

University Senate Minutes September 12, 2014, 2:00-3:15 in Rowan Hall Auditorium

ATTENDEES: Terri Allen, Herb Appelson, Mayra Arroyo, Nathan Bauer, Lori Block, Kate Boland, Robert Bullard, Allison Carter, Joe Cassidy, Zachary Christman, Carol Eigenbrot, Jess Everett, John Feaster, Jon Foglein, Bill Freind, Barbara Fralinger, Lori Getler, Michael Grove, Steve Hartley, Sean Hendricks, Erin Herberg, Kit Holder, Joseph Johnson, Valarie Lee, Michael Lim, Charles Linderman, Roberto Madero, Julie Mallory-Church, Deb Martin, Thomas Merrill, Marge Morris, Jennifer Nicholson, Marie Perez-Colon, Bruce Plourde, Ravi Ramachandran, Robert Rawlins, Beth Rey, Sheri Rodriguez, James Roh, Lane Savadove, Mariano Savelski, Ted Schoen, Molly Sheppard, Christopher Simons, Michele Soreth, Dawn Specht, McKenzie Suber-Robinson, Uma Thayasivam, Chris Thomas, Harold Thompson, Ozge Uygur, Tim Vaden, Tingting Wang, Charlene Williams, Shari Willis

GUESTS: Alan Shienbaum (SOM)

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: (Represented by Alternates) Eric Milou represented by Robert Wieman, Marilena Olguta Vilceanu represented by Gina Audio, Jon Olshefski represented by Keith Brand.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Dinzeo, Tom Doddy, Danielle Gougou, Karlton Hughes, DeMond Miller, Skeff Thomas

1. Approval of agenda: moved, seconded, approved
2. Introduction of visitors: Alan J. Shienbaum, MD, SOM
3. Approval of minutes from May meeting: moved, seconded, approved
4. Open Period – President Houshmand

The president provided an overview of the update given at the Board of Trustees meeting earlier in the week. Enrollment figures are up. This year we had 24,000 applicants, 10,000 of these were for the medical school. We have 2460 new students this fall with the overall profile of the incoming class significantly improved. SAT scores are higher and this also includes the largest, most diverse student body ever at RU. Housing is at maximum capacity (111%), 80% of those who tripled this year requested this type of housing, other 20% reluctantly. We have a new building project (across from Barnes & Noble) and these consist of four components - 1st floor health facility (Cooper and Inspira are partnering), retail space on the remaining first floor, other floors will contain apartments/housing for students, faculty/staff members, and the public and this includes an additional 400 student beds. Dr. Houshmand continued to explain the partnership agreement with the developers and the desire to expand this model as it provides additional housing and retail space. This model also allows Rowan to use funding for academic buildings and projects on campus including a \$4.35 million budget to relocate athletics practice fields to Rowan's West Campus, a new building for the Rohrer College of Business and College of Engineering. The relocation of the fields and elimination of the tennis courts will provide additional parking.

Additional projects include: Renovations to the former First Camden National Bank building on the Camden Campus and for Rowan to lease the former bank building in Glassboro. The

former floors of the Rowan Camden campus have been returned to Camden County College. The building at 6 East High Street in Glassboro will be the new home for the College of Communication & Creative Arts. Rowan is currently awaiting final approval from Lockheed Martin for a new research building and 2 additional tenants are possible. There is some talk with AT&T as a possible candidate. Potential developers are constantly contacting Dr. Houshmand requesting to work with RU. Our reputation and ranking are all fine. No cuts of any sort in academic affairs will occur. With regard to fundraising - 10 million dollar fundraising with an additional 2 million per year anticipated. Additional fundraising is needed to offset costs from the state of New Jersey. Update on partnership with RCGC. Nursing building is currently in construction which will eventually include: BSN, MSN and perhaps Doctoral nursing programs. Other new doctoral programs include: Engineering, Psychology, and Education. Our research is also gaining speed with \$29 million in research - including SOM and Camden Medical School. Finally, Dr. Houshmand would like to make Rowan University the headquarters for the Unified Olympics.

Questions?

What is the grant total from last year? *29 million dollars.*

Why is there a need to develop housing for profit with outside partners? *Currently, Rowan University receives a \$1,000 per bed net profit for housing but this does not include maintenance costs. With outside developers we don't need borrow as much and have fewer obligations. This allows us to borrow for other things like academic buildings. My (Dr. Houshmand's) core mission - how do I provide for the students and academics? This gives us nicer buildings, safer buildings and frees up money for academic buildings.*

What are the expectations for class size for next year? *Hope class size doesn't grow and we anticipate about the same numbers for next year. Rowan can't afford to increase student size next year. We are ahead of numbers and want to increase quality of education.*

Comment: The student population is still growing because we will now have such a high number of sophomores along with freshmen next year. *Yes, want to get some of these students through RCGC.*

Does that affect the future of Rowan Select? *We want to push the majority of Rowan Select towards RCGC.*

Students have concerns regarding overcrowding in the dining hall, parking, etc.? - *Parking is not a legitimate concern for freshmen, since they do not have cars on campus. Practice fields will become additional parking. We need to utilize the West campus and will do everything we can to use some of the parking that is not frequently used. Employees are encouraged to do whatever possible over the next two years (use other parking areas not currently being overly utilized) to relieve the parking pressure until it eases.*

Neighborhood and developments - is the city making plans to expand/redirect Rt. 322? *Complete diversion is the solution and many discussions have been ongoing. Money is also available. The biggest problem is where it should be diverted to. One suggestion is to go to the state - take over that portion of 322. Road signs are being created to alert those driving to the campus to take another route to the campus.*

5. President's report

a. Introduction of Senate officers: Deb Martin (Vice President), Beth Rey (Secretary), DeMond Miller (Parliamentarian) – Parliamentarian must be voted on by membership. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

b. 2013-2014 Senate Schedule (page 2)

c. Update on Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the Rowan Core

Business: Joel Rudin

Education: Holly Willett

Engineering: Ralph Dusseau

CCCA: Fred Adelson, Drew Kopp

CHSS: Marilyn Manley, Bruce Plourde

CSM: Chris Simons, Mike Grove (Chair)

CPA: No volunteer yet

Update – Lourin Plant, Music department will represent for CPA. Mike Grove added the committee will be hosting several open forums with date/times TBA.

d. Rowan Camden to become part of CGCE: CGCE is now Division of Global Learning and Partnerships.

e. Update on Sabbatical Leave: Mariano Savelski – Main difference from last year are the deadlines. Updates are on the faculty center website - October 15th new deadline, only one application copy is needed (no longer to submit 10 copies). Deb Martin will offer workshops to assist with application process. The chances of achieving sabbatical is challenging - many applicants are expected. This cycle year is funded but the next year is unclear (contract year – previous contract year there was a lag with the new contract being approved. Sabbaticals were not honored without the contract). The Intent to Apply sheet lists about 56-57 semesters that could be requested for Sabbatical.

f. Update on Parking: Lot A scheduled to close in November; Lot M1 scheduled to close in Spring 2015. Football and soccer practice fields will be used for parking. Suggestion was made: permit parking in Lot M - by James Hall - used to be gated suggested to make it gated again?

g. SATs to become optional – This will become largely optional with exceptions. Applicants will need to have a 3.5 GPA to have this excluded. Engineering majors and Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) applicants will still need to submit SAT scores.

h. Update on College of Communication and Creative Arts - classrooms, Art Gallery and dean's office will be moving to High Street. This will expand the campus further out. One problem is walking from High Street to the other side of campus. Currently takes 12-13 minutes at a steady pace. Shuttle service is needed and coming soon.

5. Update on Budget (Chris Simons) – 2,000+ new freshmen and this includes Rowan Select. The increased student numbers results in 12 Million extra dollars. Some of this money is being borrowed for some of the new construction. Rowan is also refinancing the 2006 bond and borrowing an additional \$25 million for new projects. A significant portion of the money is being added to the reserves in the endowment.

6. Senate Committees

a. Vote on Rick Dammers as Chair of Tenure and Recontracting Committee – Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

b. Ratification of Senate Committees (separate file) – new at large senate executive committee member is needed. Dawn Speck agreed to fill this role. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

c. Reminder to Committee Chairs: Please use videoconferencing capabilities if you have committee members who do not work on the Glassboro campus.

7. First reading on Resolution to Reauthorize University Scheduling System (page 3) – this resolution was created with a sunset provision. The committee will be reauthorized and is looking at software to help with scheduling for large departments. Currently, classrooms being used for specific purposes (i.e. labs) and should not be listed are. Please send a specific list of your classrooms which should not be listed to Bill.
8. New business – Comment: we are now required to take D's (letter grades) from transfer students? 30 credits are required now for a Rowan degree? Bill - 30 credits is true D's are required by the departments unless there are specific requirements for GPA. The President is trying to smooth the path to graduation due to pressure from parents and politicians. President wants to get out in front of this. There is a need to hire more advisors under the President's new initiative. This will involve flat tuition for 4 years (8 semesters). Students can pay more if they need to go beyond this time frame. Another option will be a General Studies degree (or other title) if the student wants to be finished.
Comment: Many students with such high, incoming credits are transfers and they change their major.
Comment: During Orientation (8/29/14), advisors advised properly. Problem is when the student went to register and was unable to get the classes due to them all being filled. We have too many students and not enough resources.
Comment: Online summer class taught jointly with RU and Stockton. 96 students registered with 63 finishing the class. This would be nice to have ongoing for students who need to make up credits.
9. Adjournment – (3:12 p.m.)