

MINUTES

Ramapo College Board of Trustees

Deans' Council

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Thursday, October 3, 2019, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

AC 202

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the 9/17/19 meeting were approved.

B. Experts Guide

Romano

Rosa Mulryan joined at 9am.

R. Mulryan introduced the Experts Guide to the Deans. It is designed to provide the media with Ramapo contacts. The media will reach out to PR/Ramapo spokesperson, who will then notify the Dean, who will then select and notify the faculty member. If faculty are called directly to comment on a Ramapo matters, they must refer the media to PR/spokeperson. If faculty are called directly to comment on a non-Ramapo matter that is within their area of expertise, they should notify PR/spokeperson immediately after the interview for tracking purposes.

To create the Guide, Marketing and Communications reviewed the faculty profiles and created categories of expertise. The Deans can select faculty to be listed. R. Mulryan went through the update process: the Guide will be updated annually in October and media outlets will receive the update. Deans should submit the change form. S. Hangen suggested adding categories for regions/areas of the world; E. Petkus agreed.

R. Mulryan requested the Deans inform the faculty that they are listed in the guide and requested that all changes be submitted by Friday, 10/18.

C. Academic plan/common academic goals

Becker

S. Becker introduced the idea of an academic masterplan to identify long-term goals. He proposed creating a living document that outlined the next five years.

E. Saiff noted the College can utilize its current faculty: for instance, the Computer Science began when the College retrained some of its Math faculty.

E. Petkus added that the masterplan should align with the Strategic Plan. Academic goals can be knitted into Goal 1, Student Success, or Goal 3, Innovation, for example.

S. Becker suggested that the masterplan also identify a few broad areas where the College will work to build its reputation. E. Saiff and E. Petkus agreed the niche area of the liberal arts is more challenging to market these days, however, other opportunities such as Pathways that build on its strength, or focusing on career outcomes identified by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, can support the marketing of the liberal arts. A. Lorenz added that faculty-student mentorship could be part of the plan and be an area where the College is known. S. Gauden agreed; Ramapo has many of the hallmarks of a private college. However, attaching the institution's reputation on one

or two programs may be short-sighted as the market changes. S. Becker clarified: he suggested not a specific major but a much broader concept, such as health, sciences, etc., and should not be limited by the artificial boundaries of the five schools.

S. Gaulden and S. Hangen shared that implementing a masterplan will be beneficial for the College regardless of identifying a broad, known area.

S. Becker will begin a draft document that can tie academic goals to the Strategic Plan and share it with the Deans. P. Campbell added, in terms of brainstorming new programs, including a viability justification, such as the narrative required for new graduate programs, would be helpful.

D. New Business

3+1 Programs: E. Saiff inquired about the resolution regarding credits for the 3+1 programs; community colleges are on the 3-credit system, and Ramapo is on the 4-credit system. Can the community colleges add a recitation section to each class for one additional credit?

S. Hangen and E. Petkus shared that the Business and Global Studies program includes a summer class and a few 2-credit classes to make up the credit gap. P. Campbell noted regardless of the solution, faculty should be paid for the number of credits they teach. Further, the community colleges have courses that range from 2-4 credits, so having 4-credit courses in the third year is not out of the question.

E. Saiff added that one challenge to the model is that some medical and dental schools will not accept major courses from a community college.

Minors: S. Gaulden asked the Deans to double-check the number of credits in their minors; the Integrity of Degree Programs policy may need to be revised.

CLEP: S. Gaulden reminded the Deans about the message she sent regarding CLEP scores and awarding credits.

COPLAC: S. Gaulden shared there are eight different projects. The type of presentation needs to be identified, and students need to be informed of their selection.