

MINUTES

Ramapo College Board of Trustees

Deans' Council

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Thursday, July 15, 2021, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Webex

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the July 1 meeting were approved with one correction.

B. National Student Exchange

B. Levy provided an overview of the National Student Exchange (NSE). There are two financial models for students:

1. Students pay all their expenses (tuition, room and board) to the host institution. As an NSE member, Ramapo students receive the in-state tuition rate at other institutions. Many Ramapo students choose this option as the tuition rates are typically lower than Ramapo.
2. Students pay Ramapo for tuition while at the host institution. Ramapo students on merit scholarships often choose this option as merit scholarships can be applied. He suggested adding this benefit to the merit scholarship website.

B. Levy noted students may choose to participate in NSE to complement their academic program in a discipline or subdiscipline not available at the College or to "try out" the institution as a graduate school option and to build connections for their graduate school application process. S. Gaulden suggested that B. Levy be invited to present at Unit Councils as graduate school advisement has been officially moved into the faculty from the Office of Fellowships & Scholarships.

The College pays a membership fee. Around 200 institutions participate. Not very many students come to Ramapo; this may be in part due to the tuition rate. Sometimes the College has made exceptions and allowed visiting students to pay their home institution's tuition and Ramapo's room and board. E. Saiff inquired if a visiting student could pay Ramapo tuition but at their home institution's rate. There was some discussion about pursuing this.

B. Levy would like to identify programs/disciplines that can be marketed within the NSE network to increase the number of visiting students. Additionally, other NSE institutions could be identified as partners. E. Saiff noted many Ramapo students go to Hawaii and FIU; perhaps a partnership can be established.

B. Levy also suggested packaging courses and an internship with housing for the summer. C. Romano agreed there may be opportunity here particularly for unique programs such as bioinformatics. B. Levy will connect with Cahill regarding the internships.

C. SARM & Platinum Funds

1. Funding distribution

S. Gaulden confirmed that some funds have been distributed into the Schools' budgets.

Platinum and SARM funds remain in the Provost's accounts. S. Gaulden will identify a staff member who can help with booking the experiences.

The Deans discussed how funds could be distributed, an application process (strong statements were made about the use of the previous application method), and assessment.

A decision was made that everyone applying for funds will submit through a form (D. Couzens will set up and circulate for review).

The Deans discussed having consistent honorarium for guest speakers.

2. Review of events & logistics

S. Hangen asked if information about events can be shared more formally to avoid scheduling conflicts. D. Couzens will create a shared document.

D. Collaboration with Athletics

The Council brainstormed various ways in which academics can collaborate with Athletics. H. Crocker had proposed some general ideas. C. Romano added there is an increased need for video and photography which reflects authentic student experiences. He proposed using the student assistant program or co-ops for this purpose. S. Gaulden inquired about connecting with specific faculty for assignments in courses. E. Petkus chimed in with concerns about continuity.

C. Romano will connect E. Petkus and P. Campbell with H. Crocker.

E. Course & Lab Fee Tracking

S. Gaulden shared a reminder with the Deans about tracking expenses for courses. She referenced the process that was conducted at Essex and also previous conversations about fees.

There was some discussion about the exercise as well as models at other institutions.

F. New Business

Fall 21 operations: S. Gaulden noted that "remote participation" language was removed from notes of 82 courses as the Executive Order was lifted. However, the College is still making decisions on health and safety measures in light of the recent Executive Orders. She inquired how many students cannot be redirected into other courses. P. Campbell shared his experience thus far. S. Gaulden shared that faculty teaching on campus may be resurveyed.

Guest speakers: There has been no formal decision about whether guest speakers may come to campus.

Harvard Radcliffe Fellowship: S. Gaulden shared information on the fellowship and deadlines, which may be shared with faculty.

Student COVID-19 vaccination requirement: C. Romano provided an update on the vaccination requirement and the vaccination implementation team.