

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

Colleagues,

Rochester Institute of Technology prides itself as a leading cooperative education university placing over 4,000 students annually in paid cooperative education experiences. Employers happily say that our graduates are prepared upon graduation to “hit the ground running.” For many this is due to participation in experiential education through co-op. For others it may be due to internships, clinical experiences, research or other forms of experiential education available at RIT. It is safe to say that the co-op experience is a distinguishing and critically important characteristic of the university, and RIT is positioned as a world leader in this regard.

Effective July 1, RIT’s Division of Enrollment Management and Career Services will split, with Career Services and Cooperative Education functions reporting through the Office of the Provost. Enrollment Management functional areas will report to the new vice president for Enrollment Management. With this change, all functions under the integrated umbrella of Career Services and Cooperative Education will fall within the new reporting structure.

President Munson has articulated a vision where experiential learning at RIT greatly expands while still maintaining the important role of the co-op experience. Insuring integration with the academic experience and being intentional with experiential learning is a critical element of this vision. It is with this context that we are pleased to announce that, effective July 1, 2018, Career Services and Cooperative Education will report to Vice Provost Christine Licata.

While there are many details that must be considered over the course of the 2018-2019 academic year, the physical location of Career Services and Cooperative Education in the Bausch & Lomb Building and RIT’s distinctive integrated structure that includes career counseling, student employment, co-op, and senior and alumni placement will not change.

In addition, Maria Richart has demonstrated tremendous leadership of Co-op and Career Services in her interim director role over the past academic year and now serves in a permanent capacity along with her core leadership team.

Finally, I add that my good friend and colleague, Dr. James G. Miller, was the best example of a collaborative partner in this decision. His wisdom, insight, and experience has left an indelible mark on both Enrollment Management and Career Services and Cooperative Education here at RIT. I thank him for his legacy and his help over the years. Cheers, my friend.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Haefner
Provost and Senior Vice President