

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2006-07-3
January 30, 2007

VETO OF SENATE BILL #06-07--10:
ABOLITION OF PROGRAMS LEGISLATION

BACKGROUND

On December 14, 2006, the Faculty Senate adopted legislation creating a UNIVERSITY MANUAL section on Suspension of Programs, President Carothers initially requested a thirty-day extension of time on the legislation and has subsequently vetoed Senate Bill #06-07--10.

(http://www.uri.edu/facsen/veto_senate_bill_06-07--10.pdf) The Faculty Senate Executive Committee discussed the proposed legislation with President Carothers and Provost Swan on January 18, 2007 and the Executive Committee was persuaded that existing sections 8.87.10 and 8.87.11 were unworkable and must be revised before a new section 8.87.12 could be added to the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with section 10.3 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate, the FSEC recommends that the Faculty Senate appoint an ad hoc committee to review 8.87.10 and 8.87.11 with the intention of crafting new legislation that would satisfy both the Administration and the Faculty Senate. The membership of the Ad Hoc Committee shall comprise President Carothers or his designee, Provost Swan or her designee, and three members of the 2006-07 Executive Committee. This Ad Hoc committee shall make recommendations to the Faculty Senate at its meeting of April 19, 2007.

SECTIONS 8.87.10 and 8.87.11 OF THE UNIVERSITY MANUAL

Following is the existing University of Rhode Island procedure for the elimination of academic programs:

8.87.10 Abolition of Programs. When a recommendation for abolition of an existing program is initiated by an appropriate college or university

committee or administrative official, the recommendation shall be reviewed by the appropriate college dean, college curricular committee, and college faculty if the program is housed in a college; and in any case by the appropriate Faculty Senate Committee(s) (Curricular Affairs Committee and/or Council for Research) or Graduate Council, the Faculty Senate and the President. Review of the proposal for abolition by college or Senate committees below the level of the Faculty Senate shall result in a Statement of Opinion that shall be attached to the proposal as it proceeds through subsequent review steps, but shall not result in denial or approval of the recommendation, nor stop the proposal from proceeding to the Faculty Senate. The originator of the recommendation may, however, withdraw the proposal if convinced by review at any level that the recommendation should be withdrawn. Curricular committees and college faculties shall address budgetary issues as well as academic issues in their review. The Graduate Council shall be included for review of graduate programs according to its established procedures. The originator shall present the recommendations to the Faculty Senate for its deliberation. Committees that have reviewed the proposal and have attached Statements of Opinion shall present the findings of their review to the Faculty Senate. Approval of the recommendation for abolition shall require the approval of the Faculty Senate and the President in the same manner as other legislative actions, as provided for in sections 10.2 to 10.6 of the Faculty Senate By-Laws.

8.87.11 Any program recommended for elimination shall be maintained until currently enrolled students (including University College students who have indicated preference for the program in writing prior to the President's signature of the recommendation for elimination) have completed the program, except that in no case shall this period of maintenance exceed the normal period of transit through the program by more than one year. Notification to students contemplating enrollment in the program shall be made at the time the President authorizes elimination of the program, but not sooner. For the purpose of providing adequate notice to prospective first-year students, elimination must be authorized prior to June 1 of the year previous to the final entering class.

