

University Advisory Committee on Gender Related Experience

Dear RIT faculty and staff,

President Sanders informed our campus community of a newly formed [University Advisory Committee on Gender Related Experience](#) (UACGRE) on November 3, 2025. The role of the UACGRE is to discuss and share observations regarding the gender-related experiences of students, faculty, and staff, with specific attention to the learning environment and institutional climate. While the committee does not hold authority over policy, programming, or resource allocation, its advisory findings will be submitted to university leadership to inform policy decisions, program design, and resource allocation.

We are glad to inform you that after consulting with various groups on campus, the following members of our community have been identified to serve as the inaugural members:

Aaron Deever, Principal Lecturer, GCCIS

Rich DeJordy, Department Chair, Department of Management, SCB

Kathy Ehrlich-Scheffer, Director WE @ RIT, KGCOE

Olivia Gauthier, Undergraduate/MBA, CAD

Sofie Herbeck, PhD student, COS

Jacquie Ludwig, Asst. Director of Access and Belonging Initiatives, COS

Leah Mackin, Asst. Director of Student Engagement, CET

Kelly Norris Martin, Dean, CLA

Cat Sakin, Undergraduate, KGCOE

Elizabeth Schwartz, Asst Director, Women and Gender Programs and Outreach

Alan Smerbeck, Associate Professor, CLA

Taj Smith, Exec. Dir. for Community and Education, Access, Engagement, and Success

Amy Stornello, Adjunct Faculty and NTID Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Anisette Wiggins, Undergraduate CHST

Committee members represent a range of perspectives and experiences, which will richly inform our work on gender-related

experiences. We thank the members of the committee for their willingness to serve and are excited about convening the committee in January 2026 to begin the important work.

We are also grateful to our community for its commitment to understanding and advancing gender-related experiences at RIT.

Sincerely,

Heidi Nickisher and Lana Verschage, UACGRE co-chairs
Prabu David, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic
Affairs