

Charge to the Provost's Task Force on Undeclared Students

Last year, I convened an Undeclared Majors task force to begin to look at issues with the large population of undeclared students at Rowan University. This task force concluded that the CAP center was best suited to address the advising needs of undeclared freshman. I fully concur with this recommendation, but many substantial issues beyond advising remain in the way the university handles undeclared students. As such, I charge this new task force to explore ways of finding an academic home for all the undeclared students so that we can:

- Improve our ability to anticipate the needs (course offerings, seats in eventual majors, tutoring, basic skills assistance, etc.) of our undeclared students.
- Insure that sufficient seats in courses are available to allow undeclared students to advance toward eventual transfer into majors.
- Be certain that all students are making progress towards a degree while eliminating students artificially entering majors in which they have no intention of pursuing a degree.
- Review barriers to the transfer of students into majors and remove those that are unnecessary.

I would like to see this task force generate specific recommendations that can be implemented immediately while also considering longer-term changes. I also expect this task force to work closely with the Strategic Enrollment Management task force as some issues clearly cross boundaries between the task forces. The Senate leadership and I are hopeful that this exercise in shared governance can lead to meaningful improvements for the University.