



Robert L. Barchi, President

August 28, 2017

Mr. Kenneth Swalagin
University Senate
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
ASB III, Suite 110
Cook/Douglass Campus

Dear Mr. Swalagin:

I am writing in response to the University Senate's April 2016 report and recommendations on Charge A-1610, Change in Graduation Date for Students Completing Degrees in the Summer. I appreciate the guidance of the Academic Standards, Regulations, and Admissions Committee as we seek to serve the needs of our students as well as ensure that we comply with federal and state reporting regulations.

I am pleased to accept the Committee's recommendation that Rutgers add a fourth graduation date of August 31 to the University calendar. This addition will allow students who have completed their degree requirements to use that graduation date, although their degrees will not be certified until sometime in September. This is the process that is used for students who graduate in May, but whose degrees are typically not certified until June. We will also retain the current October graduation date for students who are not able to complete their degree requirements by the summer degree deadline but wish to receive their degrees prior to the next graduation date in January.

Rutgers is indebted to the members of the University Senate Academic Standards, Regulations, and Admissions Committee for the thoughtful recommendations they have provided.

Sincerely,

Robert Barchi

c: Barbara A. Lee, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Deba Dutta, Chancellor, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Brian L. Strom, Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences
Nancy Cantor, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Newark
Phoebe A. Haddon, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Camden
Ken Iuso, Executive University Registrar
Robert Heffernan, Vice President for Institutional Research and Academic Planning