

**Newark Faculty Council**  
**Meeting of Monday, January 23, 2012 – 11:30 am**  
**Chancellor's Conference Room**  
**Minutes**

**In Attendance: J. Austin, E. Avakame, P. Axel-Lute, A. Chebel-D'Appollonia, G. Frenkel, A. Laguna, L. Mosher, R. Oppenheim, R. Patrick, P. Peterman, W. Ren, J. Ruggiero, D. Sclar, G. Sodikoff; P. Yeagle; J. Friedland**

**I. Chair's Report:** After welcoming remarks from Asela Laguna-Diaz, serving as Chair for this meeting, Interim Chancellor Philip Yeagle spoke to the Council. Dr. Laguna-Diaz dispensed with the Chair's report for this meeting.

**II. Chancellor's Report:** Dr. Yeagle noted that he will be delivering a campus address on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm in the Robeson Campus Center, so for this meeting he will concentrate on a few important items. The following matters were considered:

- With a desire to promote faculty governance and to reserve NFC meetings exclusively for faculty discussion, Dr. Yeagle has asked the Chancellor's staff not to attend the meetings. The Council may invite anyone from his staff at any time to answer questions or provide information when needed.
- A national search for a new Chancellor will be held in about a year and a half, after a new university president is selected. To set the stage for this search Dr. Yeagle would like to identify major issues, deferred maintenance projects, and offices and services which need immediate attention. This will position the campus as an integral member of Rutgers University and continue to build on campus accomplishments. The Newark campus has stellar faculty, students, programs and schools which need to be promoted and supported. He would like to focus on substantive opportunities for Newark to benefit from New Brunswick, rather than concentrate on areas of conflict, and proudly celebrate the Newark campus' unique strengths.
- Council members were pleased to have input in setting goals for the campus and recommending facilities upgrades. It was noted that the campus used to have a 'beautification committee' composed of faculty, staff and administrators. The NFC would welcome having a more proactive role in these and other matters.
- It was suggested that the NFC standing committees created last year might serve to provide feedback on topics such as deferred maintenance and campus goals.
- Last semester the Academic Affairs subcommittee examined the possibility of revising the grading structure in an effort to combat grade inflation, which is also an ongoing faculty concern. Meetings held with the Chancellor's staff last year were not productive. Asela Laguna reported that the University Senate had also discussed changing the grading system but did not resolve the issue. Rosa Oppenheim noted that RBS changed its grading system several years ago - a multi-year process which required approval by the Senate, and the BoG Education,

Planning and Policy Committee. The Law School also has a different grading system. Dr. Yeagle suggested the council prepare a document for review by Vice Chancellor John Gunkel.

- The NFC also sought input last year on impending changes at Rutgers University, particularly the merger of UMDNJ with Rutgers-New Brunswick, and similar changes proposed for the Newark campus by Chancellor Diner. Piotr Piotrowiak had volunteered to draft a letter in this regard to President McCormick.
- Dr. Yeagle explained that the governor has received the second UMD Advisory Committee (Barer) report. The first report included the recommendation to merge the medical school with Rutgers in New Brunswick. The second report supports that merger, but does not suggest radical changes to higher education in Newark, although it does recommend merging the Rutgers-Camden campus into Rowan University.
- Changes in the Chancellor's Office: Dr. John Gunkel is now Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs and Services, replacing Gary Roth. His responsibilities will be the same as Dr. Roth's, however Dr. Yeagle would like to appoint a separate Graduate School Dean to be a strong voice for graduate education on the Newark campus. The former 'Deans Only' meeting which was held in addition to the general Deans' Council, is being replaced by a more proactive Chancellor's Advisory Committee to include deans, Vice Chancellor for Administration Kemel Dawkins, Assistant Chancellor for Budget Mary Tamasco, Vice Chancellor for Research Alec Gates, and Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs John Gunkel.
- The Council discussed which standing committees to assign to discuss the topics of Deferred Maintenance and Campus Goals. It was suggested that the Academic Affairs committee might consider revising the Campus Goals text on the campus website, since a new campus website will be going live soon:  
<http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/provost/index.php?sId=goals>  
The Facilities and Maintenance subcommittee could consider Deferred Maintenance projects. NFC members not serving on these two committees can join either group. Dr. Yeagle would like feedback before the end of the semester. An email will be sent requesting NFC members to volunteer for either of the two advisory groups.
- Dr. Laguna noted that the NFC was also interested in budgetary matters as it relates to the university and the Newark campus, and the Council had examined this topic at length a few years ago. The Council would like to reopen a discussion on All-Funds Budgeting, where the campus stands, and how it will operate going forward. Dr. Yeagle said he would be happy to meet with the Budget and Planning subcommittee. The first meeting could possibly be an overview of All Funds Budgeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm. The next NFC meeting is scheduled for **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, 11:30 am** in the Chancellor's Conference Room, CLJ 590. (Please note this has been changed from February 27<sup>th</sup>).