

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, March 20, 2006
CLJ - Provost Conference Room – 11:30 a.m.
Minutes

In attendance: F. Bartkowski, J. Christian, M. Feighn, R. Jones, N. Mahon, I. Watson, A. Sadvnik, R. Stieglitz, M. Vasarehyli, S. Diner, M. Brown, G. Massenburg, C. Russell, M. Ryan, A. Torres, J. Friedland

I. Chair's Report: Alan Sadvnik (Vice-Chair) covered the following topics:

- **President's visit – April 17:** The president requested a list of topics the NFC would like him to address during his visit. A list which was prepared for his cancelled visit last semester will be posted on the Blackboard site. Please email any new suggestions to Dr. Sadvnik.
- **New Brunswick Undergraduate Programs Reorganization:** The faculty council needs to explore the budgetary ramifications the restructuring would have on the other campuses.
- **Subcommittee on All Funds Budgeting (J. Graham, S. Gifford, L. Zaborsky, D. Sclar and dt ogilvie) :** will reconvene shortly.
- **Rob Snyder (Journalism Program)** will run a student forum on the Newark elections next Wednesday during the free hour.

II. Provost's Report – Provost Diner discussed the following:

A. Budget Matters: Governor Corzine will deliver his budget address tomorrow. A cut of over \$100 million is expected for higher education. Deans and Associate Provosts have already been asked to examine ways to reduce funding in their units.

B. Vice Provost for Research – Dr. Lynn Schneemeyer will start in mid-April. She is a distinguished chemist who spent many years at Bell Laboratories and then was a program officer at the NSF.

C. NY Times matter – A student who applied as an intern at the NY Times was turned down for the job by one of the managing editors because he was recommended by Dr. Alan Wolper. Dr. Wolper has been critical of the NY Times in a column he authors for "Editor and Publisher" magazine. Dean Kirby wrote to the paper on behalf of the student. The Times has since sent an apology.

D. Middle States Reaccreditation: The theme for the Newark campus will be "Education in an Urban Setting". Three working groups will be formed:

- Admissions and Diversity (Who do we serve?)
- Undergraduate Education in an Urban Location (How does our location affect experiential learning and course content?)
- Research and Graduate/Professional Education in an Urban Context (How research centers combine urban locale and external environment – ie: Police Institute, Clinics, Nursing programs, etc.)

Dr. Diner explained that the central administration's request for an immediate response did not allow time to consult with the faculty and other key campus groups. Gary Roth will oversee the self-study to be written next year. The faculty council will be represented on the committee.

E. Construction/Real Estate:

- 1 Washington Park – The project is 95 percent toward being a reality. Most of the funding has been secured.
- 15 Washington – Four firms have submitted proposals to convert the former Law School building into graduate housing. One to two will be selected for

negotiations. A proposed parking deck behind the building on Essex Street will also have retail space.

- A Barnes & Noble is being considered for the space beneath Deck II.
- The Newark Public Library is planning a new wing and may coordinate on the new parking deck. The Newark Museum may also be part of this collaboration.

F. Deferred Maintenance: The university has allocated about \$2 million for deferred maintenance projects. The Newark campus has produced a list of about 15 projects, including roof upgrades, caulking, fire alarm maintenance, emergency lighting, sidewalk repairs, etc.

G. School of Public Affairs & Administration – A Senate committee will consider the proposal at its meeting this Friday.

H. Public Forum on the School of Public Affairs & Administration - April 17 – will be hosted by President McCormick and Provost Diner on the Newark Campus.

I. The RBS Dean Search is progressing nicely. A progress report was made to the president and provost by the search committee last week.

J. Global Affairs Division - One more candidate visit is scheduled. If no suitable candidate is identified, Professor Richard Langhorne has agreed to remain.

K. “Diversity Incorporated” magazine has switched headquarters from New Brunswick to Newark. They are looking to collaborate with RU-N by offering internships and providing the magazine free to faculty for a year.

L. Rutgers Night at NJPAC – March 29 – “Chicago”: Tickets are still available at a 20 percent discount. A private RU-N reception is scheduled post-performance.

<http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/events/ChicagoRutgersDiscount.pdf>

III Carnegie Communications Student Survey: The full survey is on the Faculty Council Blackboard website. An executive summary was distributed and is attached. Two groups were interviewed for the survey:

- A cross-section of NJ high school juniors and seniors with good academic records, who had not expressed an interest in attending RU-N. (prospects)
- Students already enrolled at RU-N. (RU-N students)

The prospect group found the Newark location unattractive. Minority students were less likely to respond negatively in this regard. RU-N students, however, rank diversity as an enormous asset and rate the campus highly. The prospect group wondered how they would fit in on such a diverse campus. Both groups recognized the high quality education and low cost as attractive features. Over 80 percent of current students said they would recommend the campus to others.

IV. President’s Visit April 17 – The questions prepared for the cancelled November visit of the President were discussed. John Graham and Alan Sadovnik will write up a new list and distribute it to the council. The President needs a list of topics in advance of his visit. The implications of the budget reductions and the upcoming marketing campaign are topic suggestions, as are diversity issues. Provost Diner noted that several “target of opportunity” faculty appointments have been approved by central administration, which absorbs a significant portion of salary cost. These are appointments that add to a unit’s diversity, not necessarily minority positions.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm. The next meeting, with President McCormick, is scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2006, at 11:30 a.m. in the Provost Conference Room, 123 Washington Street – 5th floor.