



Rensselaer

Mark Smith
Dean of Students

REVISED February 2009 (January 22, 2009)

To the Rensselaer Community:

I am saddened to notify the Rensselaer community of the death of a dear colleague, Debra Hamilton, Assistant Dean of Students, Disability Services for Students. She died peacefully surrounded by her family on January 12, 2009, after a brief illness. She will be greatly missed by faculty, staff, students and the Capital District Community for whom she was an articulate, compassionate advocate for people facing a range of disabilities.

Deb was an important part of the Dean of Students Office and the Institute for over 23 years. She tirelessly advised students and faculty, served as an advocate on behalf of students, faculty, staff and parents of Rensselaer students, and aided the Institute in its planning, renovation and new construction of facilities to assure access for all members of the Rensselaer community. She was a wonderful colleague and friend who never hesitated to assure that fairness and principled decision making is at the heart of all we do. Her legacy is the countless lives she has touched and improved by her sheer determination and commitment to positively affect the quality of life for Rensselaer students, staff and faculty.

A memorial service was held on the Rensselaer campus on February 21, 2009.

Until a replacement is found, I will be serving as point person for Disability Services for Students.

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