

Charge to develop an Undecided Option for RIT October 2008

Context: A large number of high school students are undecided as to what their major or interest in college might be. To make RIT 'friendly' to these students, and to make transferring between majors easier while deciding, ideas have been floated to create an undecided option and an admit with intent process. The Undecided Option group will meet to devise a proposal that will build on these ideas.

Undecided Option Group: Jorge Diaz-Herrera*, Robert Ulin*, Ian Gatley, Harvey Palmer, Nicole Boulais, Lynne Mazadoorian**, Joan Stone***, Andrew Moore***.

Previous work to consider: "Admit with Intent" white paper. Attached.

Charge: Develop a proposal in a timely manner and bring the proposal back to Deans Council and Academic Innovation Council. The proposal should address:

1. An option that will attract and retain students who initially are undeclared and undecided – this will need a designation and a program so that these students can be tracked and supported;
2. A university-wide infrastructure to support and advise these students;
3. A plan for how undecided students might enter the university and explore options in their first year across as many colleges as possible. They should be able to declare a major between the end of the 1st and 2nd year but they may not get into their first choice.
4. For some students who have an idea but are not fully committed, an 'intent' to major in a discipline could be possible. The program should accommodate these students as they may trade 'intentions' in the first or second year.
5. How the Exploration Programs fit into this University-wide Undecided Options.
6. An appropriate name for this program.
7. Whether the summer is an opportunity to support this University Undecided Options program.

Target date for update: 11 November 2008

Target date for final proposal: 5 December 2008

* = co-chair

** = meeting facilitator

*** = 'consultant'