

**Newark Faculty Council**  
**Meeting of Monday, February 2, 2009 – 11:30 am**  
**Chancellor's Conference Room**  
**Minutes**

**Attending:** V. Atluri, G. Farney, S. Hall, J. Hyman, R. Jones, R. Snyder, F. Jordan, W. Ren, D. Sclar, M. Vasarhelyi, I. Watson, L. Zaborszky; G. Roth, G. Massenburg, S. Butterfield, A. Torres, C. Martancik, G. Vincenti, M. Winston, S. Diner, J. Friedland

**I. Chancellor's Report - Chancellor Steven Diner reported on the following matters:**

- **Budget** – Governor Corzine will not be presenting his fiscal message until March, so the details of the budget are not yet known
- **Enrollment/tuition:** It is believed that the recession will result in increased enrollment in public institutions since they are less expensive. That increase in turn may cushion the effect of anticipated budget cuts. The governor, who met with university presidents recently, indicated that there will not be a rescission in this current fiscal year.
- **The Obama Stimulus Package** includes items for higher education such as a facilities allotment for “shovel-ready” projects (1 Washington Park, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Dana).
- **Athletics in New Brunswick:** Asela Laguna has asked Dr. Diner to comment on how the changes in the New Brunswick athletics program (including the controversy over the dismissal of university athletic director Robert Mulcahy) will affect Rutgers University leadership. Dr. Diner noted that the Board of Governors is supporting the president and no changes are imminent.
- **American Council on Education:** The ACE Fellows program is an internship/training program for university presidents. Rutgers-Newark was chosen as the program's case study this year and the program's January seminar was based on the fellows' analysis of Rutgers-Newark. Next year, a more intensive study is planned, and since there will be more time for organizing, the project will most likely receive more publicity.
- **Study of Newark Public Schools** – Newark's new superintendent of schools, Clifford Janey, along with the Newark Charter Schools Fund's director, Stig Leschley, are partnering with Rutgers-Newark to find ways to establish a university research consortium on Newark schools based at Rutgers-Newark. Professors Paul Tractenberg and Alan Sadovnik have agreed to lead this project.
- **A Professional Development Program** has been established to encourage faculty to use diversity in the classroom as a pedagogical tool. Announcements have gone out for the first session on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- **Searches:** Semi-finalist candidates for the Law and Nursing dean searches are visiting the campus this month. A new search for dean of the School of Criminal Justice will be launched shortly to replace Dean Adam Graycar who will be returning to the faculty. Vice Chancellor for Development, Richee Smith, has resigned, and a search to replace her will begin shortly.
- **Future of University College:** In response to another concern voiced by the NFC Executive Cabinet, Gary Roth explained that enrollment in University College has declined drastically by many hundreds of students in the last 10-15 years. These students have been absorbed by NCAS.
- **Online Instruction:** Dr. Roth also addressed a question on where the campus is heading in this area, saying that graduate professional education has benefited

most from online education, with widespread use of the Blackboard course management system on this campus (rather than Sakai).

- Dr. Diner congratulated CoN Professor Rachel Jones for her much lauded work, recently publicized by the NY Times, producing soap operas to instruct about H.I.V. The videos can now be downloaded onto cell phones for women participating in the study.

## **II. Chair's Report: Vice-Chair Rachel Jones (in Asela Laguna's absence)**

- **Online Classes:** The NFC Executive Cabinet would like to encourage serious discussion on what other universities are doing with online education. CoN has a successful Ph.D. program online. It would be useful to spend the semester exploring this topic.
- **Wireless Service:** A draft memo to Newark Computing Services Director, Marie Botticelli, calling for expansion of current wireless access on campus, was approved unanimously. This was preceded by some discussion on how emergency messages would be communicated if cell phones were turned off in classrooms. It was agreed that there would be other means of communicating available in an emergency and it was also noted that only 40 percent of students subscribe to the current emergency call system. The NFC will ask Marie Botticelli to develop a budget plan for this project. It was noted that wireless access is not very expensive to install.
- The Executive Cabinet would also like to address the matter of whether faculty numbers would increase along with anticipated higher enrollment.

**III. Campus Space Reallocation Plan: Gene Vincenti** explained that the business school is scheduled to move to 1 Washington Park in the summer and the building will be fully functional by fall. RBS will be vacating space in five locations, including MEC, Ackerson Hall, Conklin Hall, Engelhard Hall, 49 Bleeker Street. The CoN and SPAA will benefit substantially from the move. The Office of Admissions may move into space vacated in Engelhard Hall, to be more centrally located. Other programs to benefit from the redistribution of space are the Division of Global Affairs, the Masters in Fine Arts program, and the Graduate School of Social Work. Efforts are being made to minimize costs as much as possible. Parking is also being considered, with lots to be utilized near 1 Washington Park.

**IV. New Business:** The University Senate will meet in Newark on February 27, 1:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm. The **next NFC meeting** will be held on **March 2, 2009**, 11:30 am in the Chancellor's Conference Room.