Newark Faculty Council
Minutes
Meeting of Monday, April 8, 2002 - 11:30 a.m.
Provost’s Conference Room - CLJ - 5th floor


I. Chair’s Report
Virginia Tiger asked that the Provost give his report first, particularly to offer details on the status of the Presidential Search Committee.

II. Provost’s Report: Dr. Samuels discussed the following matters:

- Dr. Samuels informed the council of Harvey Feder’s heart attack and indicated that he is recuperating well.
- Steven Diner, Dean of FASN, will be serving as Acting Provost as of July 1st. Dean Diner is an urban historian and is very knowledgeable about faculties and universities. He has developed strong relationships with corporate and civic entities. A full search will begin in late fall so the new provost may be appointed by the new president.
- Regarding the Presidential Search Committee, nominations have been received from various faculties, student operations and other university constituencies. The BoG meeting on April 12th will announce the committee’s composition. Dr. Samuels noted that Rutgers is expected to attract high level candidates since this is a first-class university.
- Budget - The broad budget message handed down by the governor gives few specifics as to cuts. The University is still honoring commitments for salary increases of approximately $20 million. Although the governor’s announcement did not bode too badly for Rutgers, we will still not be receiving any new funds, delays in payments for committed dollars are to be expected, and there is no certainty about the next fiscal year.
- An early retirement program has been recommended by the State. There may be a risk with this type of program that position lines will be removed as staff retire.
- Newark experienced a $1.5 million state budget cut. There were about 15 layoffs, but most will be placed in other positions and academic programs have been protected. Some campus programs were curtailed and a few service areas were streamlined. The Administration is considering a 10% tuition increase.
- CAPs - the program was taken off the table.
- Enrolment - the Newark campus spring semester figure was high and applications are up. There is a good chance the Newark campus will exceed 10,000 students in the fall. The Honors College has helped attract students.
- Presidential Advisory Committee - meets next Friday. Topics to be discussed include the budget and retirement (separate from early retirement issues).
– A question was raised on the handling of FASIP awards by the deans. The provost said he is addressing these concerns.
– College of Nursing Dean Search - is moving along on time. Approximately 125 nurses graduate from RU-N each year and applications are holding steady, but not enough to make a dent in the nursing shortage, projected to worsen in coming years. It is important, therefore, that a strong Nursing program be maintained.

III. Resolution - passed unanimously:

“The Newark Faculty Council wishes to convey to Dr. Harvey Feder their very best wishes for a speedy recovery.”

IV. New Business
– A reminder about a Symposium on Scholarship.
– Suggestion to invite Dean Diner to the next NFC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting will be on Monday, May 13, 2002 in the Provost Conference Room, CLJ Fifth Floor, at 11:30 a.m.