

University Senate Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2015, 2:00-3:15 in Rowan Auditorium

**ATTENDEES:** Terri Allen, Herb Appelson, Nathan Bauer, Nasrine Bendjilalli, Robert Bullard, Zachary Christman, Jess Everett, John Feaster, Jon Foglein, Bill Freind, Diane Garyantes, Michael Grove, Steve Hartley, Sean Hendricks, Erin Herberg, Kit Holder, Karlton Hughes, Joseph Johnson, Valarie Lee, Michael Lim, Charles Linderman, Roberto Madero, Deb Martin, Tom Merrill, DeMond Miller, JT Mills, Marge Morris, Jon Olshefski, Kelley Perkins, Bruce Plourde, Ravi Ramachandran, Robert Rawlins, Beth Rey, Sheri Rodriguez, James Roh, Chanelle Rose, Lane Savadove, Ted Schoen, Molly Sheppard, Alan Shienbaum, Laura Shinn, Christopher Simons, Michele Soreth, Dawn Specht, Chris Thomas, Skeff Thomas, Tim Vaden, Marilena Vilceanu, Shari Willis

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** (Represented by Alternates) Joe Cassidy and Tom Doddy represented by Jay Accorsi, Zachary Christman represented by John Hasse, Lori Getler represented by Christine Larsen-Britt, Eric Milou represented by Bethany Gummo, Jennifer Nicholson represented by Xia Liu, McKenzie Suber-Robinson represented by JT Mills, Shari Willis represented by Peter Rattigan.

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayra Arroyo (second consecutive absence), Lori Block, Allison Carter, Barbara Fralinger, Ane Johnson (2nd consecutive absence), Julie Mallory-Church (second consecutive absence), Maria Perez-Colon (second consecutive absence), Mariano Savelski, Uma Thayasivam, Harold Thompson, Ozge Uygur (second consecutive absence), Tingting Wang, Charlene Williams.

1. Approval of agenda – moved, seconded, approved - meeting began at 2:03 p.m.
2. Introduction of visitors – no visitors
3. Approval of minutes from March meeting – Motion made, seconded, approved.
4. President's report
  - a. SVP of Advancement Search – Candidates will first meet with President Houshmond, then committee. 3 candidates have already met with the President. Tobey Oxholm has asked faculty and staff to forward any questions candidates should be asked.
  - b. Senate Diversity Committee Award Ceremony will be held on April 17th @ noon - Student Center Pit
  - c. Budget update (Chris Simons) – In less than 2 weeks new student housing in X lot will begin. This construction will result in no cost to the University. There is a moderate surplus in this FY due to the increase in students and a decrease in hiring at the medical schools. State cut 3.8% in their allocation for next year. This is the smallest cut in the state. Current surplus should help offset the decrease in funding. A tuition increase of slightly more than 2% for FY 16 should balance budget.

Program Review updates (DeMond Miller) – Committee has begun the process of first round of drafts. Program review task force will have the following process:

1. Issue findings to Jim Newell who will share with college dean.
2. The dean will meet with program coordinators to discuss findings.
3. Findings will go back to Jim with suggestions.

Questions being used include: Is the program healthy? Is the program relevant and will it remain relevant? Does the program have a competitive advantage? Is there an overall strategic relevance? Will the program have the means to meet

program needs over next 5 years? If investment can't be made what other options are there to support the program?

Committee is on phase 1 - all departments will undergo this review eventually.

Questions:

Q - When will phase 2 start? A - Unsure - anticipated department may be notified by end of summer or fall

Q – Do you anticipate programs will be closed down this spring? A - Not my decision, it is confidential.

Bill – I have asked the provost to give advance warning if they are planning to eliminate a program.

Q – There is a rumor that Africana Studies could be eliminated. What have you heard? A - Bill wants to meet with the program directors for further discussion as it's premature to cut this program for many reasons.

Q - Will results be released to the faculty of those identified programs prior to Jim's review? There is fear that there will be no recourse for programs. A - DeMond has proposed this to the committee but right now, this is not on the flowchart sequence.

A – This is extremely problematic – departments have not told what the problems are, timeline is not realistic. Results will be different for every department and this is something you can't compare. What does it mean to be vital? No idea what the metrics are. Programs vs. department are the proper way to show if a department is healthy. This should be departmental based and not program based. Small programs are being told to assess first but there are not enough resources to do this.

d. Senior faculty on personnel committees - Full professors need to participate. Tenure & Recontracting wants to double the size of committee. University Assembled - all faculty should attend these. For shared governance to work, faculty and staff must show up! This fall there will be a joint meeting with provost, AFT, Senate, and Bob Zazzali, to discuss standards for tenure. Applicable criteria are what is approved at time of hire, and this will not change for the candidate.

5. Open period 2: Richard Jones, Vice President of Student Life/Dean of Students  
Richard has worked for RU since 2008 and this is his 1st time meeting with Senate.  
Power Point presentation will be sent out to all senate members via email.

- Student life is in the business of mentoring students and making a transformational experience at RU. This includes values, leadership and choices.
- Core values of student life - Inclusiveness, Integrity, Leadership, Service, and Collaboration.
- There are a plethora of student needs on campus.
  - Student Life Programming Council - to help students make safe choices.
  - Wellness Center - Winnans Hall – located intentionally in center of campus to de-stigmatize the need to get help (mental and physical).

Current Initiatives for students -

Leadership Rowan - [www.rowan.edu/rowanrewards](http://www.rowan.edu/rowanrewards)

Co-Curricular transcript - 3 tiers total

Passport Program - gets students together

RU Reading Together - Garbology by Edward Humes is the book chosen for Fall 2015 (send Richard an email if interested in leading a book group discussion on this).

STAT policy/team - will try to triage the student to get him/her help

Student Life Website has a button on all pages which links to all policies

RU a lifesaver program

Other new programs/initiatives –

New Cafeteria – Fall 16 - 1400 bed facility for our students - Number of students wanting to live on campus is growing.  
Let's grab coffee (Julie Peterson) - series of programs with Melanie Cloyd - dealing with difficult parents and students  
SJICR  
The Card Office  
220 Rowan BLD  
Title IX - Summit – to be held in June  
Senior Send Off - Party Student Center Patio  
Back to the Boro 2015

Q - Groups of students lack the skills of activism and are going directly to the Board of Trustees meetings rather than navigating the system first. Students want to be part of change but don't know how to correctly do this. A – I agree

Q - CMC – what is the current situation? A – There was a revamping of the position this has been posted this morning (4/10/15).

Linda Daley - retiring July 1st (will take unused time – leaving in May)

6. Curriculum report - Medical Social Science Concentration - approved – no opposition, no abstentions.
7. Constitution amendment to add ¾ time faculty to department constituencies for Senate representation (page 2)

Comment – This excludes so their voices will not be heard.

Comment – Can 3/4 time faculty already serve as senate members? Answer – Yes, currently serve as senate members. Some have been faculty members for 15-20 years.

8. Task Force to Investigate the Feasibility of Becoming a Tobacco-Free Campus (page 3)

Q - No faculty to be represented on committee? A - Co-chairs must be faculty.

Motion made, - approved - 1 opposed, 1 abstention

9. New business – none
10. Old business – Deb Martin – will collect any additional questions for Richard Jones. Please send them to her.
11. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 3:10p.m.