

MINUTES

Ramapo College Board of Trustees

Deans' Council

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Thursday, November 18, 2021, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

AC 202

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 4 meeting were approved.

B. Budget Monitoring

S. Gaulden shared an overview of the situational factors the College is confronting in managing the budget.

P. Campbell inquired if requests were being made that are above and beyond approved budgets. S. Gaulden shared a few examples. P. Campbell noted some requests may be due to the fact that operations are shifting back to pre-pandemic numbers of courses and students on campus. There was further discussion.

The Council reviewed the visualization of general education course scheduling created by S. Frees and the MSDS student. Ultimately, S. Gaulden is seeking to identify the point at which the number of general education courses in a given time block affect the courses' enrollment. S. Frees is working to create interactive visualizations in the course mod app for the Deans. E. Petkus and P. Campbell requested that CSS be looped in to the analysis. C. Romano noted that spreading out general education options aligns with the needs of the changing student population.

S. Gaulden reminded the Deans to continue their tracking of expenses related to course and lab fees.

S. Gaulden will share the graduate program budget check-ins with Budget and C. Romano.

C. Faculty Positions

AY21-22

Faculty Athletic Representatives - Matthew Jobrack, Alexandre Olbrecht
Golden Key Honor Society Faculty Advisor - Satarupa Dasgupta
National Society of Collegiate Honors Scholars - Shantha Franks
Phi Beta Delta Honor Society Faculty Advisor - Nakia Matthias

AY22-23

Coordinator of Honors Societies
Liaison to the CRW
Director of CRWT - Todd Barnes
Director of FYS - Yvette Kisor
Director of SIAH - Monika Giacoppe
TAS Research Honors - Loraine Tan

The Deans reviewed the list of faculty who have been recently chosen to serve in positions during AY21-22 and who will serve in AY22-23.

There was a discussion about the roles of Coordinator of Honors Societies and Liaison to the Center for Reading and Writing. S. Gaulden also shared an update on the Honors Program staffing.

S. Hangen inquired if term limits were being considered for positions that have associated stipends or reassign time.

D. Follow-up Discussion on The Future of Thought: Strategy & Uncertainty

E. Saiff shared the TAS Unit Council will discuss The Future Series summits at the first meeting in the spring. E. Petkus expressed a desire to have more faculty participate in the summits. S. Hangen noted that E. Shannon reported out at the recent Unit Council meeting and did encourage faculty attendance.

E. Needs Assessment Process - sharing ideas in development/to be proposed

The Deans discussed the need for clear communication regarding the needs assessment process and the Priority Needs Proposals. The Deans reviewed the ideas in development that were published on the website and the purpose of that folder to encourage interdisciplinarity and broad, collaborative approaches; however, those are ideas and not fully-developed proposals. There was some concern that expectations should be managed and that not every idea will be able to rise to the top at this point in time. The Deans reiterated the importance of understanding the criteria for determining which proposals will advance. In addition, they made note of the existing areas at the College that should be included in this process.

S. Gaulden hopes to speak further with A. Cristini and C. Jebb regarding the process and will provide more information to the Deans once available.

F. Upcoming Events

G. New Business

Career Development deferrals: S. Gaulden requested that the Deans inform her of faculty requesting career development deferrals. A Handful of names were shared.

Information on Course Delivery Modes Task Force: S. Gaulden shared the membership with the Council and mentioned she is waiting to confirm two more representatives, at which point, a meeting will be scheduled so the Task Force can be charged and select a chair.

Collecting refuse: A member noticed that refuse appears to not be getting collected regularly in the hallways. L. Keller noted that work orders can be submitted.

Kindness: In the spirit of Thanksgiving, S. Gaulden and D. Couzens invited the Council to join them in writing a few notes to staff or faculty who have been going above and beyond to thank them.

E. Petkus and the others agreed.

Networks: E. Saiff inquired if advisors are removed from a student's Connect network if they take a leave of absence. C. Romano clarified that students are still assigned to an advisor in Banner and once the student is registered for 8 credits, the advisor will pull into the network from Banner.