

Newark Faculty Council
<http://nfc.newark.rutgers.edu>
Meeting of Monday, October 3, 2011 – 11:30 am
Chancellor's Conference Room
Minutes

In attendance: J. Austin, P. Axel-Lute, E. Cadmus, A. Chebel-D'Appollonia, G. Frenkel, P. Piotrowiak, A. Powell, W. Ren, D. Sclar, G. Sodikoff, F. Sudit, T. Szatrowski; S. Diner, K. Dawkins, A. Gates, G. Massenburg, G. Roth, M. Ryan, M. Tamasco; M. Greathouse; J. Friedland

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

- **Budget:** The proposed state budget has been kept constant for Rutgers. However reductions have been made elsewhere. Over 300 state lines have been reclaimed, of which around 48 belonged to Rutgers-Newark. Since lines are linked to benefits, a reduction will result in less funds to cover negotiated pay raises. The Board of Governors' decision to cut the university proposed tuition increase from 3.8% to 2.0% will further add to the deficit. Chancellor Diner noted however that hiring would not be significantly affected by the smaller budget, however the campus would have to absorb the cost of benefits for new hires.
- **Rutgers/UMDNJ Merger:** The University of Medicine and Dentistry Advisory Committee (Barer report) recommended merging parts of UMDNJ and Rutgers in New Brunswick. The committee report also acknowledged the complexity of the Newark and Camden campuses, and left open the possibility of combining UMD and Rutgers-Newark. NJIT is not on the table at this point.
- **Preliminary Discussion on Newark Undergraduate Education Reorganization:**
 - **Graduate School:** Currently, PhD programs on the Newark campus are consolidated under the Graduate School-Newark, but the individual schools, with the exception of FASN, are responsible for their own Master's-level and professional programs. Under discussion: devolution of programs to the respective academic units, with interdisciplinary programs (across units) continuing in the Graduate School. Other possibilities include Coordinating Councils for PhD and Master's programs, respectively.
 - **Undergraduate programs:** Historically, NCAS and UCN were the exclusive undergraduate schools for all majors, except Nursing. Now RBS, SCJ, and SPAA all have responsibility for undergraduate programs. In addition, there is an increasingly strong potential connection between academic affairs and student affairs in the undergraduate experience. Campus-wide institutional research on undergraduate studies is becoming more important in order to respond to questions about institutional technology, community-based learning, student surveys, and the overall quality of student life. Recognizing this growing need, Chancellor Diner has begun discussions on the possibility of consolidating undergraduate programs and services under the office of a new Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education. Dr. Diner will meet with the FASN Council of Chairs and the FASN faculty to address their concerns. He noted that there is no proposal on the table yet and that the campus is only beginning a discussion on this matter.

- Housing: A consultant will be hired to address issues raised by the Rutgers Board of Governors relating to two new projects – the renovation of 15 Washington Street for graduate housing, and an undergraduate residence behind 15 Washington Street.
- US News & World Report: Rutgers-Newark has been named the most diverse university campus for the 15th year.
- New Faculty: 49 new faculty members were hired this year. They will attend an Orientation on October 17 to cover campus-specific matters not discussed by the individual schools, and a Reception on October 19, 2:30-4:30 pm in Ackerson Hall Lounge, to which the NFC members are invited.
- Division of Global Affairs New Director: Dr. Jean-Marc Coicaud, formerly Director of the United Nations University and a world-renowned scholar, started in September.
- Other Events: October 25, Veteran's Program, 2:00 pm Robeson Campus Center; October 12, Board of Governors meeting in Newark; October 26, 2:30 pm, Robeson Campus Center, Chancellor's annual address to the campus.

II. Chair's report: Fred Sudit reported on the following:

- NFC Subcommittees: Council members considered topics for the five subcommittees. The Academic Affairs committee will meet with Vice Chancellor Gary Roth to discuss how graduate programs might be coordinated across schools. The Budget and Planning committee will meet with Exec. Vice Chancellor Kemel Dawkins and Assistant Chancellor Mary Tamasco. Paul Axel-Lute described some of the matters that the Bylaws and Governance committee might handle this semester. For the Facilities and Services committee, Chancellor Diner noted that there will be a bond proposal on the ballot in November for which each campus developed a list of projects. Newark's projects were expansion of the Life Sciences building, updating of teaching labs, fitting out the remaining floors for the business school at 1 Washington Park, and finishing Dana's third floor. Members of the External Affairs committee were not present.

III. LGBTQ & Diversity Resource Center: Maren Greathouse is the Director of this new center. She noted that although Rutgers-Newark is the most diverse national campus, it is not necessarily the most inclusive. The Resource Center will provide a safe zone environment for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. It will strive to create a safe and supportive academic environment through educational opportunities and advocating for the needs and concerns of LGBT students. The new office will offer educational, social, and supportive programming, along with conducting training sessions and consultation, and will advise and instruct on all matters of diversity.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm. The next NFC meeting is on Monday, November 14, 2001, 11:30 am, in the Chancellor's Large Conference Room CLJ 590.