

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce that nominations are currently being accepted for faculty and staff participation in the 2017-2019 cohort of the Rutgers Leadership Academy (RLA).

The Academy focuses on the development of cross-cutting leadership concepts, competencies, and tools to enhance professional capabilities for faculty and staff in Rutgers-New Brunswick and Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences with an interest in and potential for expanded leadership.

As a result of participating in this collaborative learning environment, Fellows acquire an enhanced understanding of the challenges confronting Rutgers and other colleges and universities, and a broadened leadership knowledge and skill-set for effectively addressing these challenges. Working with others in a leadership capacity to improve aspects of university operations is a key component of the RLA experience. Thus, participants assume a leadership role in a unit or campus project that will have tangible benefits for their unit and/or the campus or university as a whole. A list of the impressive projects completed by the inaugural cohort can be found [here](#). Click [here](#) for a complete list of RLA Fellows from the inaugural, 2015-2017 cohort. The RLA program has been featured at several professional conferences and it was recently recognized in the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

The RLA is one of several leadership development programs sponsored by the Center for Organizational Development and Leadership (ODL), which is now a unit within the Office of the SVPAA. The Academy is led by Brent Ruben, ODL Executive Director and distinguished professor of Communication; Richard De Lisi, former dean of the Graduate School of Education and university professor; and Ralph Gigliotti, ODL Assistant Director of Leadership Programs. Senior academic, professional, and administrative leaders from a variety of disciplines and areas participate in the program as RLA faculty.

Mid-career faculty and staff with 7 or more years of scholarly/professional experience from New Brunswick and Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) are eligible to be nominated for participation as RLA Fellows. The nominee should be one who has potential for increased leadership responsibility and achievement within higher education.

Nominations for participation in the RLA need to be submitted by VPs, deans, directors, chairs or other senior administrative leaders who see the value in creating an expanded pool of future leaders within their unit and the university, and who want to recognize and encourage the development of particular colleagues to assume increasing leadership responsibility. Nominators will agree to serve a facilitating and mentoring role throughout the program and will help to identify projects through which RLA Fellows can exercise a leadership role.

Fellows and their nominators will be asked for a two-year RLA program commitment that includes support of participants attending RLA meetings and completing program requirements. Click [here](#) for a preliminary schedule of RLA events for the upcoming year. Additional information regarding the RLA program is available on the [ODL website](#).

The RLA Fellow nomination form for the 2017-2019 program can be found at <http://odl.rutgers.edu/fellows-nomination/>. Nominations for the next cohort of the program will be accepted from April 12, 2017 through May 15, 2017. Decisions will be made in June 2017.

Questions about the program should be directed to [rulead@rutgers.edu](mailto:rulead@rutgers.edu).

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