Your Career at RIT – Hit the Ground Running!

Dr. Christine Licata, Professor & Senior Associate Provost, Academic Affairs
August 10, 2016

Welcome to New Faculty Orientation
August 14-15, 2013

“Two Roads Diverged in the Woods...
Noble Calling vs. High Paid Job
... and that has made all the difference.”
Robert Frost, The Road Not Taken

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT
ACADEMY
COLLEGIUM

BALANCE IS KEY
Students
Colleagues
RIT Community

YOU ARE A SHAREHOLDER!

5 Essential “C’s”:
1. Clarity → Performance Expectations
   Workload
2. Culture and Customs → RIT
   College
   Department
3. Collaboration → Mentoring
   Colleagues
4. Coping and Commitment → First Year Stress
   Set Limits
5. Courage → Show Your True Colors
   Get Outside Comfort Zone
   Reflect

CAREER MISTAKES TO AVOID
(Robert Boice)

Mistake #1: “Over/Under Syndrome”
• Over-preparing for Class
• Under-preparing for Class
• Trying to prepare for every question

Success Strategy:
• Shoot for 2:1 Rule
• Grade Tough on Homework
• Be Fully in the Moment
• Preparation Makes it Look Easy

CAREER MISTAKES TO AVOID
(Robert Boice)

Mistake #2: “Home Alone”

Success Strategy:
• Working non-stop and alone
• Waiting for colleagues to seek you out
• Isolated Scholarship

Mistake #2: “Home Alone”

Success Strategy:
• Network at least 1 to 2 hours per week
  → Coffee
  → Lunch
  → Stop by
• Find Research Collaborators
  (Strong in your weakest areas)
• Join Writing Group
• Beg/Bribe: Critique
CAREER MISTAKES TO AVOID
(ROBERT BOICE)

Mistake #3: “Scattered Vision”
• Working without clear goals/plans
• Overcommitting
• Focusing on most pressing vs. most important

Success Strategy:
• Seek periodic feedback from department chair
• Learn to say “no” – Practice it
• Schedule regular appointment with SELF

CAREER SIGNPOSTS TO FOLLOW

Listen to the Voices of Successful RIT Faculty

Disclaimers: The statements to come are not necessarily from the pictured faculty.

You Can’t Make It Alone
“Meet, Greet, Repeat.”
Take every opportunity to participate in ways to meet others across campus.

Networking is not just a major at RIT . . . It is your way of becoming one with RIT.

Be Good to Yourself
Buy a good raincoat – you’ll need it in Rochester. And, if you don’t need it, there’ll be reason to celebrate!

Don’t worry if you lose your sunglasses, because they really aren’t ever needed!

Don’t sweat the politics too much, but don’t ignore it either.

Focus on the Journey – Not the Destination
Don’t over plan … expect the unexpected and go with it.

Feel free to ignore advice. When someone tells you not to engage in service, feel free to take their advice—but also feel free to ignore it. Participation and leadership are learned traits, but so too are non-participation and withdrawal.
The "A" students would probably be successful without you...a truer measure of your success is how well you engage, inspire and encourage students for whom the subject matter doesn't come easy.

Don't let policy get in the way of helping a student.

...And where will your students be coming from??
...What will they expect of you??
Listen to their voices!

The course you are teaching is not an island... understand where students are coming from and where they are going.

REMEMBER: YOU TEACH BECAUSE YOU CANNOT NOT.

POEM

“Dear Students”
By Nan Ottenritter

ALSO REMEMBER
YOUR GOOD FORTUNE IS RIT’S GOOD FORTUNE