

## University Senate

- **Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> Senate Executive Committee – Written Administrative Report from the EVPAA**

Greetings, everyone.

As I share this report with you in writing, please also accept my apologies for not being able to dialog with you “on zoom” at your meeting, as I am traveling on the West Coast as part of outreach to Rutgers alumni to support student access and success that was scheduled since early in the summer. I will catch up with you on Oct 20 at the full senate meeting.

I am pleased to see there are a number of threads posted on our website from senate members already. Please do continue to share with us at our website any queries related to academic policies/matters and about topics where we can work collaboratively as we move forward. As always, I like to start with highlights of good news from around the institution, especially with respect to new grants, awards and partnerships.

### **FACULTY AND ALUMNI RECOGNITION**

The Rutgers community salutes one of our most recent honorary degree recipients, Katalin Karikó, who was just named a Nobel Prize laureate for her work on mRNA technology and the development of COVID vaccines.

Composer and pianist Courtney Bryan, who earned a Master’s Degree in Music from the Mason Gross School for the Arts, was named today as member of the [2023 Class of MacArthur Fellows](#).

We have a number of grants and partnerships to announce:

Rutgers-Newark was awarded a **\$2.8M grant by the U.S. Department of Commerce** this spring to increase digital equity in the city of Newark and on campus, under the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for its Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program.

The Rutgers-Newark neuroscience program’s Mark Gluck recently was awarded a **\$7.4M grant from the NIH National Institute on Aging** that will enable him to double the size of his groundbreaking long-term study of Alzheimer's disease in African Americans.

Under the direction of the multi-talented professor Kevin Lyons of Rutgers Business School, **the state-funded Center for Local Supply Chain Resiliency has partnered with the Latino Merchants Association of New Jersey** to develop business opportunities for Latinx-owned small businesses with the anchor institutions in communities across New Jersey.

## ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

I know that you will be hearing from Chancellor Tillis at your meeting, but I wanted to call your attention to two exciting new partnerships taking place at Rutgers -Camden. They have created the **Chancellor's Committee on the Arts**, an assembled committee of faculty, students, staff, and local arts leaders to advise the chancellor on creating a year-long celebration of the arts at Rutgers–Camden.

The **Cooper Street Project** conceptualized the revitalization of Cooper Street by transforming underutilized Rutgers properties into office space for FASC faculty, thereby allowing the conversion of evacuated space into much-needed student-serving spaces, alumni, and community gathering venues.

President Holloway announced this week that **Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Jeffrey Robinson** will serve as the Rutgers–Newark Interim Chancellor for 2024-25 and that the search for a permanent chancellor to succeed Nancy Cantor will be conducted during that interim year.

Two universitywide award programs have their nomination deadlines this month:

- The new **Presidential Employee Excellence Recognition Program** award nominations are due Monday, October 16.
- The newly revised **Committee to Advance Our Common Purposes Award** nominations are due Friday, October 20.

The **University Policy Library website** has been updated to become more accessible and user-friendly.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

There are several upcoming events that I also wanted to share with you:

### **Exhibit: *For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care Reform* (RBHS)**

The health sciences libraries will host the National Library of Medicine's traveling exhibit *For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care Reform*.

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/forallthepeople/index.html>

### **Event: Introduction to Narrative Medicine (RBHS)**

On October 24 Maya J. Sorini, a narrative medicine scholar, performer, medical student, and award winning poet will lead a talk on the Introduction to Narrative Medicine. Her first collection, *The Boneheap in the Lion's Den*, won the 2023 Press 53 Award for Poetry.

### **Event: NBL 2023 Celebration of Scholarship (New Brunswick)**

Celebration of Scholarship at Rutgers University-New Brunswick Libraries highlights and celebrates the accomplishments of Rutgers-New Brunswick authors and creators. This will take place November 8, 2023 and is co-sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor, Rutgers University Press, and the Margery Somers Foster Center.

### **SHARING RUTGERS' ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

As exciting as it is for me to share all of this good news with you, it is even more exciting to report that the Rutgers name and the accomplishments of its faculty, staff, students and alumni are being seen by a wider audience in the State, the region, and beyond.

In FY23, the Rutgers name and image was delivered to millions of individuals. Over the past year, Rutgers earned **849,209 news hits/stories**, about 32,000 more than in FY22. Rutgers also earned more news hits/stories this year than peer institutions like Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan State, Minnesota, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State, UC Berkeley, and Wisconsin.

### **OUR WORK TOGETHER**

As we move forward together in doing the work of the University, the team in the office of the EVPAA has been working with Vicki Hewitt in the University Senate office to compile a list of the reports from Senate charges that are awaiting an Administrative response. We hope to provide responses for those in advance of the upcoming full Senate meetings:

- S-2203 Examining the Efficacy of the GRE
- S-2101 Units of Credit
- S-2019 Senate's Relationship with Rutgers Governing Boards
- S-2019 Searches for University Leadership

In addition, we have already received several topic suggestions through our feedback form on the EVPAA website, and we are gathering information to share with members of the Senate going forward. I hope that this will be the first of several opportunities for constructive and robust dialogue on topics that are important to the success of our institution.

I look forward to seeing you all on Zoom for the October 20 full Senate meeting.