

President Mercer welcomed the group. Members introduced themselves.

Approval of March 4, 2016 Minutes

The minutes were not discussed.

President’s Report

President Mercer discussed the significance of a Values Statement noting that it is much more difficult today to maintain a consistent values posture in light of social media and the current news cycle. Two recent incidents that point to the intersection of values, social media, and public positioning including a recent altercation between two students that was inflated by and reported in some media outlets as a “knife fight” and a student-organized BBQ that has been characterized by some media outlets as liberal collegiate anti-Americanism. He added that we cannot trust, by default, the representations that are made about the College in the media, this means that we have a responsibility to one another to correct misinformation and to take special effort ourselves to convey information fairly. He concluded that nothing can take the place of our own vigilance.

Values Statement

Dean Perry presented the values statement noting that he and Professors Suarez and Cassidy incorporated feedback from the PAC regarding the content and structure of the statement. He read the draft statement. Discussion ensued regarding feedback from constituent groups. It was agreed to maintain the statement with one change: the third bullet was revised to read “Respecting each other and our environment—we are an open, inclusive, supportive, and sustainable community.”

The group voted unanimously in support of the statement as follows:

Ramapo College is the Public Liberal Arts College of the state of New Jersey. The work of the College and its members is conducted with integrity. Our values are:

- Teaching, learning, and mentoring—we are actively engaged in and out of the classroom.
- Developing the whole person—we are scholars, we are creators, we are local and global citizens, and we are individuals.
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Respecting each other and our environment—**we are an open, inclusive, supportive, and sustainable community.**

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**Implementation Plan for Values Statement**

Vice President Davey presented a series of strategies and ideas around the implementation of the Values Statement, the full detail of her presentation is available in the PPT file on Ramapo.edu/president/pac. Some highlights of her presentation include:

- A launch event on Founders’ Day
- Posting/displays across campus: wall signage, screen savers, mousepads, college calendar, publications, hold.com message, etc.
- She also described a series of interpersonal activities critical to the successful implementation and demonstration of the Values Statement.

Professor Bautis asked that some increased funds be designated to drive the implementation of the values particularly those that lend themselves to fostering an inclusive and creative environment. Vice President Davey and President Mercer noted the comment adding that it is sensible to begin redirecting resources to endeavors that demonstrably represent the values statement. Ms. Stark requested that the graphic of the Statement be made accessible to the campus so that it can be woven into other internal platforms. Other suggestions shared by the group included grant allocations based on the Values, and presenting the values in job postings and ID cards.

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**Old Business**

There was no old business.

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**New Business**

**Agenda items for 11/18/16:** Chief of Staff Goldstein asked the group for agenda items for the PAC’s November 18, 2016 meeting. The group suggested that it engage on the topics of the Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Compliance and smoking on campus. Members were asked to contact their representative stakeholder groups to also solicit agenda items.

**Meeting schedule:** Secretary Goldstein shared that some members have reported conflicts with the PAC meeting schedule and, as evident at today’s meeting, many have sent substitute representatives. The group agreed not to change the meeting schedule but to continue to encourage the participation of substitute representatives.

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**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at noon.

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