the devil is in the details"), possibly not enough information for a proper evaluation
 - Zanibbi: From my experience on the RABC, we received the overall allocations per college...
- Presentation adjourned until next session

[RABC Presentation](#)

Agenda Item No. 13: New Business; A. Newman (1:49)

None proposed

Agenda Item No. 14: Adjournment; A. Newman (1:49)

Adjourned

Attendance January 26, 2023

Name	Relationship to Senate	Attended		Name	Relationship to Senate	Attended
Abushagur, Mustafa	KGCOE Senator			Malachowsky, Sam	Treasurer, GCCIS Senator	x
Adrion, Amy	ALT CAD Senator (Fall 2022)			McLaren, Amy	CAD Senator	X
Aldersley, Stephen	SOIS Senator	x		Newman, Atia	Chair, CAD Senator	x
Anselm, Martin	CET Senator			Newman, Dina	COS Senator	x
Babbitt, Gregory	COS Senator	x		Olabisi, Joy	SCB Senator	x
Bamonto, Suzanne	CLA Senator	x		Osgood, Robert	ALT CHST Senator	
Barone, Keri	CLA Senator			Perez Sanchez, Alejandro	CAD Senator	
Boedo, Stephen	ALT KGCOE Senator			Puchades, Ivan	KGCOE Senator	x
				Ray, Amit	CLA Senator	
Brown, Tamaira	Senate Coordinator	X		Reed, Mary Lynn	COS Senator	x
Butler, Janine	ALT NTID Senator	X		Ross, Annemarie	ALT NTID Senator	
Chiavaroli, Julius	ALT GIS Senator	X		Shaaban, Muhammad	ALT KGCOE Senator	
Crawford, Denton	CAD Senator	X		Sheffield, Jr., Clarence	ALT SOIS Senator	
D'Amanda, Elisabetta	CLA Senator	X		Song, Qian	SCB Senator	X
Deese, Franklin	CAD Senator	X		Sparkman, Torrence	ALT SCB Senator	
Dell, Betsy	CET Senator	Excused		Thomas, Bolaji	CHST Senator	X
Dibble, Leah	Student Gov't Rep	X		Tobin, Karen	NTID Senator	X

Eddingsaas, Nathan	COS Senator	X		Tsukernik, Olga	ALT COS Senator	
Faber, Joshua	COS Senator	x		Ulin, Robert	CLA Senator	x
Fillip, Carol	ALT CAD Senator			Van Aardt, Jan	ALT COS Senator	
Gehret, Austin	NTID Senator	X		Venkataraman, Jayanti	KGCOE Senator	x
Ghazle, Hamad	Operations Officer, CHST Senator	X		Villasmil, Larry	ALT CET Senator	x
Granberg, Ellen	Provost	x		Warp, Melissa	ALT CAD Senator (Spring 2023)	
Hazelwood, David	NTID Senator	x		White, Phil	ALT GCCIS Senator	
Heyman, Emily (sub Joanna Prescott)	Staff Council Rep.	X		Williams, Eric	GIS Senator	X
Hsieh, Jerrie	ALT SCB Senator			Worrell, Tracy	ALT CLA Senator	
Johnson, Dan	CET Senator	x		Zanibbi, Richard	GCCIS Senator	x
Johnson, Scott	GCCIS Senator	x		Zlochower, Yosef	COS Senator	x
Kincheloe, Pamela	NTID Senator					
Kiser, Larry	GCCIS Senator	x				
Kray, Christine	CLA Senator	x				
Lapizco-Encinas, Blanca	KGCOE Senator	x				
Laury, Dino	NTID Senator	x				
Lawley, Elizabeth	Vice Chair, GCCIS Senator	x				
Lee, James	ALT CET Senator	x				
Liu, Manlu	SCB Senator					

Lutzer, Carl	COS Senator	x				
Ma, Yunn-Shan	ALT CLA Senator					

Interpreters: Nicole Crouse-Dickerson and Jennifer Mura

Student Assistant: n/a

Presenters: Sandi Connelly, Heidi Nickisher, Marcia, Trauernicht, Clyde Hull, Scott Johnson and Bruce Hartpence

Tech Crew