General Faculty Meeting
April 6th, 2015

José Holguín-Veras,
Chair of the Rensselaer Faculty
Agenda

- Welcome
- Review of the Faculty Senate Accomplishments, José Holguín-Veras, Chair of the Faculty (10 min)
- State of the Academic Enterprise, Prabhat Hajela, Provost (30 min)
- Honoring Faculty: Retirees and Faculty Senate, José Holguín-Veras (10 min)
- Eulogies, Lester Gerhardt, President of Faculty Senate (5 min)
- Faculty Comments (30 min max)
- Reception
Review of the Faculty Senate Accomplishments

José Holguín-Veras,
Chair of the Rensselaer Faculty
Continuing process of engagement

- Provost, Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Education, Academic Deans, Department Heads, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer, VP Human Resources, and Legal Counsel
- Bilateral meetings with Student Senate
- Participation in Middle States Accreditation process
Multi-year effort:

- Two faculty committees produced: a first draft of changes, and a second set of revisions
- Leading faculty members from all schools were asked to provide input
- The female faculty, through RAMP-UP, provided input
- The EC visited all schools to gather direct input from faculty
- An anonymous email account was set to gather input
- The EC collated suggestions, filtered inappropriate ones out
- The EC and the Provost went through all suggestions to find a common position
- The agreed draft was sent to Human Resources and the Legal department for review and comment
Faculty Development and Retention

- Faculty Development Forums organized jointly by the Provost and Faculty Senate:
  - RPI research initiatives and obtaining research grants, roles and responsibilities of the RPI Research Administration
  - Promotion and Tenure
  - Tools for blended learning
- The Faculty Senate and Human Resources sponsored a forum for Communication and Conflict Management
- The Faculty Senate has requested and received faculty input about faculty development and retention forums. A survey will be sent shortly to the faculty to prioritize the subjects to be discussed in the forums.
Graduate Education

- Ad Hoc Committee of the FS formed, producing a report, leading to discussions on Grad student support, recruitment (more Faculty involvement), diversity, placement, and alumni/ae relations.

- FS approved a process to evaluate TAs, expected to be implemented in spring 2015.

- A new Advising Forum, proposed by the FS, with OGE and ALAC, for both new/existing faculty, was piloted in Summer ‘14 and offered for the first time on March ‘15. To be offered each semester in the future.
The faculty-all list was established and supported, and is in active use.

With the assistance and support of the VP and Chief Information Officer, retired faculty now may now retain their existing email address upon retirement.
Standing Committee Highlights

- Promotion and Tenure: Numerous cases considered and timely processed
- Curriculum: Over 150 course additions and deletions were evaluated and approved. Reviewed the Special Core Curriculum Review Committee. Changes made to the minimum GPA for inclusion in Dean’s List.
- Honors: The Committee submitted nominations for Honorary Degrees, several subsequently selected.
- Planning and Resources: Meetings with the Provost to discuss go forward strategies. Emphasis on involvement of the FS in performance planning.
Policy on Eulogies and Biographies

- The Faculty Senate established an annual eulogy publication, both electronic and hard copy.
- A policy was also established for regularly gathering source information for faculty retiring or otherwise leaving Rensselaer for future use.
State of the Academic Enterprise

Prabhat Hajela,
Provost
Honoring Faculty: Retirees and Faculty Senate

José Holguín-Veras,
Chair of the Rensselaer Faculty
Retirees

- Lester Gerhardt
- David Goldenberg
- Mark Goldberg
- Larry Kagan
- Victor Roytburd
- Sheppard Salon
Retiring Faculty Senate Members (2013-2015)

- **Executive Committee**
  - Isom Herron
  - Chip Kilduff
  - Lester Gerhardt
  - Jose Holguin-Veras
  - Matthew Oehlschlaeger

- **Faculty Senate**
  - George Belfort
  - Michael Century
  - David Bell
  - Tom Triscari
  - Jeanne Keefe
  - Antoinette Maniatty
  - Ekaterina Haskins
  - Paul Hohenberg
  - Chang Ryu
  - Igor Vamos
  - Frank Wright
  - Robert Albright
  - Robert Parsons
  - Chulsung Bae
  - Murali Chari
  - Michael Halloran

- **Curriculum Committee**
  - Wayne Bequette
  - Shawn Lawson
  - Susan Sanderson
  - Chris Verwys

- **Promotion and Tenure Committee**
  - Mark Shephard
  - Christian Wetzel
  - Anna Dyson
  - Joe Chow

- **Planning and Resources Committee**
  - David Duquette
  - Michael Oatman

- **Honors Committee**
  - Joyce McLaughlin
  - Langdon Winner
  - Russ Leslie
Eulogies

Lester Gerhardt,
President of the Faculty Senate
Our Departed Colleagues

- **Architecture:** Roland L. Hummel
- **Arts:** Robert F. Winne ’49
- **Biology:** Louis J. Castiglione Jr.
- **Civil and Env. Eng.:** Robert K. Palmer ’37
- **Chemistry:** Sydney Ross
- **ECSE:** Edward J. Smith ’66, Ph.D.
- **History:** William H. Pease
- **Mathematics:** Bernard A. Fleishman, Horace Komm
- **Material Science & Eng.:** George S. Ansell ’54
- **MANE:** Edward A. Fox
- **Physics:** Robert Resnick
- **Political Science/Psychology:** Kenneth J. Comfort, Ph.D.
- **Psychology:** Gillray L. Kandel
- **MBA Hartford:** Robert C. Klein
Faculty Comments

All
Reception