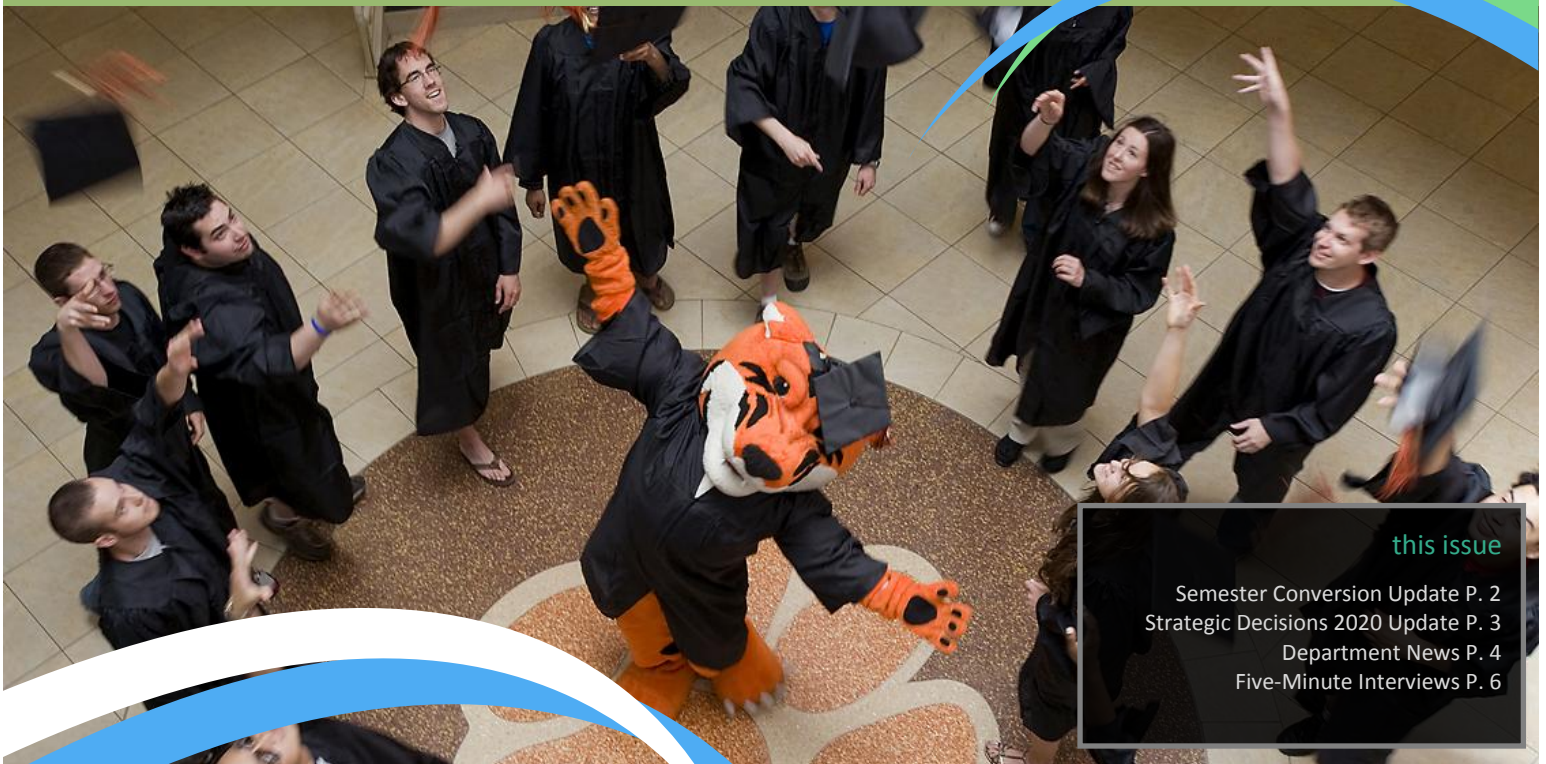


NTID Academic Affairs

Newsletter

SPRING QUARTER AY 2010-11



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A Message from Laurie Brewer

Wow! Where has the time gone? Graduation is just around the corner, and the buzz of activity and building excitement can be felt everywhere.

Some pretty amazing accomplishments have transpired over the past few months, with the collaboration of many hands and minds. Semester conversion is now two-thirds complete. Preparations are ready for participation in the fourth annual Imagine RIT Innovation and Creativity Festival. The Strategic Decisions 2020 Implementation Plan for Innovation, Scholarship and Research is unfolding, with open forums to provide opportunities for discussion and feedback. Students have provided vital feedback on various topics through open forums and focus groups.

Every department at NTID has felt the tug to morph and grow along with our students. Indeed, where would we be without the daily challenge to become better than what we were yesterday?

This newsletter celebrates the cycle of innovation, progression, completion and reflection. As this year's graduates prepare for their final exams, we applaud their journey as well as our own.

SAVE THE DATES!!

May 6, 2011

**Installation of NTID President
Gerard Buckley**

1:30 pm

Panara Theatre

(Reception follows in Dyer Arts Ctr.)

NTID Awards Ceremony

6:00-9:00 pm

SDC, Rm. 1300/1310

NTID Commencement

May 21, 2011

Community Reception

2:30-4:00 pm

Dyer Arts Center, LBJ Hall

Student/Faculty Lineup

4:15 pm

Fireside Lounge, Campus Center

Commencement Ceremony

Lauren Aggen, student delegate

5:00-7:00 pm

Ritter Ice Rink

Semester Conversion Update

By Marianne Gustafson

Spring Quarter, like the rest of the academic year, has been very busy with conversion activities. NTID is nearing the home stretch on converting degree programs and courses from quarters to semesters. Academic Chairs, Program Directors, Faculty and Staff have continued to be fully engaged in the process. Most programs and associated courses have gone through the various review levels or they are on the docket in the next few weeks. NTID is on target to complete ALL of the planned program and course conversions by the end of the quarter. KUDOS to us!

We owe a *huge* debt of gratitude to the co-chairs and members of the NTID Curriculum Committee (NCC) for the volume of work they've handled this year, and to the Intercollegiate

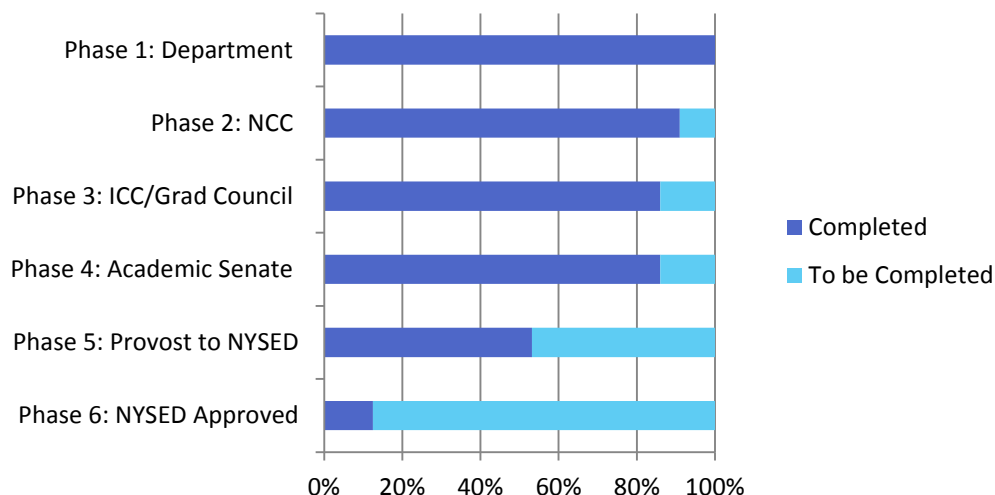
Curriculum Committee (ICC) and Graduate Council for their diligence in carefully considering the NTID proposals.

All of the program courses and a good number of general education courses have been finalized as well as Freshman Seminar. The RIT General Education Committee has reviewed and approved NTID mathematics and science courses that are named in AAS and AS degree programs. Course outlines are being uploaded for testing of the new GeneSIS student information/registration system. It looks like this will require modification to the formatting of some course outlines. It will be worth the effort because of the information about courses that students will be able to access in the semester system.

Semester Conversion by the numbers, as of April 28, 2011:

- Programs needing review: 32
- Programs to be converted: 22
- Programs to be discontinued: 10
- Semester courses reviewed by NCC: 253

Program Conversion Status - Review/Approval Phases



Imagine RIT Innovation and Creativity Festival

And the Imagination Continues.....

Planning for the 2011 Imagine RIT Festival has been underway for the last several months. This year's festival will showcase the imagination of RIT/NTID students, faculty and staff. On May 7, 2011 NTID's exhibitors will be returning to the Fireside Lounge inside the Student Alumni Union (SAU). The festival begins at 10:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. Shuttle transportation will be available from MCC with parking on campus on a first-come, first-served basis. Last year the festival attracted 35,000 visitors, and 5,000 of those visitors enjoyed all NTID had to offer. The festival is family friendly, free and open to the public.

There are several new and returning exhibits for NTID, including:

- Green Cleaning for the Domestic Goddess
- Octagonal Air Hockey Table
- Hands and Voices Performance Poetry
- 3-in-1 Snow Hiking Sole
- ASLIE Deaf Studies at RIT
- Donate Life/Meet the Author
- Streaming Video for NTID Job Search

To find out more information about this year's festival or to see a listing of all the exhibitors, visit the Imagine RIT website at <http://www.rit.edu/imagine/> or become a fan at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/ImagineRIT>.

For more information about the festival and NTID exhibits, please contact Mary Jane Schwan at mjsadm@rit.edu.



SD 2020: Innovation, Scholarship and Research (ISR) Implementation Plan

The ISR Implementation Committee has circulated a document, *Guidelines for Supporting Innovation, Scholarship and Research at NTID*, along with the initial architectural drawings of the “Imagination Hall” and feedback from faculty. Issues generated are:

1) *Is Imagination Hall just for researchers?*

No, all faculty can use the “innovation space” to do research with their students—the focus will be on projects that have or lead to external funding.

2) *Is this lab space only for Associate Degree level students?*

No, we hope to have baccalaureate and graduate students working in the Imagination Hall. Since there are other areas on campus for these students to work, priority will be given to faculty working with associate’s degree students.

3) *Why lock in space for four (4) Strategic Research Centers on the first floor when we don’t know how many centers we*

will have?

Good point. We are working with the architects to make the space as flexible as possible housing between 2-4 centers.

On the second floor of the Innovation Hall the committee is proposing “**Innovation Labs**” where faculty and students can work together to do innovative research and development of entrepreneurial initiatives. It is also planning an “**Experimental Classroom**” where faculty can try out and record new instructional approaches. The committee is soliciting more feedback as to how these facilities may be used in faculty research/scholarship efforts and what considerations should be included in the design.

An open forum is scheduled on May 2, 1-2 pm in the Bamboo Room of Campus Center. The discussion will include of the types of programs and activities that may occur in the Innovation Labs and Experimental Classroom. This open forum is the initial input to the design of these spaces. Later there will be smaller focus groups to provide feedback as the design process continues.

P.I. Millionaires Honored

Eight RIT faculty members have joined the Principle Investigators Million Dollar Club for 2010. Among them is **Peter Hauser**, Associate Professor, NTID Research & Teacher Education. Peter joins the 24-member club by having secured at least \$1 million in research support.

As an educator and clinical neuropsychologist, Peter studies the brain and behavior relationships of hearing and deaf children and adults. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

Other P.I. Millionaires from NTID are:

- **Donna Lange**, Associate Professor, Information & Computing Services (ICS)
- **Paula Brown**, Associate Professor (Ret.), Communication Studies & Services (CSS)
- **Susan Foster**, Professor, Research & Teacher Education (RTE)
- **Marc Marschark**, Professor and Director, Center for Education Research Partnerships (CERP)
- **Jeffrey Rubin**, Director, Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD)

SD 2020 ISR Implementation Planning Committee

To learn more about Imagination Hall, visit

<http://www.ntid.rit.edu/imaginatiohall>.

Send your feedback on the ISR Implementation Plan to any of the following Committee members:

- Laurie Brewer, co-chair
- Gary Long, co-chair
- Jim DeCaro
- Rich Dirmyer
- Susan Foster
- Marc Marschark
- Todd Pagano
- Mike Stinson
- Brian Trager

Department News

PEPNet, Creative and Cultural Studies, and Liberal Studies

The annual convention of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), which took place March 17-19 in New Orleans, featured an invited session, "TEDS 101: Teaching English to Deaf Students in Diverse Settings." Jerry Berent (Research & Teacher Education) presented on effective English-teaching methods, and Loriann Macko (PEPNet Northeast) provided the component on online resources for teaching English to deaf students. Also involved in this special session were Jane Nickerson (Gallaudet University) and Jennifer Kaika (Montgomery College). Two other NTID members contributed to this year's TESOL Convention. Luane Haggerty (Cultural and Creative Studies) and Peter Haggerty (Liberal Studies) presented "The Visual Integrated Concepts in English (VICE) Squad." TESOL is committed to sustaining coverage of the English teaching/learning needs of deaf students and the diversity of approaches for addressing these needs.

Engineering Studies

Jerrin George, an RIT/NTID student studying Mechanical Engineering Technology in the College of Applied Arts and Sciences, received the Staud Freckleton scholarship award at the annual Rochester Engineering Society Gala event on April 9th. The \$1,000 award was presented to Jerrin by Jon Freckleton, part-time RIT professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology, and by Lisa Moretto, President of the Rochester Engineering Society.

Arts and Imaging Studies

A photo exhibition of the work of Tony Toscano and his father, Nicola Toscano opens May 1st at the Italian American Community Center, 150 Frank DiMino Way, Rochester 14624. The exhibit features "Little Italy," a collection of Tony's photographs from the NYC area in the 1970's, and "Calabria Com'era – Calabria as it was," images Nicola captured on film in the 1950's and 60's.

AIS Student Honors Exhibition

Opening Reception May 4, 4-6 pm, Dyer Arts Center, LBJ Hall

This exhibition highlights the best work produced by Arts & Imaging Studies students and NTID-supported baccalaureate students who are preparing for careers in arts and design, digital imaging and publishing technology. At the opening reception, the Charles R. McDougal Memorial Award will be presented to a student in the arts field to recognize overall achievement.

This year's McDougal Award recipient is Samantha Williams, from Carol Stream, IL. Samantha will graduate this May, earning her AOS degree in Arts & Imaging Studies with dual concentrations in graphic design and photography.



Photo by Ben Cort

United Way Café "Sweet Shoppe" Fundraiser

The NTID Offices of the President and Academic Affairs collaborated to create an old-fashioned 1950's- and 60's-style "Sweet Shoppe" of goodies, music, movies, and fun to kick off the annual United Way Campaign at NTID.

Visitors to the NTID United Way Café found many homemade treats to eat for making a small donation. The proceeds, totaling \$342, benefit the United Way Community Fund.

Event organizers Catherine Ford, Lin Hoke and Sydney Long wish to thank the student employees who contributed high energy and great ideas to the project. They are: Ethan Belcher, Kaylee Finton, Alex Marshall, Michael Mendoza, and Heather Sparkman. Nice job, well done for a good cause!

Women's Career Achievement

Several NTID students, faculty, staff and administrators have been nominated by their departments to attend the annual Women's Career Achievement Dinner on May 2nd in the Gordon Field House. The dinner provides an opportunity for successful alumnae to share their stories and network with current students. Alumnae can share the highlights and challenges they have experienced as women in their career paths and offer tips and strategies for success.

This year's attendees include 19 faculty/staff/administrators and 22 students from ASLIE, ICS, Business Studies, Student and Academic Services, Liberal Studies, Science & Math, and WMDF.



Student Rating System (SRS)

The Student Rating System (SRS) is now open for Spring Quarter and will remain open for online student participation until Sunday, May 15 at 11:59 pm.

A new feature has been added to the SRS request page that allows instructors and service providers to track their own survey participation rates. After logging in to www.ntid.rit.edu/srs/sp, faculty and staff can click on the white button at the bottom called, "Check Response Rates." An overall percentage is given in relation to possible student participation. No student names will appear, however, to protect their anonymity.

The Summary of Student Ratings reports will be prepared and distributed during Break Week.

For any questions or comments pertaining to the SRS, please contact Sue Roethel at smrnvd@rit.edu or x55326.

Spotlight on Research and Scholarship

By Geoff Poor, Coordinator and Associate Professor,
Office of Communication Assessment Services

The Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) has recently been going international. Under the auspices of the Peace Corps, two members of the National SLPI: ASL Leadership Board, which I serve as Coordinator, provided training a few years ago to teams in Kenya and Nigeria.

This past February, the Dutch university Hogeschool Utrecht brought me to Holland for two weeks to give them some information on the SLPI and consult with them on language assessment in general. I also had the delightful experience of teaching ASL to a class of Dutch Sign Language students.

In June, I'll spend two weeks in South Africa, a country with a fascinating sign language situation. The several distinct varieties of South African Sign Language, mostly undocumented, come from a hodgepodge of influences, including European sign languages, widely scattered schools in which signing evolved independently, and indigenous tribal signing.

I'll conduct SLPI training at the National Institute for the Deaf in Worcester, and help them think through the complexities of using the SLPI in a country with such

disparate language environments. I'll then spend a few days near Johannesburg, consulting with a teacher and researcher who has used signing to support teaching English to hearing Zulu children and adults. She wants to learn more about sign language grammar, sign language in education, and the tricky question of standardization.

It's very rewarding that all of these activities serve the principle of access. When people know and understand the thoughts and ideas of others, everyone benefits.



Guys and Dolls

Theatre production by NTID Performing Arts

May 5-6 at 7:30 pm; May 7 at 2:00 and 7:30 pm; May 8 at 2:00 pm
Robert F. Panara Theatre

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser
Book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows
Directed by Luane Davis Haggerty

Tickets are \$5 students, seniors/\$7 others. For more information, please email ntidtix@rit.edu or visit <http://www.rit.edu/ntid/dccs/performingarts/guysdolls.html>.

5-Minute Interviews

Meet a few more members of our community

Randy Jackson, 4th Year Student in Fine Arts Studio



When did you start working at NTID? I started working with Student Life Team as a Student Community Advocate back in November.

What is your favorite thing about NTID? I love the diversity you can find within the student body here at NTID. Everyone brings a little of something to the table.

Where did you grow up and what do you miss from home? I am originally from southern California, but for the most part I grew up in Memphis, TN. I considered both places to be my home. I missed the good southern food and barbecue.

How would you describe your dream job? I have so many ideas of what I want to do, but right now I am dreaming of starting my own video production company producing educational films and shows using entirely in American Sign Language.

What are your favorite Websites? My favorite website is stumbleupon.com. You won't believe what kind of stuff you can find on the website nowadays.

What are your hobbies? I have so many hobbies - I like to socialize, play board and card games, and watch movies. There is one thing that I love to do, which is country line dance. I go to the Roost every Thursday night and do some line dancing.

If you could invite anyone in the world to come to NTID and speak to our community, who would that be? I saw Signmark during RIT/Gallaudet Sports Weekend. He was really inspiring and awesome. I would love to have him back to NTID again.



Professional Development

Faculty and Staff are invited to attend these upcoming Summer Professional Development workshops:

Creating Charts and Graphs in Excel, presented by Tom Allen

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

9:00 am-12:30pm

Office 2007/2010: Upgrade from 2003, presented by Tom Allen

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

1:00-4:30 pm

How to Kill Creativity, presented by Duane Beck

Thursday, June 9, 2011

9:00-11:30 am

Watch your email for session details and registration information.

Time Grants

Time Grants provide tenured and tenure-track faculty with the opportunity to: 1) research applications of new technologies; 2) pursue other innovative pedagogical approaches to learning; or 3) support the development and submission of grant requests to outside funding agencies.

Applications should be made at least two quarters prior to the requested course reduction. **The application deadline is June 17, 2011 for Winter Quarter, 2011-2012.**

For information and application instructions, please visit:

www.ntid.rit.edu/pd/grants.php



Ron Rood, Lecturer, ASLIE



I started working at NTID last August of 2011. My favorite thing about NTID would be my colleagues—we all work together equally—and teaching ASL to COLA students. I grew up from Rochester, NY and originally from Detroit, Michigan (moved here when I was 4 years old). My dream vacation would be going somewhere remotely with blue water, by the beach, deep sea fishing. My favorite websites would be ESPN website, www.MGOBLUE.com (University of Michigan sports) and lastly, www.deafrochy.com for the Deaf events in Rochester. Hobbies: Bowling, Golfing, playing Madden on Playstation 3. If I can invite anyone in the world, it would be Laurent Clerc. I admire how he sacrificed his homeland to come to our country because he was passionate in the education of Deaf children and wanted to see them succeed. He did a wonderful job and I would have loved to see him come to NTID and share his experience.

Elizabeth (Beth) Lockwood, Staff Assistant, Information and Computing Studies

I started working at NTID in January, 2010. The students are wonderful here at NTID. They are so friendly and show such enthusiasm to learn. NTID is filled with great people! I lived in Rochester until the age of 13. I moved to Wyoming (the State) with my family. I loved living out west! You look to the west and all you see are mountains! I do not miss it because I vacation there with my family and my kids love it! My dream vacation would be to ride a gondola in Venice, Italy with my wonderful husband, Mike! My favorite websites are www.foodnetwork.com and facebook. I am trying to learn to be a better cook so I love trying new recipes. I enjoy camping and bike riding. I would like to invite Jimmy Carter to speak to our community. He is a strong advocate for fighting disease, hunger and poverty all over the world.



Deirdre Schlehofer, Lecturer, ASLIE



Picture courtesy of ETC Photo, The Wallace Center

In August 2010 I began working full-time at NTID, having been associated with RIT through various contracts for a long time. It is a rewarding experience to watch our students deepen their understanding through their learning at NTID/RIT. I enjoy talking about ideas with students, staff and faculty and putting these ideas into action through collaborative learning.

I grew up with my family in rural Connecticut and attended a residential school for the deaf in Mystic, CT where I could see the sea from my dormitory window. I was fortunate to have been exposed to two different geographical areas. My parents moved back to CT only recently, so it is nice to go back there now. In the past I lived in Alaska, Scotland, England and Zimbabwe. Today, I have a deep respect for the preservation of nature and animals.

I travel often. This summer I am going to South Africa for the XVI World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Congress. For my next trip, I hope to visit Florence, Italy for its rich history and its authentic Italian food and wine. My favorite online websites are American Educational Research Journal, American Journal of Public Health, Christian Science Monitor (international politics), and, of course, Google. My hobbies are learning new things, traveling, dining out, watching good movies and HGTV, spending time with family and close friends, and doing research.

Austin Gehret, Lecturer, Science and Math

Years at RIT/NTID: 1st Yr Faculty

Your favorite thing about working at NTID: Right now, learning ASL and seeing how it is allowing me to communicate more effectively with faculty, staff and students alike.

Where did you grow up and do you miss it: Bath, NY. I miss it for what it was when I grew up. Rochester offers so much more and I've enjoyed living here for the last 10 years.

Where would you go on your next vacation (if money was not a concern): Europe

Favorite Websites: eBay, CNN.com, ESPN.com

Hobbies: Reading, running, movies





Now we're Rockin' and Rollin' on to Graduation!

With the school year coming to a close soon, we appreciate the chance to look back and reflect on the work that we've done to get us here.

Do you have any news or comments about this newsletter you'd like to share? Is there anything you want to know that you'd like to find in the next newsletter?

Send your comments to Sue Roethel at smrnvd@rit.edu.

Photography in this issue: Unless otherwise noted, all photos are courtesy of Mark Benjamin, Educational Design Resources (EDR).

The Last Word...from Stephen Aldersley

One of the central recommendations of Strategic Vision 2010, as you may recall, was to re-proportion the student body such that Career Exploration Studies + career-focused programs combined would equal 35% of our deaf and hard of hearing undergraduate population. Strategic Vision 2020 reiterated that goal. There were several reasons for the original recommendation, one of which is the fact that the main career-focused degree, the AOS, continues to be critical to the success of a significant proportion of our students, but unpopular. In overwhelming numbers students enter NTID with the expectation that they will earn a bachelor's degree. (Last year, we awarded 228 degrees to deaf and hard-of-hearing undergraduate students. Of these, just 42 were AOS degrees.)

We have a challenge! We still have almost 48% of our students either in Career Exploration Studies or career-focused programs – exactly the same proportion we had in 2006. At that time 48% equaled 525 students, now, it equals 600. The Enrollment Targets Committee is charged with making recommendations to reduce that number to 447 by 2020 - while at the same time, increasing associate+bachelor's and bachelor's students by an equal number. Whether or not we will be able to achieve that goal, it seems to me, we have to re-focus our efforts on finding ways of helping students see the value of the AOS degree. After all, we know that AOS graduates find employment in their technical fields at almost the same rate as students with AAS degrees. We know that the students we accept into AOS programs would most likely not be accepted into community colleges, and, if accepted, would not graduate. We know if students attend NTID they have a much higher rate of graduation. We know that students who attend NTID but leave with no degree are no more likely to find employment than students who never attend. And we know that many of our AOS graduates go on later in their careers to earn higher degrees. What we have failed so far to do, it seems to me, is convert these reasons into a package that convinces our students that the AOS is a solid and viable degree and one worth attaining. We have to change this for the sake of our students.

NTID Office of Academic Affairs

Rochester Institute of Technology
52 Lyndon Baines Johnson Hall
Suite 2850
Phone 585-475-5326
Fax 585-475-4959
smrnvd@rit.edu