

Newark Faculty Council
<http://nfc.newark.rutgers.edu>
Meeting of Monday, November 14, 2011 – 11:30 am
Chancellor's Conference Room
Minutes

In Attendance: P. Axel-Lute, E. Cadmus, A. Chebel-D'Appollonia, G. Frenkel, A. Gilchrist, R. Oppenheim, P. Piotrowiak, D. Sclar, F. Sudit, T. Szatrowski, E. Velez; A. Gates, D. Hill, G. Roth, M. Ryan, S. Diner.

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

- Graduate School and undergraduate education reorganization will no longer go forward.
- FASN Dean Phillip Yeagle will become interim chancellor on December 24.
- International Institute for Peace (IIP) at Rutgers-Newark: Assistant sociology professor Aldo Civico is director and co-founder of the Institute, along with actor/humanist Forest Whitaker, who is the chairman. IIP at Rutgers-Newark was approved by UNESCO as a category 2 center. It was launched last May during the international Newark Peace Education Summit. Besides promoting international peace, the institute will research ways to end violence in local settings.
<http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/newscenter/2011/11/4087/>
- Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito will speak at the law school on November 15
- The American Conference on Diversity will hold its 11th Annual Statewide Conference on Diversity in Higher Education at Rutgers-Newark this Friday. Professor Clement Price is the keynote speaker.
- Chancellor's Community Engagement Awards are Thursday, December 15, 4:00 pm in the University Club of the Robeson Campus Center.

Discussion followed on these matters:

- UMDNJ merger with Rutgers-Newark – Dr. Diner noted that the merger is not necessarily a dead issue. The matter is still under discussion. A new committee report is due soon.
- Council members discussed to what extent the NFC might influence the merger discussions. It was decided that the NFC Executive Cabinet would send a letter to the BoG and the President expressing the council's concerns. A meeting with President McCormick was also suggested. Piotr Piotrowiak will draft the letter and circulate it to the council members.
- Dr. Diner suggested the council read existing documents on the merger:
 - Kean Committee Report <http://highereditaskforce.rutgers.edu/>
 - First report of the UMDNJ advisory committee.
- Council members expressed a desire to see the NFC become more proactive to better position the campus regarding the possible merger and other important issues.
- Housing: Two Newark projects have been on the table for some time. Following objections raised by central administration, a consultant was hired and recommended both projects be approved while interest rates and construction rates are still low. Negotiations continue.

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

On behalf of the NFC, Professor Sudit made the following resolution which was unanimously endorsed by the council members:

I'd like to personally recognize and express appreciation for Steve Diner's many contributions to the University and, particularly, to the Newark Campus and the City of Newark, as well as for his ongoing personal support for the faculty, staff and students of this campus.

Rosa Oppenheim, who was unable to be present, asked Dr. Sudit to read this statement:

I was very disappointed and dismayed by the surprising news of Chancellor Steve Diner's returning to the faculty. I would like to express my deep appreciation to Steve for his far-sighted vision for the growth and development of the Newark campus as an integrated part of the City of Newark. I would like to express my gratitude to Steve for his very inspired leadership.

III. Campus Research Update: Vice Chancellor Alec Gates reported as follows:

- **External Funding:** External funding through both federal and non-federal grants can help to alleviate the effect of cutbacks to educational support which is occurring nationwide. Rutgers-Newark is the second largest research university in New Jersey. Although our funding has increased (approximately \$31 million), we do not match the numbers obtained by many other comparable universities. For instance, the University of Massachusetts, with 15,000 students, raises approximately \$210 million. The University of Maryland-Baltimore with 13,000 students, raises greater than \$13 million. Rutgers-New Brunswick raises over \$400 million annually.
- The campus needs to make greater efforts to emphasize the need for external funding, mentor assistant professors, and create new initiatives,
- A redesign of the Research Office is being planned.
- Research communities and research groups can be formed across campus.
- Community of Scholars is an online forum site established on Blackboard.
- Industry – to establish a faculty committee and develop protocol which makes it easier for industry to collaborate with Rutgers-Newark.
- Spring Research Showcase –both the Chancellor's Research Day and the Undergraduate Research Day will be held in the spring semester. More students will be involved this year.

IV. Threat Assessment Team: This topic was deferred to another meeting.

- V. Other Business:** Dr. Chebel-d'Appollonia suggested that future meetings include discussions on issues particular to the campus such as how research funding is being used, student affairs, undergraduate and graduate education. The Academic Affairs committee met with Vice Chancellor Gary Roth to discuss these and other issues which are independent from the reorganization of the campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm. The next NFC meeting is on Monday, December 12, 2011, 11:30 am, in the Chancellor's Large Conference Room CLJ 590.