





# Academic Support and Student Affairs Committee

Bobby Moakley (VP Student Government) & Elizabeth Ruder (CHST)





# ASSA Committee members

- Bobby Moakley & Elizabeth Ruder (Co-Chairs)
- Brian Barry
- Farid Barquet
- Rebecca DeRoo
- Irene Evans
- Raluca Felea
- Wendy Gelbard
- Hany Ghoneim
- Lucas Granan
- Neil Hair
- Brian Larson
- Jason Listman
- Stephen Luxmore
- Corinne Mendieta
- Jennifer Schwartzberg
- Gretchen Wainwright
- Linwei Wang





**ASSA 1:** Explore the costs and benefits of a fellowships office at RIT and make a recommendation to the Senate regarding the creation of such an office.





# Findings / Recommendations

- Increased attainment of Fellowships by RIT students helps students and increases the recognition and prestige of the University
- Currently, RIT students are unaware of many available Fellowships and lack the assistance / resources to plan and submit a successful application
- Peer universities such as: University of Michigan, Rutgers, University of Rochester have fellowship offices and market them heavily to students ASSA is in support of a Fellowships office at RIT.

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA is in support of the creation of a Fellowship office at RIT, questions related to where it would be housed and staffing needed to be determined but are outside the scope of ASSA committee



**ASSA 2:** Evaluate the need to extend the admissions window to 1.5 years and investigate possible modifications to the application-to-admission timetable



# Findings / Recommendations

## **GRADUATE ADMISSIONS:**

1. Colleges can current offer admissions on any timetable. Although many colleges use a Jan 15 deadline for Masters programs and Feb 15 for Doctoral, this is not a standard requirement. Some programs already use a rolling admission.
2. For Colleges and programs using the Jan 15 and Feb 15 deadlines, the Graduate Admissions Office tracks applicants' Visa status. If Visa issues interfere with the ability to start at the pre-established time, Graduate Admissions works with the student to revise the start date.

## **UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS:**

1. Students may defer for a semester or year. In some instances deferment may be extended beyond one year.
2. Very few students are affected by visa issues (usually fewer than 5).

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA does not recommend any changes to the current admissions timeline.

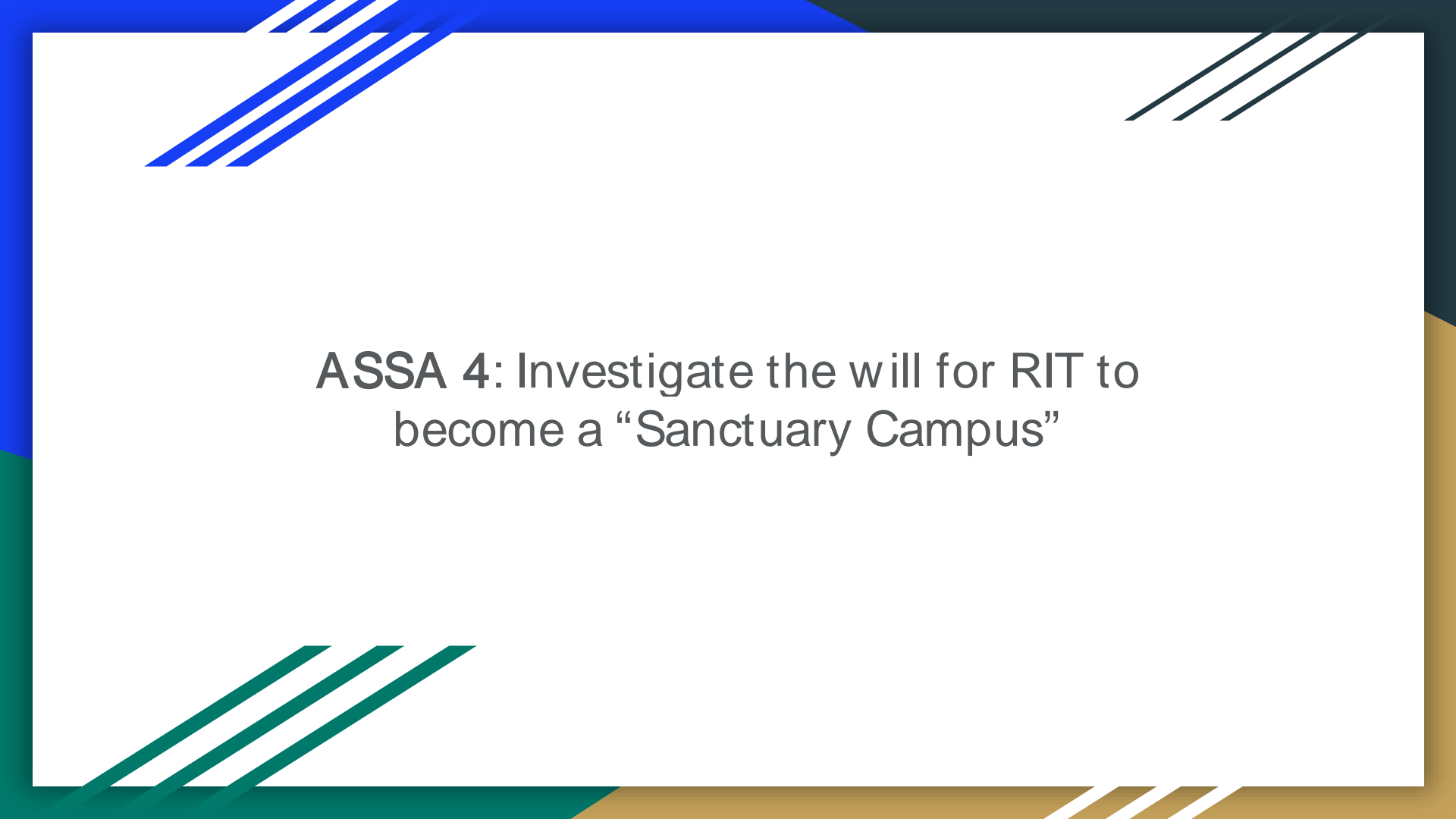
**ASSA 3:** Regarding Final Course Grade Dispute Policy, make appropriate changes to policies related to D17.0 to address issues with references to the Academic Appeals Sub-committee. Make necessary changes in order to revise inconsistencies in Policy D08.0 and D18.0

# Findings /Recommendations

- Minor inconsistencies/inaccuracies in the Policies D08.0, D17.0 and D18.0 were noted. For example, readers were directed to the wrong section for the policy on Academic Appeals and the 3-day window for conduct appeals was not uniformly described as 3-business days. See the attachment provided in advance.

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA recommends minor revisions to correct these inconsistencies.





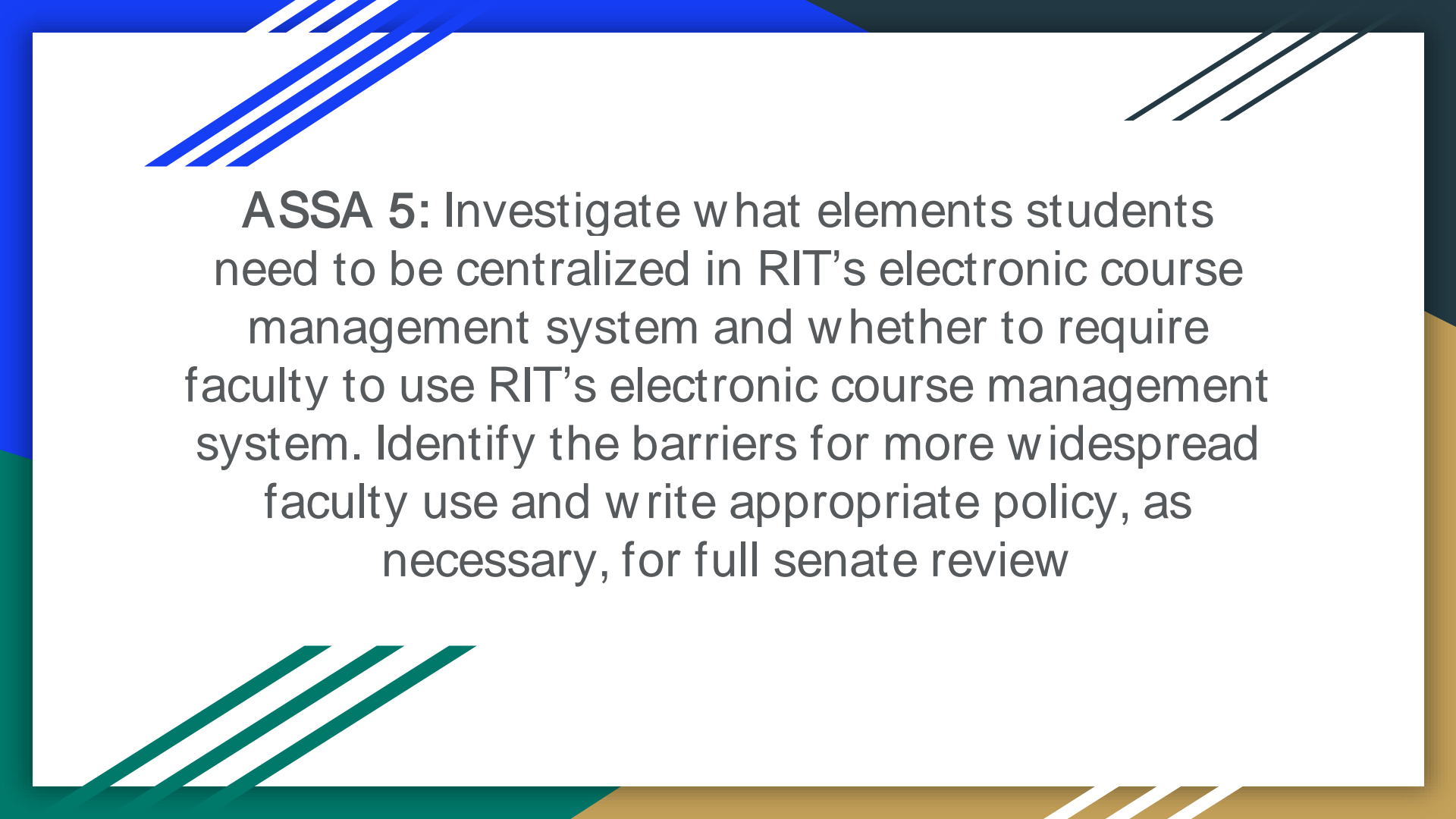
ASSA 4: Investigate the will for RIT to  
become a “Sanctuary Campus”

# Findings/ Recommendations

## Findings:

- A sanctuary campus is any college or university in the United States that adopts policies to protect members of the campus community who are undocumented immigrants.
- RIT's student diversity is an asset to the University. All students, regardless of country of origin or documentation status should feel safe at RIT.

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA recommends that RIT become a Sanctuary Campus. Next steps include determining the procedure for Sanctuary Campus designation.





**ASSA 5:** Investigate what elements students need to be centralized in RIT's electronic course management system and whether to require faculty to use RIT's electronic course management system. Identify the barriers for more widespread faculty use and write appropriate policy, as necessary, for full senate review



# Findings/Recommendations

- A very high percentage of students wanted grades, syllabi, course documents, and other information posted online.
- Many faculty did not know how to navigate MyCourses to the fullest extent.
- The proposed amendments to the policy mandate that faculty post a syllabus with a comprehensive grade breakdown, and post grades (within 2 weeks) on MyCourses.

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA recommends amendments to the D 5.8 Policy (Submission of Grades), provided as a separate attachment



**ASSA 6:** Assess how well faculty needs are being served by ITS. Investigate the appointment of a Faculty representative, “ITS Liaison” for the university or for each college





# Findings / Recommendations

5.5% Faculty Staff responded to an online survey to assess ITS satisfaction



- CAST, COB, KGCOE: very satisfied
- GCCIS, COS: moderately satisfied
- CHST, COLA: not satisfied, but sample size was small (n=7 and n=2, respectively).

- Respondants were skeptical about the usefulness of a liaison
- KGOE and COS already have liaisons, Jeanne Casares, the Associate Vice President and Chief Information officer, confirmed that she meets regularly with all Associate Deans

**RECOMMENDATION:** ASSA does not recommend additional action to designate college-level “ITS Liaisons”. Colleges without an existing liaison should communicate with their Associate Dean about ITS concerns.



**ASSA 7:** Investigate policies at other universities regarding a minimum time for students to consider job offers and make recommendations concerning whether RIT should have such a policy.



# Findings /Recommendations

- Students want to see a policy implemented.
- Positives of policy implementation include:
  - Students may be more satisfied with their job/coop if they had more time to make an acceptance decision
  - Students would have time to decide and deliberate additional offers if given a longer decision window
- Negatives of policy implementation include:
  - Some employers may choose to not recruit at RIT if a policy were adopted
- It was suggested that we do not implement this policy unless there is empirical evidence to support such a policy that this would benefit the University.
  - A student completed a research paper to compile policies from other Universities, results indicate that such a policy would benefit RIT students

**ASSA is unable to provide an informed recommendation at this time. Additional consultation with Career Services is warranted.**