



Robert L. Barchi, President

September 11, 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 May 2015 report and recommendations on Charge S-1406, Balance of Full-time and Part-time Faculty Teaching. I thank the members of the Senate's Faculty and Personnel Affairs Committee for their work on what has been an important but difficult issue in prior years.

As was correctly pointed out in your report, the University's Course Analysis System has not been successful in providing the kind of data requested by the Senate. I am pleased to report that, beginning in the fall of 2018, the University's new scheduling software will allow departments at Rutgers University-Newark, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, and Rutgers University-Camden to include information on course instructor(s), including teaching assistants, which should facilitate information gathering on courses taught for credit at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. (Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences will continue to collect the information locally for the near future). The software has been vetted with departmental administrators and will be tested this fall to ensure that it fulfills the University's needs for information on teaching loads for tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure-track, and PTL faculty, as well as teaching assistants. After evaluating this trial run, we expect to use the upgraded software for the scheduling of fall 2018 courses, which will begin next spring.

With respect to teaching that does not fall within credit courses, I agree that this additional teaching is important to our students. It is not clear to me how data on this type of teaching would be captured unless individual faculty are asked to provide that information at the department or school level. I would expect that chairs and deans would collect faculty workload data as a matter of course.

I believe that the combination of the improved data collection via the scheduling software and departmental/school collection of faculty workload data will provide an improved picture of the teaching done at the University. We will all benefit from more and better data about teaching at Rutgers.

Sincerely,

Robert Barchi

c: Barbara A. Lee, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Deba Dutta, Chancellor, Rutgers University–New Brunswick  
Nancy Cantor, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Newark  
Phoebe Haddon, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Camden  
Brian Strom, Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences