The edX Advisory Council (EAC) will provide leadership and recommendations in operationalizing RIT’s strategic objectives through the use of the edX platforms.

Staff Council
April 7th, 2016

Deborah Blizzard
edx Advisory Council Co-Chair
Assoc Professor and Dept Chair, Science, Technology, and Society, COLA

Neil Hair
edx Advisory Council Co-Chair
Executive Director, ILI
edX Overview

Founded by Harvard and MIT in May 2012, edX is an open source, nonprofit online learning destination and MOOC provider.

EdX offers high-quality online courses from the world’s best universities and institutions to learners everywhere.

EdX strives to democratize and re-imagine education by increasing worldwide educational access and creating a culture of continuous, lifelong learning.
edX Overview

edX differs from other providers, such as Coursera and Udacity, in that it is a nonprofit organization and runs on open-source software. RIT is not getting into the “MOOC” business. Partnering with edX allows us to stay focused on data collection, research, and experimentation to further teaching and learning vs. profit.

The edX mission:

• Increase access to high-quality education for everyone
• Enhance teaching and learning on campus and online
• Advance teaching and learning through research
edX Platforms

edX.org is the online learning platform which hosts all open courses with discoverability and resource support.

Edge.edx.org is the exploratory domain where educators can create courses and experiment in a low-visibility environment.

edX Studio is the edX tool educators use to build the courses on these two platforms.
edX Advisory Council (EAC)

The edX Advisory Council is directed to provide leadership and recommendations in operationalizing RIT’s strategic objectives through the use of the edX platforms.

Consisting of members from the RIT community, the EAC has formed two working groups and a think tank.

**Group areas of focus:**

- Accessibility, academic quality, and learning outcomes
- Global visibility and awareness for RIT
- Alternative uses of edX platforms at RIT
edX Advisory Council (EAC)

EAC Co-Chairs: Deborah Blizzard and Neil Hair

Group #1: Access, academic quality, and learning outcomes
Jason Arena
Deborah Blizzard
Linda Bryant
Paul Craig
Michael D’Arcangelo
Lisa Elliott
Neil Hair
Therese Hannigan
Christine Kray
Enri Marini
Jeremiah Parry-Hill
Lea Stavoli
Anne Wahl
Mike Yacci

Group #2: RIT global visibility and awareness
Manny Contomanolis
Neil Hair
Therese Hannigan
Clark Hochgraf
James Myers
Amit Ray
Ellen Rosen
Cindy Sobieraj
Linda Tolan

Group #3 (think tank): Additional uses
Tyler Barley
Sara Bayerl
Heath Boice-Pardee
Jeanne Casares
Neil Hair
Jim Hall
Therese Hannigan
Lisa Hermsen
Joanne Humbert
Kimberly Slusser
Lea Stavoli
Ian Webber
Lynn Wild
EAC Group #1

Access, Academic Quality, and Learning Outcomes

a. Create a process or system to engage the entire RIT community on both edge.edx.org and edx.org platforms.

b. Create processes for evaluating and approving the development of semi-private RIT offerings on edge.edx.org.

c. Create processes for evaluating and approving the development of public RIT offerings on edx.org.
EAC Group #2

RIT Global Visibility and Awareness

a. Create a process for raising external awareness of RIT edX public offerings.

b. Create processes of raising awareness within RIT of all edX public offerings.
EAC Group #3 (think tank)

Additional uses

a. Evaluate unique experiences edX partners are creating.
b. Propose initiatives to enrich RIT student experience through edX.
c. Explore and document opportunities to utilize edge.edx.org to offer learning experiences for faculty and staff.
d. Develop a scholarship of teaching and learning program utilizing edX data.
e. Explore and propose options for how RIT can utilize edX to reach corporate partners.
f. Create processes for evaluating and approving highly innovative edge.edx.org RIT community projects.
Next Steps for RIT & edX

- RIT will hold sessions in the spring to dive into more detail on edX resources, opportunities, and seek input.
- The EAC will share their progress at one of the sessions.
- RIT will invite key staff from edX and partner universities to share experiences, new ideas, and answer questions.
- RIT faculty will share updates on initial edX course offerings.

As part of the contract, RIT must offer two learning modules by September (2016) and announce two more offerings upon launch.

EdX has identified two areas of demand, Game Design and UI/UX Design. RIT will be creating offerings in both areas to start.
Future EAC Updates

You can access information about the edX Advisory Council and future edX updates on the Provost’s website at:

https://www.rit.edu/provost/edX_partnership
Thank you for your time.

For More Information Please Contact:

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Group 2 Coordinator

Jim Hall  
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Access the January 28, 2016 edX Town Hall presentation at:  