

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ROCHESTER, NY

MINUTES OF INSTITUTE COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:

W. Destler, J. Haefner, G. Buckley, F. Cost, L. Tubbs (for Maggelakis), L. Tolan (for Walker), P. Rosenberg, G. Zion (for Lundgren), K. Mook, A. Phelps, C. Thoms, M. Carroll, K. DeLorme, M. Dwyer, R. Goldberg, M. Johnson, W. St. Jean, J. Tydings, G. Pollock, M-B Cooper, R. Finnerty, K. Mayberry, K. McDonald, L. Twyman.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

J. Diaz-Herrera, A. Moore, H. Palmer, A. Rao, T. Engstrom, J. Beck, H. Miller, C. Schreck, J. Voelkel, S. Widrick, B. Kiely, S. Bayerl, M. Fragale, J. Ott, M. Picioli, J. Watrous, D. Mullaney, B. Fuller, D. Guzman Valle, C. Kelly, L. Kushner, D. Lorenzo, S. Lu, N. Mendez, S. Patterson, V. Sanchez, D. Boyd, L. Cauda, J. Loffredo, J. Miller, D. Stendardi, J. Watters, R. Doolittle, C. Licata, C. McKenzie, N. Nasr, P. Spinelli, L. Wild.

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

M. Hinz, C. Lomeo, G. Macias.

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Fundraising climate has improved. Recent significant gifts.
- April Board of Trustee meeting was excellent. There is a unique relationship among the governing bodies at RIT.
- Enrollment doing well. Applications are up and the percentage of accepts has gone down which raises our student profile.
- Trained volunteers are ready for Imagine RIT on May 7. More than 30,000 are expected.
- There have been an unusual number of student deaths this year, but no pattern.
- Construction projects are gearing up with the good weather.

Andy Phelps questioned where we stand with exchange programs and affiliation agreements. Dr. Destler replied that we can expect more as our reputation continues to grow. We encourage partner opportunities, but will pick and choose appropriately. At the university level, Jim Myers is working on agreements with a global emphasis.

Bill St. Jean inquired about sabbatical options as relates to the semester conversion. Dr. Haefner replied that this is being addressed as part of the policy revision process and will follow what is typical at semester schools.

Mike Dwyer asked for an update on the search for a director for innovation and entrepreneurship. Dr. Destler informed the group that the search will be postponed due to the unique qualifications required to fill this role. All other searches are moving forward in various stages and announcement will be forthcoming.

OMBUDS ANNUAL REPORT (*Lee Twyman*)
(*Ppt presentation is on IC DML site*)

- A detailed report was presented on the kinds of activities and interventions handled by the Ombuds office over the past year that included historical data for purposes of comparison.
- Health issues had the greatest spike this past year. Parents often call on these issues, so it is important to continue the services formerly provided by the Parent Liaison. Considering putting a link for parents on the website.
- Greg Pollock commented that by the time a student finds out about the Ombuds services, it is often too late. The suggestion is to make this part of Orientation.
- Dr. Destler commented that our student retention numbers are higher and that the Ombuds office plays a role.

CALENDAR CONVERSION UPDATE (*Fernando Naveda*)
(*Ppt presentation is on IC DML site*)

- Update and review of semester conversion timeline
- 30 programs (20%) have completed NYSED approval
- All undergraduate programs will be sent to NYSED by the end of the summer
- Other aspects of the conversion are:
 - Programs marked for discontinuance
 - Training for scheduling officers
 - Housing issues
 - Articulation agreements
 - Research and development contracts
 - Retirement transition
 - Policy changes.
- Budget issues
 - How to meet advising needs
 - What to do with funds not used?
- Next Steps:
 - Coordinated advising plan with advising materials for current and new advisors
 - Comprehensive student information plan
 - Understanding the impact of semesters on our physical plant

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

No New Business

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

To be approved May 11, 2011.