Rutgers Board of Governors and Board of Trustees

Principles Regarding Higher Education Restructuring

The Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University are committed to preserving and enhancing the status of Rutgers – the State University of New Jersey as a world class, elite AAU member research university, under the unified oversight and leadership of its campuses throughout the State of New Jersey, thereby affording all citizens of the State the educational opportunities provided by such an institution.

For the Governance of Rutgers University and its Campuses:

- The governance of Rutgers University shall remain as established under the 1956 Act. Within the spirit and the letter of the 1956 Act, the University will (a) take steps to enhance the autonomy and independence of each campus, and assure effective representation of each of the three campuses within the administration and the existing governing boards of the University; and (b) facilitate the equitable allocation of University resources and the strategic development of an investment in each of our University campuses in support of their needs and in furtherance of Rutgers' mission as The State University of New Jersey, by evaluating and implementing more effective ways to assure the interests of each campus are represented and addressed, such as:
  
  i. Establishing new committees of the Board of Governors and/or subcommittees of the existing BOG committees to address the specific needs of each campus;
  
  ii. Establishing an advisory group for each campus, which may include representation from members of the public from the local community, and administration, faculty, staff and students from the relevant campus
  
  iii. Assuring that each campus will be led by a Chancellor and that each such Chancellor reports directly to the President of the University, with equal authority with respect to the relevant campus.

June 6, 2012
For New Brunswick/Piscataway:

- Rutgers supports the integration of the RWJ Medical School, the School of Public Health, and the Cancer Institute into Rutgers, provided that
  i. The State provides funding for the anticipated one-time costs of integration; and
  ii. The State provides adequate financial support to help address the deficit of the RWJ Medical School during the first few years until the synergies are fully leveraged and the finances are turned around.

For our Camden and Newark Campuses:

- Rutgers commits to growth plans for the Camden campus and for the Newark campus that are measured both in enrollment and facilities.
- Rutgers will evaluate establishing a collaborative program with Rowan University, provided that:
  i. Each of the collaborating institutions retains its independence and autonomy;
  ii. An appropriate mechanism is mutually agreed upon by the parties to oversee and manage any such collaboration; and
  iii. Any agreement by Rutgers to participate in any such collaboration must be duly authorized by Rutgers and be consistent with the existing governance structure of the University pursuant to the 1956 Act

Finances

- Rutgers is aware that incorporating an academic medical center into the University will be a costly endeavor and also recognizes the enormous benefits that having an academic medical center at the state’s only AAU public research university will mean for the University, for the state in general and for the state’s economy. These benefits were well articulated recently by the Governor’s Task Force on Higher Education, chaired by former NJ Gov. Thomas H. Kean and in other studies, as well.
- While Rutgers is prepared to assume a fair share of costs associated with the proposed restructuring, the University can only support a long term financial model that is fair to all parties, a financial model that recognizes the State’s legitimate and fair responsibility for a share of the integration costs, as well as other responsibilities, and a model that does not thrust upon the University unfair or unreasonable costs that are related to budgetary shortfalls stemming from the management at other institutions.

June 6, 2012