

This message is sent on behalf of Jeremy Haefner, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Colleagues,

If you attended the exit interview by the Middle States Evaluation Team this morning, you would have heard the sweet words that RIT “complies with all of the standards,” meaning that RIT passed the accreditation test in flying colors! It was a proud moment for RIT.

The report commended the excellence that RIT has demonstrated over the years as well as the significant self-study that the university developed and submitted for this review. Most if not all the recommendations or suggestions that the site team made were amplifications of the suggestions and recommendations found in the self-study. And these are honest suggestions which means that we truly took a critical look at ourselves.

Of course it took an entire university to make this happen. But I want to call out and acknowledge the multitude of people who helped develop the self-study and who played a critical role in the logistics of this visit.

Steering Committee members: The steering committee played the lead role in the development and writing of the self-study, as well as hosting the site team:

- Anne Wahl, co-chair
- Michael Laver, co-chair
- Karen Barrows
- Bob Finnerty
- Joan Graham
- Paula Grcevic
- Clyde Hull
- Bridget Hurley
- Keith Jenkins
- Sandy Johnson
- Ed Lincoln
- Yin Pan
- Tom Smith
- Kim Sowers
- Greg VanLaeken
- Kim VanGelder (RIT Trustee)

Academic Affairs office team: Our staff that supported the Steering Committee made everything happen from scheduling to catering:

- Bonnie Maddox
- Karel Shapiro
- Stephanie Maryan
- Grace Rubin

International visit: Dr. Tony Collins, the chair of the visiting team, also reviewed our campuses in Dubai and Zagreb so special thanks to those campuses for their support:

- Jim Myers
- Don Hudspeth
- Yousef Al Asaf

Academic Affairs guides (taking team from meeting to meeting) for MSCHE team: These staff helped the Middle States evaluation team know where and when to go:

- Laurie Clayton
- Leah Bradley
- Kerry Hughes

Working Group Chairs: Each Working Group had about 6-8 community members, including a rep from one of the international locations, and the chairs were relentless in their energy and commitment to their task:

- Sharon Lonhair, Standard 1
- Patrick Didas, Standard 2
- Marianne Gustafson, Standard 3
- Karey Pine, Standard 4
- Linda Tolan, Standard 5
- Rich Dirmyer, Standard 6
- Shirley Bower, Standard 7
- Steve Morse, Working Group 8 (Compliance)

Every major operation has a person who leads the effort, often in the background, looking after both the big and small pictures. The 'CEO' of this whole multiyear endeavor is Chris Licata, who guided the process from start to finish.

My special thanks to all of these people and the many more who are not listed who make the visit the past few days such a success.

Jeremy Haefner
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

For more information on this and other topics, please visit <https://www.rit.edu/president/middlestates/>