Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, February 1, 2010 – 11:30 am
Chancellor’s Conference Room
Minutes


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

- **Budget:** Governor Christie will deliver the State budget message in March, so the budget status is still unknown.

- **American Council on Education (ACE):** The ACE group that visited Rutgers-Newark this August had a very positive reaction to the campus. They were assigned to study how the campus makes use of student diversity and community engagement. Dr. Diner and Chancellor’s Fellow, Suzanne Piotrowski, attended a presentation of the group’s reports in San Diego last month. Chancellor Diner was also asked to write an article for the ACE magazine. Some of the suggestions made by the teams were:
  - There is a need for a diversity outcomes assessment. Assistant Chancellor Mark Winston is spearheading efforts to track how the campus’ diverse population affects learning, jobs, and community interactions.
  - There is a need to give attention to other types of diversity such as age, gender, and veterans.
  - The R-N website does not adequately portray the campus excitement regarding diversity.
  - More needs to be done to establish and strengthen global partnerships.
  - Call for a Center for Immigration (already initiated).
  - More attention should be paid to diversity in the curriculum.
  - To establish an external community advisory board. Chancellor Diner noted that there is an informal group of outside advisors which he may consider formalizing.
  - Establish a one-credit seminar for freshmen on community issues.

- **Committee on Community-Based Learning:** Suzanne Piotrowski has conducted a survey of community-based learning activities across campus, the results of which will help the committee determine how best to expand and keep track of these efforts. NFC members Rachel Jones, Ian Watson and Joel Caplan are members of the committee. A report will be given to the Chancellor by the end of the semester.

- **New Campus Housing:** The Essex Street parking lot behind 15 Washington Street is being considered for a new dormitory. We are also talking with
developers about the building at 15 Washington Street, which may be renovated to house graduate students and some visiting faculty.

- **New Dean - School of Criminal Justice:** Distinguished criminal justice scholar and former Rutgers professor Todd Clear will begin as dean of the School of Criminal Justice on March 1.

- **Search for Executive Vice Chancellor:** A national search firm has been hired to find a replacement for Gene Vincenti.

- **Upcoming Campus Events:**
  - The Board of Governors will meet in Newark this month.
  - February 23 – Distinguished Faculty Lecture. Prof. Mark Weiner of the Law School will speak on “Clan, Culture, and the Concept of Law – Lessons from Iceland” at 4:00 in the Robeson Center Multipurpose Room. A reception will follow.
  - February 26 – University Senate meets in Newark.
  - April 22 – Chancellor’s Research Day.

- **Discussion on Diversity:** Council members discussed ways to better evaluate how campus diversity is perceived. Also discussed:
  - Recommended to review and update course evaluation forms, student exit surveys, alumni questionnaires and employer surveys.
  - How to promote the diversity of our students to funnel them into graduate programs which may be less diverse.
  - To determine where students go after graduation.
  - Encourage students to pursue higher education as a career.

II. **Chair’s Report:** Rachel Jones led a discussion on the follow-up questions which were sent to President McCormick after his visit in December. It was suggested that VP Furmanski be asked about the format of the meeting and to provide an advance draft of his presentation for the NFC to review, since he and VP Winterbauer will only be able to attend the meeting for one hour.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm. The next meeting of the Newark Faculty Council will be on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 11:30 am in the Chancellor’s Conference Room, 5th Floor, CLJ.