

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

MINUTES OF INSTITUTE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT:

R. Allen, N. Boulais, D. Boyd, J. Connelly, M-B Cooper, B. Destler, J. Diaz-Herrera, J. DiCaro, M. Dwyer, E. Feeney Bushnell, I. Gatley, E. Holden, A. Hurwitz, G. Kist, J. Lisuzzo, S. Malinchoc, A. Manjrekar, K. Mayberry, C. McKenzie, S. McKenzie, E. Mineck, A. Moore, A. Ray, C. Richardson, P. Rosenberg, M. Sanchez, T. Sarchet, T. Schueler, P. Smarsh, J. Stone, L. Twyman, K. Waterstram-Rich, C. Williams, E. Wolf

MEMBERS ABSENT:

B. Barbato, R. Barnard, L. Cauda, F. Chinnock, C. Cornejo, M. Danna, S. Dianat, E. Esposito, D. Herrera, K. Ingerick, W. Koontz, J. Miller, H. Palmer, T. Policano, A. Roberts, J. Robinson, D. Stendardi, J. Tawakali, L. Verschage, J. Watters

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

J. Fisher, I. Hawryschuk (for J. Loffredo), L. Jones, J. Madonia (for F. Smith), D. Pecora, D. Soufleris, S. Widrick (for A. Rao), Interpreters: M. Bernard-Case, D. Oatman

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes from the December 5 and January 16 meeting were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Destler announced that the CAST building is finished, the HVAC system is being tested and their various faculty/staff will be moving in next week. Stan commented that they have the Certificate of Occupancy and are all set for move in. Dr. Destler remarked that there is fencing in place between the Golisano and Crossroads Buildings as this is the future site of the Administration Services and Innovation Center building. He commented that construction will begin soon on the Vignelli Design Center and Global Village (400 beds). He said that, this summer, the first group of Riverknoll buildings will be taken down. Dr. Destler asked Dr. P. Rosenberg to give a brief update on the Provost Search. Dr. Rosenberg announced that five finalists will be on campus next week. He said Monday's Open Forums are at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium. He said the candidates will be meeting with the governance groups, staff, Student Government, and Dean's Administrative Council. He remarked on the great pool of finalists we are interviewing. He asked that everyone visit the website to review the candidate's resume and to fill out the survey. Dr. Destler reviewed his alum travels which included San Francisco, San Jose, Palo Alto, Syracuse, and Washington, D.C., and his next trip will be to Florida. These trips include alumni events, corporate and donor meetings. During his visit to D.C., he spoke with representatives and senators regarding help in the upcoming budget session. He commented that the budget will be drafted by President Bush and then by the new President. He commented that he received strong support for RIT. Dr. Destler remarked that Ann Mulcahy, Xerox CEO, will present at the Presidential Colloquium and discuss sustainability in the corporate sector, plus there will be a major announcement. He said dying his hair orange to promote school spirit was a great success and he may consider making this a tradition. He commented on the March 11 press conference that will launch the PR campaign and announcement of the corporate sponsor for the Innovation and Creativity Festival. He commented that the budget hearings are in process this month. All divisions and deans will make their presentations to Dr. Destler, Dr. Watters, and Dr. McKenzie for new projects and continuing project budgets. He said we are working with a \$3M pool of funds for new initiatives. He ended by announcing that our student applications are up 1500 from last year.

CLA DEAN SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Joan Stone, dean, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, and chair, CLA Dean Search Committee, delivered the update on the search. She said they are following the Provost search by design and using the same search firm, Russell Reynolds Associates. She listed the search committee members. The new Provost will be involved in meeting with the new dean candidates. The website, <http://www.rit.edu/cla/deansearch>, went live last week. She strongly encourages everyone to nominate candidates who are the best people to do the job. Send nominations to CLA-Dean@russellreynolds.com. She said the Search Committee will begin reviewing applications on or around April 11th. The semi-finalist interviews will take place around April 24-25, and the finalist on campus interviews will take place May 5-12. Mr. Wolf asked if any students were on the search committee and Dr. Stone replied that C. Wong is a student.

RETENTION UPDATE

Dr. Kit Mayberry, vice president, Academic Affairs, discussed the history of the university-wide retention task force that she has chaired since 1999. She reviewed the '99-'00 benchmarks. She said this report consists of schools with similar programs, application cross-over, coop, and similar calendar. Dr. Mayberry reviewed the comparative graduation rates for 1999 vs. 2006 and explained the dramatic improvements. Georgia Tech and Northeastern switched from quarters to semesters. Ohio State initiated more competitive admissions during 2000-2003. She introduced another benchmark group that we use, the Association of Independent Technical Universities (AITU). These schools are vastly diverse in size and quality. Olin and Cooper Union are not included because their students receive full tuition. She commented that Webb is not included because it is too small and their spike appears large, but that is due to its small size. RIT has been fifth from the bottom all three years. Dr. Mayberry said the % 2007 1st Year Cohort in top 20% of high school class (AITU) are good predictors. She noted that Drexel's data is from 2002 as there is not data for 2007, yet. RIT is 6th from the bottom. Dr. Mayberry reviewed the bar chart showing the graduation rates for RIT's 7 colleges. She noted that there is consistency at the high and low ends. 1998 is first year entered and 2001 is not completely through the pipeline. The CIAS and COS graduation rates are consistently at top; the CAST and CLA are at the bottom. Dr. Mayberry reviewed the graduation rate goals based on 7 years for everyone and said that these goals were set prior to Dr. Destler's arrival. She noted the 2% increase for each entering year. Dr. Mayberry said the 2nd year (1st yr. who return for 2nd fall) for 2005 and 2006 increased by 1%. She compared the 2nd-year retention goals with Learning Communities actuals, and noted that the 2005-06 Learning Communities have far exceeded Dr. Destler's goals. We have already met the 90% goal that we are supposed to make with this year's 1st year cohort (in 2003). Dr. Mayberry mentioned the challenges including that 2003 was the smallest class between 1999 and 2007 (1945 vs. 2280 students this year, which is a 17% increase in size); in 2003, there were 32.4% 1st year students in top 10% of their high school class vs. 26.3%, which is a 19% decline (lowest top 10% in 13 years); note the reliability of high school rank as success/performance predictor; and the lowest combined SAT scores in 8 years, a less reliable predictor. She reviewed the 7 college attrition by year, showing what percentage we lose by year, and commented that there was not much change in attrition percentage in years 6 and 7. She remarked that there is a large 4th year difference which is due to the fact that we used to count students in AAS and those who didn't complete their degrees. She pointed out the 2nd year anomaly and the need to attend to year 2. She stated that RIT has 1500 students in Learning Communities and pointed out the success rate. She remarked on the success with the AIM program and assisting students in their 1st year. Dr. Mayberry mentioned that Syracuse has a full division for Student Success and Retention. They have an internal transfer program that deals with internal and poor performance transfers. Students, unless they are suspendable, are automatically accepted into another program on a 6 month to 1 year condition. Whereas, here, SCOB won't accept you if you are below a 2.2 GPA, which could mean a student would have to withdraw. She reiterated that there is a direct correlation between students you bring in and their success. Mr. Wolf commented that Northeastern converted to semesters and that could be the reason for their increased success in retention. He added, that on the quarter system, it is a huge concern if a student gets a D or an F. How do you get them quickly back on track freshman year? Dr. Mayberry replied that we are offering more repeat courses 2nd and 3rd quarters. She said that we met our goal of 1500 applications and with 17,000 undergraduate applications, we will transform this institution. Drexel increased applications by a huge amount and this contributed to their success. Dr. Destler thanked Dr. Mayberry for the thorough update.

IC-06-2008

ANTI-PIRACY TASK FORCE UPDATE

Dr. Mary-Beth Cooper, vice president, Student Affairs, described the role of the task force and introduced its members, Mr. Jim Fisher, Mr. Dave Pecora and Ms. Dawn Soufleris. She said that universities across the country are under pressure to stop the illegal copying of protected content. She commented that 19 universities, including RIT, have been targeted with warning letters. She said the issue is about copyright laws and she explained that copyright laws are designed to protect: artists, authors, musicians, playwrights, and software developers. Dr. Cooper introduced Mr. Fisher. Mr. Fisher discussed why this is a concern at RIT. He said we all need to understand our computer code of conduct and understand that copyright infringement is illegal and a violation of RIT policy. The university environment, people and resources have stake in protecting intellectual property. He said that 75% of our students surveyed said they have been involved in illegal downloading activity. Illegal peer-to-peer downloads consume costly bandwidth, along with costly staff resources expended. He said that, last year, we started the internal dialogue about copyright due to the Recording Industry Association of America's (RIAA) lawsuits against 400 plus students from over 140 universities, including 25 RIT students. Congress is involved and the reality cannot be ignored. Mr. Fisher said the task force was formed to make recommendations on improving awareness of copyright and to reduce violations on campus. The three areas of focus are awareness and education; responses to reported incidents; and technical measures. In February, the recording industry changed its process so we need to focus and address these issues. Ms. Soufleris discussed our need to educate and bring awareness to teach good judgment to our students. She said the majority of RIT initiatives regarding copyright are educational or informational in nature, including First Year Enrichment classes, Digital Self Defense seminars, legal music/movie subscription service, and the recent *Reporter* article about copyright issues. She explained the current notification process. DMCA notifications are sent to Ms. Donna Cullen of ITS, and she forwards these, via email, to the involved students. If three or more notices are received, the student is referred to Student Conduct. She commented that, mostly, students comply after the 1st and/or 2nd notice and no further action is taken. RIT receives 50-75 notices per week which is up 5-10 notices from last year. Ms. Soufleris said students met with administrators to and asked them to do more to make students aware of the issue and to improve the notification process. Dr. Cooper reviewed the new process that was recommended by the task force, effective March 10, the first day of spring quarter. The 1st DMCA notice-disconnection of the accused machine's access to the network; reconnection allowed via web page where student must acknowledge RIT policy; there is a 15 minute delay until re-connect occurs. The 2nd DMCA notice-disconnect access from network; allow back on via web page where student acknowledges RIT policy and schedules time in a seminar; one hour delay until re-connect occurs. The 3rd DMCA notice-Referred to Student Conduct; the machine is disconnected. Students are able to continue course work on library or lab computers until they fulfill the re-connect requirements. Mr. Pecora reviewed the technical measures that RIT is considering. He said the task force is investigating technologies that identify the transfer of copyright protected material. He emphasized that they want to protect copyright infringement, and did not want to prevent legal peer-to-peer transfers. He said the focus is on technologies that can separate illegal peer-2-peer from legal and legitimate peer-to-peer. They are investigating Audible Magic's product *Copy Sense*. This product can separate and identify a file transfer. They are still in the testing phase. He said any violations found via any technical means, would be treated using the same incident process described earlier. Dr. Destler suggested reviewing the results with legal counsel, Bobby Colon, to avoid potential significant implications. Mr. Fisher replied that we are in the evaluation stage and the task force will consult with Bobby Colon. Mr. Pecora sited additional resource links. Dr. Cooper recommended watching the video and to share the information with your families. Dawn said the video is not close-captioned, currently, but it will be. Dr. Cooper requested feedback on the process as it is an opportunity to give your valuable input.

Resources for additional information can be found at:

"What Do You Think"-Interviews with Students on Intellectual Property and Filesharing (University of Richmond): <http://law.richmond.edu/ipi/whatdoyouthink.htm>

Legal Alternatives: <http://legaldownloads.rit.edu>

Wikipedia – Comparison of Online Music Stores:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_online_music_stores

RIAA, MPAA sue students downloading files over Internet2:

<http://weblog.infoworld.com/techwatch/archives/001270.html>

IC-07-2008

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

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To be approved April 16, 2008