

# Academic Affairs Update

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**April 2009**

# Roadmap for Presentation

- The 8 Priorities
- The Initiatives
- Spotlight:
  - **Center for Student Innovation**
  - **University Studies**
  - **“Greater Expectations”**
- Discussion



# The 8 Priorities

Priorities	Institute goals; Achievement Measures
Student Success	Campus goals: Increase persistence and graduation rates
Diversity & Inclusivity	Campus goals: Increase AALANA and women student and faculty percentages
Research, Scholarship, & Creative Works	Campus goal: Increase campus scholarship, research, and creative work - particularly sponsored research
Innovation	Campus goal: Provide innovation opportunities for students
International Education	Campus mission: Provide global education experience
Academic Operations	Support for the academic programs; budget, space, communication, shared governance
Academic Program Success	Ensure strong accreditation; new program development, program review, support for general education
Faculty Success	Support faculty through mentorship, resources, development; clarify promotion and tenure policies

# Update on the Academic Affairs Initiatives

Priority	Initiative	Status
Student Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student Success/Retention taskforce</li><li>• Evaluate learning communities</li><li>• Develop University Studies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Action plan due April</li><li>• In process</li><li>• Director hired; fall roll out</li></ul>
Diversity & Inclusivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individual faculty mentoring</li><li>• AALANA Student Success taskforce</li><li>• Support AALANA and women faculty recruitment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ongoing</li><li>• Action plan due April</li><li>• 60% of new hires women, 20% AALANA</li></ul>
Research, Scholarship & Creative Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop plan to allow more research and scholarship by faculty</li><li>• Develop campus-wide undergraduate research program</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan developed; budget requested</li><li>• Director-student innovation &amp; undergrad research</li></ul>

Priority	Initiative	Status
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop program for the Center for Student Innovation</li><li>• Developing plan for infusing innovation into the RIT curriculum</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan developed, director hired</li><li>• Inventory in process</li></ul>
International Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study abroad 'Obstacles' study</li><li>• Strategic plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed</li><li>• Consultant hired</li></ul>
Academic Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider new RIT calendars</li><li>• Develop Academic Affairs space planning process</li><li>• Develop Communication Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modified quarters discussed; semester system to be studied;</li><li>• Completed</li><li>• Completed</li></ul>

Priority	Initiative	Status
Academic Program Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop comprehensive program audit, review and evaluation plan</li> <li>• Develop expanded summer program</li> <li>• Review Honors Program</li> <li>• Support curriculum changes for innovation</li> <li>• Implement Middle States General Education assessment recommendations</li> <li>• Discuss redesign of General Education</li> <li>• Deliver Middle States response letter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit template completed</li> <li>• In process</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• In process</li> <li>• Assessment Director hired; standing committee</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Completed</li> </ul>
Faculty Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop faculty mentoring system</li> <li>• Ensure consistent P &amp; T policies and practices</li> <li>• Create faculty associate for scholarship</li> <li>• Develop 'Emerging Leaders' program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AY 10</li> <li>• In process</li> <li>• Hired</li> <li>• In process</li> </ul>

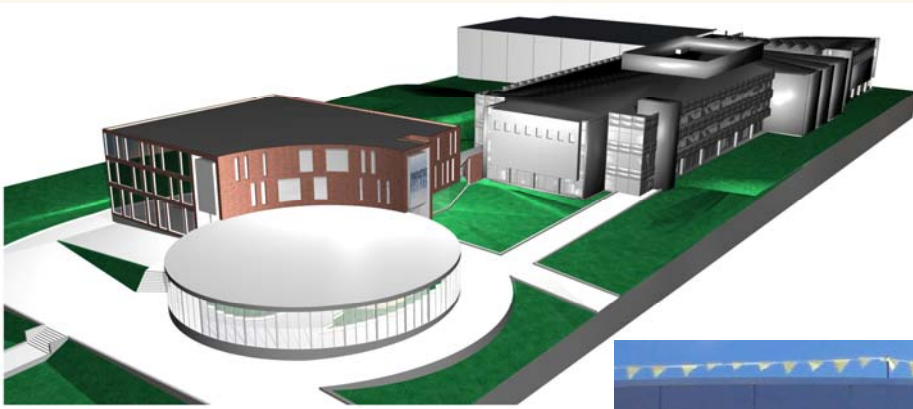


# A Closer Look at Three Initiatives

# Student Innovation

# Center for Student Innovation

- Program recommendations complete – inclusive process
- Mission: To be a campus nexus of innovation learning
- Goal: Assuming construction schedule holds, CSI will be ‘wowie’ by Imagine RIT 08
- Administration:
  - Director, faculty associates, staff
  - Advisory board
  - Programming, operations, leadership
- Activities:
  - Multidisciplinary student teams realizing solutions to ‘worthy’ problems while being mentored by faculty and advisors
  - Workshops, symposia, events
  - Community engagement via problem generation, advisory board, advisors, events
  - RIT Innovation Hall of Fame and showcase
  - Quarterly student presentations, proposals and demos
  - RIT leadership for further innovation curriculum development







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# Director: Ian Gatley

- Student innovation and undergraduate research
- Brings multidisciplinary approaches to problem-solving
- Substantial contribution to growing undergraduate research
- Recent project: immersive video techniques; IP assigned to RIT; patents filed.



# Innovation Inventory

## Goals

- Inventory existing, but often hidden, “innovation assets”
- Publicize and liberate hidden resources
- Help Identify new opportunities
- Set the stage for curricular integration and reform

## Current Status

- Approximately 50 resources identified by ICGW members
- Currently surveying all programs, deans and department chairs



# RIT Innovation Inventory

- Existing innovation assets located within diverse, departments, programs, etc.
- Different Assets existing at alternative segments of the innovation process
- Traditional Curriculum, Courses, and Capstones
  - **Examples from Technology, Creative/Design, and Business**
    - E.G., College of Engineering's Multidisciplinary Capstone; CIAS's Various Design Capstone Programs; GCCIS's Various Capstone – Software Engineering
- Innovation Enabling Services
  - **CAST Prototyping; CIMS Testing; COLA Creativity Courses**

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# University Studies

# University Studies

- Objective: Maximize flexibility for uncertain students
- Director hired; 2 university-wide advisors
- Targeting 50 students for fall 2009
- Students declare University Studies, identify interests and skills, placed in programs
- Developing articulation agreements with the programs
- Collaboration with Enrollment Management and Student Affairs



# **“Greater Expectations”**

**- a collaboration between  
Academic Affairs and Student Affairs**

she can have a dramatic impact on people's lives



Michele successfully graduates and has a successful career thanks to an intentional general education program that provides the foundation for her engineering major.

Michele declares a double major in biomedical engineering AND ethics

realizes that through innovation & her academic interest in biology ...



Michele discovers the **Center for Student Innovation** and...

In her 1<sup>st</sup> year, Michele begins to focus her interest in the bio area



Michele is admitted into the University Studies program at RIT as an honors student

US students come to RIT for an 'early start' program

In the early start program, Michele meets new friends ...

And falls in love with RIT (She's smart, remember?)



is exposed to undergraduate research ...



explores majors, is challenged with academic rigor through a theme-based general education ...



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General  
Education

Summer  
Programming

International  
Experience

Honors  
Revisions

University  
Studies

Learning  
Communities

First Year  
Experience

Innovation  
Curriculum

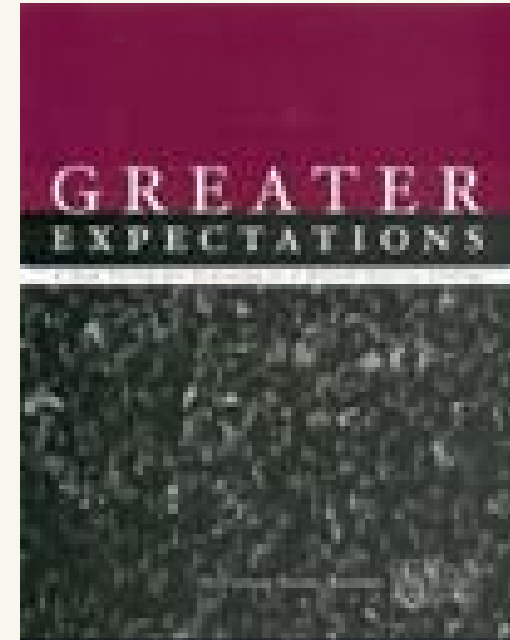
Undergraduate  
Research

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# AAC&U: “Greater Expectations”

- Greater Expectations, a major initiative of AAC&U
- Identified innovative models that improve campus practices and learning for all undergraduate students
- Goal: Develop comprehensive, intentional approach to reform.





# “Greater Expectations” Institute

- Campuses send teams to a summer institute at the University of Vermont in June.
- Teams develop plans and bring back to campus for vetting and implementation



June 17-21, 2009  
Dudley H. Davis Student Center,  
University of Vermont

# “Greater Expectations Tiger Team”

- Joint effort between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs
- Supported by Academic Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Government
- Proposal to AAC&U submitted
- Developing goals and objectives, processes for team formation, orientation

# RIT's Project

The RIT Team will devise a cohesive framework and plan to maximize RIT student learning through the integration of RIT's general education outcomes, first year experience, innovation curriculum, learning communities, undergraduate research opportunities, and summer programming. The framework must advance the RIT Vision: RIT will lead higher education in preparing students for innovative, creative and successful careers in a global society.

# Next steps

- Proposal submitted; waiting for acceptance
- Goals and objectives refined
- Team formation – collaborative, inclusive
  - Faculty, staff, students
- Team briefing and orientation
- Team attends institute; debriefs
- Fall work begins; year long process

# Discussion?