

2020-2021 Council Year-End Report: Committee on Committees

Election of Committee Members:

As required in the Council bylaws, members on the Committee on Committees were elected to serve at the September 10, 2021 Council meeting. Those elected included: Christine Connolly, Keri Rossi-D'entremont, Valerie Endress, Carse Ramos, and Kemal Saatcioglu. At the first meeting of Committee on Committees on September 13, 2021, Valerie Endress was selected as chair.

Meetings: The Council Committee on Committees met on the following dates, coupled with numerous email exchanges:

2021-2022 Council Committee Appointments:

Monday, September 13: Committee meeting

Monday, September 13: Volunteer survey sent to all RIC faculty with deadline Friday, Sept. 17

Monday September 20: Committee meeting

Monday, September 27: Committee meeting

Friday, October 1: Volunteer survey sent to all RIC professional staff with deadline Wednesday, October 6

Monday, October 4: Committee meeting

Friday, October 8: Meeting with Provost Tate to determine staff appointments

Tuesday, October 12: Final Committee on Committees meeting of Fall semester to finalize list

Friday, October 22: Notification to Council Executive Committee that work is completed

Monday, October 25: Notifications sent to faculty of Committee appointments

Monday, November 1: Completed Committee list sent to Council Chair for posting on RIC website

Relevant information regarding the selection process:

- Over 90 faculty volunteered to serve on Council committees.
- Because many committee appointments had expired from previous years, the Committee on Committees made several one-year appointments on select committees in order to restore compliance with bylaws calling for staggered appointments of faculty membership.
- Several principles guided the Committee on Committee's selection process of faculty appointments including: (1) appointing faculty to committees who had not previously served and making as many appointments from the volunteer list as was practical and possible; (2) appointing faculty representing all five schools; (3) appointing faculty who represented diverse populations at RIC; and (4) whenever possible, appointing a member of RIC Council to committees.
- The Council Executive Committee approved a plan endorsed by members of the Committee on Committees to make appointments during spring semester each year so that Council committees could begin their work earlier in the fall semester. As a result, the Committee made selections for two academic years: 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

2022-2023 Council Committee Appointments:

Wednesday, March 23: Volunteer survey sent to all RIC faculty with deadline Wednesday March 30 (deadline extended).

Tuesday, April 19: Committee meeting

Wednesday, April 27: Committee meeting

Pending: Meeting with Provost Tate to finalize staff appointments

Pending: Notification of Committee appointments

Relevant information regarding the selection process:

- The Committee on Committees accepted Keri Rossi-D'Entrmont's resignation and accepted Arthur Patrie's appointment.
- Over 50 faculty volunteered to serve on Council committees.
- The President and Provost did not call for an additional staff survey, and will consult the previous survey of professional staff for making appointments.
- Several principles guided the Committee's selection process of faculty appointments including: (1) appointing faculty to committees who had not previously served and making as many appointments from the volunteer list as was practical and possible; (2) appointing faculty representing all five schools; (3) appointing faculty who represented diverse populations at RIC.
- For the 2022-2023 academic year, membership on Council Committees was not a consideration, as complete Council list for 2022-2023 was not available. The Committee also concluded that these Council appointments are of limited benefit when compared to the other principles guiding the selection process.

Other Issues discussed in meetings relevant to Council Committees:

- The Council Chair should offer a template for committee reports. Information may include meeting dates, agenda items and decisions, discussion of any changes to current bylaws.
- Committee reports should be posted on the RIC website and also sent to each committee chair for the new academic year.
- Some committees might benefit from expanding the number serving on the committee and from representation from each of RIC's five schools.

The Committee offers its thanks to members of the faculty who expressed a willingness to serve on Council Committees and to Dr. Thomas Schmeling for his help and guidance with the 2021-2022 volunteer survey.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Connolly

Valerie Endress (Chair)

Arthur Patrie

Carse Ramos

Kemal Saatcioglu.

