

MINUTES

Ramapo College Board of Trustees

Deans' Council

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Thursday, January 6, 2022, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

<https://ramapo.webex.com/ramapo/j.php?MTID=m72fc618b6c2982071b84b721b8ff334e>

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December 16 meeting were approved.

B. Review of PNP Ideas

C. Jebb joined the meeting.

K. Norton joined in E. Petkus' stead.

S. Gaulden shared that this review was meant to simply provide an overview of the ideas currently in development. C. Jebb noted that the Deans will be involved by ensuring that the mission and resources of approved proposals are working and moving forward. There will be a prioritization of proposals. S. Gaulden added that not all ideas will move forward.

P. Campbell provided an overview of the CA proposals.

- Berrie Center: seeking additional financial support through fundraising for programming, educational outreach, capital projects, and audience development. There was a conversation about fundraising capacity and the relationship with IA. There was a question about how funders are identified; C. Jebb shared it is necessary to have regular communications between IA and the center director on identifying prospects and solicitations.
- Art Galleries: seeking additional financial support through fundraising for capital projects, programming support, online accessibility, collection support maintenance, audience development, and staffing.
- Music, technology, and science: collaboration with B. Neill, Z. Layton, N. Choudhury, A. Beecher, and S. Frees which focuses on the intersection of music, technology, and science.
- Music and culture: collaboration with M. Gidal, E. Castellanos, D. Oh, K. Kenneavy, G. Torres-Baumgauten, and J. Hecht on an interdisciplinary center on music and culture.
- Health communication and education: collaboration with S. Dasgupta and Y. Xu, which P. Campbell has suggested be connected with K. Burke and K. Ray on their proposal for a health and wellness institute.

K. Norton provided an overview of the ASB proposal.

- Bergen County Sustainability Hub: collaboration with R. Abzug, E. Petkus, and A. Vasisht with several others on campus on an interdisciplinary center focused on the UN sustainable development goals and bringing it home to Bergen County through partnerships with municipalities in addition to building sustainability into the curriculum. C. Jebb commented that there could be several missions within that center.

S. Hangen provided an overview of the HGS proposals.

- Gross Center: to expand the existing Center's outreach, education, and research mission.
- Digital Humanities Center: building on the existing Digital Humanities initiative, the center will transform the humanities curriculum by integrating digital skills, assignments, and applications to

real world problems. The center will also serve the MSCID program. S. Gaulden listed the ongoing projects.

- Center for Written and Spoken Word: drawing upon several initiatives that are already done including Readings at Ramapo, the center would also have outreach programs for literacy, creative writing, and storytelling.

- Public Policy institute: collaboration with a number of faculty and staff across the College on a research center with a focus on New Jersey policy. A. Lorenz added there are several similar ideas - justice, ethics, democracy, etc. - that could be folded into one large institute. C. Jebb agreed and noted that a center may have a large umbrella under which there are unique tracks, though there does need to be one person serving as an executive agent to the College. S. Hangen and A. Lorenz shared that there was a question of ownership with the institute.

C. Jebb thanked the Deans and noted that she will be looking for the proposals that are brought forward from the Deans to the Provost, who will articulate it to the Cabinet. She reiterated the goal of raising the College's visibility and help its students. She also noted that there are many programs underneath the Provost but that may be more appropriately housed under a school while serving as an executive agent to the whole College. C. Jebb spoke about the importance of having the Deans review the comprehensive resource needs of the proposals.

S. Gaulden suggested that the remaining ideas be shared at the February 3 Deans Council meeting with President Jebb.

C. RamaPRO Schedules

S. Gaulden shared that RamaPRO would continue in the spring, however, student-facing units will have an on campus presence and therefore RamaPRO participation in Academic Affairs will be limited.

P. Campbell noted this is reasonable, however, there are some staff that spend most of their time communicating with offices that are not student facing.

E. Saiff agreed and shared a concern that while remote, it seems phone and email are not as actively monitored as they would be in the office. S. Gaulden noted if there are egregious cases, it should be documented. L. Keller added that there needs to be more clearly defined expectations of working remotely. C. Romano chimed in and shared that working remotely was an option before the pandemic and was worked out with the supervisor. He agreed with L. Keller on developing expectations and structures for working remotely for those that have the option.

C. Romano shared that Marketing & Communications is creating an "in the office" sign that can be put on doors.

D. Enrollment Update

C. Romano and S. Gaulden shared that the changing student demographic means that course scheduling is changing. C. Romano noted that students' performance is reflective of the learning gap which is present everywhere and it is reflective of the times (not the students that are recruited). S. Gaulden there are programmatic changes that could be made as well, such as ensuring all CRWT classes go to CRW sessions, etc. E. Saiff added that it is important to select the right adjunct faculty for those lower-level courses to ensure they are able to address these gaps in an appropriate way.

The application and enrollment update discussion was tabled.

E. Spring 2022 Room Kit Allocations

S. Gaulden and D. Couzens provided an overview of the proposed room kit locations. P.

Campbell advised on the Berrie Center locations. E. Saiff noted the locations seemed fair. S. Gaulden suggested that regular classrooms have a higher priority over computer labs. D. Couzens will make edits and send a revised version to the Deans for review.

F. New Business

Course Mod App: S. Frees joined the meeting and provided an overview and demo of version 3, which includes:

- new workflow for mod rejection
- new cross-check for instructor conflicts (primary instructor only)
- new email workflow that generates a daily email to unit personnel
- additional search features including the ability to filter by attribute, course level, undergraduate/graduate, etc.
- new dashboard for unit level, including a breakdown of delivery modes and visualization of time blocks with filters

The app will likely be live in the next week, following testing.

There was a discussion about the MWR 9:55am time block.

Summer courses: The delivery modes that will be offered are in-person, hybrid, and online.