Colleagues,

As we settle into the summer-time rhythm, Dr. Destler and I want you to know how proud we are of the campus as it undergoes calendar conversion. With Year 2 now essentially complete, we take pride in the fact that (i) all of our programs have been converted and prepared for semesters in 2013; (ii) our academic calendar for 2013 is now set; (iii) our class schedule is under construction; and (iv) work is underway to establish our summer and intersession offerings. In addition, the new student information system has launched the new registration module, bringing online new functionality for the RIT community. It is truly amazing how far we have come thanks to the hard work by our dedicated faculty and staff.

In Year 3, we can expect an intensive academic year focused on individual advising plans for all of our students continuing under semesters. Our academic advisors have been busy preparing for this intense activity and I am pleased that they will be ready to work with our amazing students.

In this final year before semesters, we can also now begin planning future academic programs and so I inform the campus community that we are ready to lift the moratorium on new programs. The process for submitting new program proposals remains essentially the same; there is a concept paper phase followed by the full proposal approval process. I invite you to visit our new program approval process website located at: http://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/academicprogrammgmnt/. We have implemented a number of minor changes in the concept paper stage at the recommendation of the Academic Portfolio Blueprint Taskforce.

If you plan to submit a proposal for a new program, you should keep in mind the following key points for the process:

• A short concept paper must be drafted and vetted so that we can leverage contributions from across campus.

• After the concept paper stage, a full proposal must be submitted for review by the college curriculum committee, the ICC and/or the Graduate Council, and the Academic Senate; once approved by Academic Senate, programs must be presented to the university budget committee during the spring budget cycle for final approval. This means that proposals must have Academic Senate approval no later than January 15, 2013, if they are to be ready for budget hearings.

• President Destler will give final approval in the spring and an entire recruitment cycle must occur before the program can be offered. This means that typically the earliest students will be admitted to a new program will be the fall of 2014.
President Destler and I are looking forward to seeing the thoughtful additions to our academic portfolio through a renewed program approval process. After reading the website, please do not hesitate to ask me any questions.

Thank you and have a great summer!

Jeremy Haefner
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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