

A meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 9:05 a.m. in room 4090 at CCRI's Knight Campus.

Present: ASAC: Joan Abrams (arrived at 9:20 a.m.); Antonio Barajas; Jane Sherman; Jay Walsh (Chair)

RIBGHE: Tessa Constant (arrived at 9:30 a.m.)

URI: Laura Beauvais, vice provost; Lisa DiPippo, associate professor, computer science and statistics; Dan Sheinin, Associate Professor College of Business Admin

RIC: Leslie Bogan, professor, education studies; Carol Cummings, assistant professor, health and physical education; Kathleen Johnson, assistant professor, health and physical education; Corinne McKamey, associate professor, elementary education; Kristin Pepin, assistant professor, health and physical education; Ron Pitt, vice president for academic affairs; Betty Rauhe, associate professor, health and physical education; Leslie Sevey, assistant professor, elementary education; Holly Shadoian, assistant vice president for enrollment management; Sasha Sidorkin, dean, FSEHD; Kerri Tunnicliffe, associate professor, health and physical education

CCRI: Lela Morgan, vice president for academic affairs

RIOHE: Deborah Grossman-Garber, associate commissioner for academic policy and planning; Phyllis Harnick, planning specialist; Deanna Velletri, executive assistant

Absent: Ray Di Pasquale; Tom Rockett

1. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of April 20, 2012

Governor Sherman requested that she be removed from the vote approving items 1 and 4 since she was not in attendance for the first four items on the agenda.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, IT WAS VOTED –

THAT the Academic and Student Affairs Committee approves the minutes of the meeting of April 20, 2012, with corrections.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Barajas, Sherman, Walsh

NEAS: 0

2. Chair's Report

Chair Jay Walsh welcomed committee members and gave an overview of the agenda. He said in response to the recent legislative actions concerning the future of the RIBGHE and the RIOHE, it is his intention to continue to move forward with the important work of the ASAC committee.

3. Commissioner's Report

Commissioner DiPasquale was not in attendance. Associate Commissioner Deborah Grossman-Garber reported the release of the DataHub, a central resource for anyone interested in using data to understand the well-being of people in Rhode Island. The DataHUB brings together data sets from multiple federal, state and local sources. The site allows one to select the data of one's choice and visualize it in charts, graphs, maps and more. The ability to see relationships between data sets sheds light on important details and allows for new insights into policy or programmatic questions about the well-being of Rhode Islanders. In addition, the DataHUB features a series of "Data Stories"—interactive slide shows that guide users through data related to a specific policy question.

4. Approval of a Proposal from the University of Rhode Island: One-year M.B.A. Redesign

Vice Provost Laura Beauvais said the one-year M.B.A. program at URI has been in existence since 1995 and was one of the first to exist nationally. The proposal seeks to make the program more modularized and innovative, while aligning it with URI's strategic plan. The primary changes include the elimination of duplication and the addition of experiential learning opportunities. Moving the program to URI's Providence Campus creates more opportunities for students as they interact with the local business community. The selling point of the program continues to be the one-year design, but it can also be an add-on to other programs (i.e., 5-year B.S. and M.B.A.) such as pharmacy and oceanography, to offer joint degrees. Governor Sherman suggested that the alumni association be utilized as a way of creating possible internships.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, IT WAS VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the redesigned M.B.A. at the University of Rhode Island

VOTE: 4 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Abrams, Barajas, Sherman, Walsh

NEAS: 0

5. Notice of Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security

Vice Provost Laura Beauvais said the University is working to develop more post-baccalaureate certificate programs, many of which will be offered on line, as a way of attracting people who are interested in additional training. A Champlin Foundation grant was awarded to URI to fund growth in the area of cyber security at URI.

All courses in the program will be drawn from currently existing courses offered by the URI Computer Science and Statistics Department. Students can move directly into the M.S. program in computer science if they so chose.

Because the certificate program is less than 18 credits, committee approval is not required.

6. Approval of a Proposal from Rhode Island College to Offer the B.A. in Youth Development

Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Pitt thanked the committee for its high standards and support. Corinne McKamey, associate professor of elementary education, and Leslie Bogan, professor of education studies, presented background information on the formation of the Youth Development program. Professor McKamey said that local youth organizations approach RIC about the growing need for more qualified workers in the field. Governor Abrams asked if there were other schools with similar degree programs and will it be recognized outside of RI? Professor McKamey said it is one of the top 50 areas for growth and one among a national movement to professionalize youth workers. She said the number of programs has grown over the last 5 years from about 6 to 40 or 50. RIC has also identified a pool of students and current youth development professionals who are seeking such a B.A. program. Governor Barajas asked if relationships have been built with employers. RIC is sponsoring a conference in the fall and have invited participation that will lead to strengthened relationships. Professor Bogan said the advisory board will allow RIC to create networks that will serve students well. Governor Sherman asked if field placements would be mandatory requirements. Some field placements have been established but more remain to be developed, as this curricular piece will not come into play until the junior year. Chair Walsh commended the proposal's depth and breadth, and emphasized the importance of community engagement for students.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, IT WAS VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the proposal to offer the Bachelor of Arts in Youth Development at Rhode Island College

VOTE: 4 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Abrams, Barajas, Sherman, Walsh

NEAS: 0

7. Approval of a Proposal from Rhode Island College to Offer the B.S. in Early Childhood Education

Vice President Ron Pitt said the proposal for RIC to offer a B.S. in Early Childhood Education will create a stand-alone program. In addition, it offers a strengthened articulation component with CCRI and offers a 5th-year option for dual certification. Leslie Sevey, assistant professor of elementary education, added that the program broadens the knowledge base and emphasizes families and communities. The program is multi-disciplinary and has ties with the School of Social Work, and departments of psychology and child development. Governor Abrams asked about the difference between RIC's and URI's programs. Professor Sevey said URI's program falls under the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. RIC's program is offered through the school of education and is seeking to broaden its offerings with developmental courses. The program would feed into a fifth year that would satisfy state certification requirements. Governor Abrams clarified that the difference is in how the curriculum is laid out but the goal is similar. Professor Sevey added that a student at URI could earn a degree in HDF or go through the school of education, which would lead to certification.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, IT WAS VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the proposal to offer the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education at Rhode Island College, pending satisfactory completion of Early Childhood Education JAA and transfer plans no later than October 2012

VOTE: 4 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Abrams, Barajas, Sherman, Walsh
NEAS: 0

8. Approval of a Proposal from Rhode Island College to Offer the B.S. in Community Health and Wellness

Vice President Pitt said the proposed program is different than any other offered at RIC because it focuses on disease prevention vs. diagnosis of conditions and treatment of symptoms. Carol Cummings, assistant professor of health and physical education, and Betty Rauhe, associate professor of health and physical education, explained the program as a stand-alone degree program with core courses and five areas of concentration. Internships are at places such as fitness clubs, hospitals, weight management centers, community centers, etc. Governor Abrams asked if there is a strategy in place to address the need for more specialized, descriptive degree programs. Vice President Pitt said that RIC is being opportunistic in creating programs that are broad but not necessarily more specialized. He said other existing programs are being looked at in this way. Governor Sherman cautioned that narrowly focusing a program may respond to current market trends but could change quickly. Vice President Pitt said that RIC is trying to broaden its programs for this same purpose. Chair Walsh said that public institutions need to serve the public good and that there is a high correlation between poverty and poor health. Therefore, the importance of this program's focus should remain directed toward the community aspect of prevention, not just the corporations cutting their bottom lines in savings related to health costs.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, IT WAS VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the proposal to offer the Bachelor of Science in Community Health and Wellness at Rhode Island College

VOTE: 4 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Abrams, Barajas, Sherman, Walsh
NEAS: 0

9. Other Matters

There were no other matters discussed.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.