The following message is from Dr. Jeremy Haefner, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

8 November 2010

Colleagues,

For the past several months, we have been discussing how we might establish an Institute of Health Sciences and Technology (IHST). Specifically, we focused on a draft charter for the new Institute in order to hone the discussion even further and we asked for, and accepted, input from a wide array of individuals.

The input has been extraordinarily helpful in crafting a charter for the IHST that works for RIT, Rochester General Health System (RGHS) and our alliance. I’m pleased to share with you that the concept of the Institute of Health Sciences and Technology has been well received by RIT faculty, students, staff, and alumni, and also by our colleagues at Rochester General Hospital System and the greater Rochester community. As a result, with my strong recommendation, President Destler approved the establishment of the Institute of Health Sciences and Technology as set forth in the final version of the charter, which is now available on the Provost’s website (http://www.rit.edu/provost/media/IHS_charter_v1-5.pdf). The establishment of the Institute is effective immediately.

When we first envisioned this partnership, we anticipated a School of Health Sciences and Technology inside the IHST. After listening carefully to the input and considering the potential, it became clear that we needed to create a college. Today I share with you that we will be creating a new College of Health Sciences and Technology for RIT, organizationally inside the IHST. This college, which will be RIT’s ninth college, will be headed by a dean who will also serve as a Vice President for RIT in charge of the IHST.

A number of academic degree programs are candidates to transfer over to the IHST. Following RIT policy D22.0 and D23.0, we have asked the core faculty of these programs to consider whether the Institute constitutes a better fit for their program. Faculty are currently conferring and, if they believe there is a fit, they will draft proposals for such a transfer. These proposals will then be vetted with the curriculum committees of the appropriate college and the dean will submit their recommendations to me. I am asking that this work be completed by approximately December 1 so that we can begin work on developing further details.

While faculty are discussing individual academic programs, we will concurrently develop a transition and implementation plan. I have asked Assistant Provost Richard Doolittle to lead this effort. At the same time, we will initiate a national search for the Dean and Vice President position. This search will be led by Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, Dr. Jim Watters.

This marks a substantial transformation and commitment by RIT to contribute to the field of health science and to our alliance with Rochester General Health Systems. I am truly grateful for all who took time to offer their input in this process. I remain committed to seeking your continued input as we further shape our energies in this exciting field. As always, I am honored to work side by side with faculty, students and staff at RIT.

Jeremy Haefner
This RIT message was sent by the myRIT Message Center to the members subscribed to the category *Important Institute Announcements - Important Institute Announcements*. If you would like to opt-out of a category of communications then please visit your myRIT Message Board at [my.rit.edu](http://my.rit.edu) to indicate your preferences.


Please do not respond to this email. Replies to this email will not be read or responded to. Please use the contact information provided in the email.