

**Newark Faculty Council**  
**Meeting of Monday, February 16, 2004**  
**CLJ - Provost Conference Room - 11:30 a.m.**  
**Minutes**

**I. Provost's Report**

Dr. Diner reported on the following matters:

- **Budget:** The Governor will deliver his budget message on February 24. President McCormick has been informed there will be no further cuts, but also no increases. He is aggressively lobbying for Rutgers and building constituency for the university.
- **Bond Issue:** The governor no longer supports the bond issue. If one does go through, it would probably be for capacity funding, not for research.
- **Post-restructuring:** The president has been meeting with representatives of the other institutions to discuss administrative disparities, particularly with UMDNJ and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital. Provost Diner and NJIT President Alenkirk have also met to discuss streamlining of administrative processes.
- **Housing:** The Board of Governors approved funding of a new 600 bed residence hall on University Avenue, with a possible December 2005 occupancy. Additional temporary housing for students is also being explored. The new residence hall will have some retail space as well. Additional parking is being considered.
- **Olson Hall:** A contractor has been approved for expansion of Olson Hall.
- **John Payne** has been named Distinguished Service Professor by the Board Of Governors.
- Dr. Diner will share results of a strategic assessment of Campus Police shortly.
- The 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the takeover of Conklin Hall will be commemorated in a ceremony on February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Minority Recruitment:** The deans have been asked for plans to increase minority representation in upper level faculty and staff.
- **A Student Services retreat** for the Newark campus is scheduled for February 27 with President McCormick.
- Gene Vincenti described the process for deciding upon emergency campus closings.
- The campus is discussing plans for 15 Washington Street with a new developer.

**II. Constituency Research Project**

Kim Manning-Lewis, Executive Director of University Relations, and Mark Schulman, President of the consulting firm, Schulman, Ronca and Bucalavas, Inc., described the project to study Rutgers' overall positioning in the State of New Jersey. Other universities are also attempting to learn how they are perceived by state residents.

Kim Manning-Lewis thanked Barbara Stern for serving on the Communications Advisory Committee. Mark Schulman noted that the study will separate residents into three regional groups. They have developed a questionnaire, the results of which may be available in the spring. The survey examines Rutgers as a brand name. Since the

university is facing competition from other schools such as Rowan and the College of New Jersey, it is important that people make a positive association with the name, within the state and beyond.

### **III. Newark Campus Final Exam Policy**

A draft of the Newark Campus policy on final exams was distributed. It restricts faculty from holding final exams during the semester. After opening the topic, it was evident that a larger discussion would be necessary. It was decided by majority vote to table the matter until the next meeting, but to continue an electronic dialogue until then.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2004 at 11:30 am in the Provost's Conference Room, CLJ, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.