

## **Charge to the Digital Badging Committee**

In response to a request from the University Senate last May, I am establishing a University-wide Committee to explore the creation, approval, use, and review of Rutgers Digital Badges and similar new competency-based credentials. The charge to the Committee includes the following:

- Developing a draft Policy on Digital Badging for the Policy Library, which includes: defining Rutgers digital badges and who is eligible to create such digital badges; establishing an approval process for issuing digital badges; setting minimum standards/requirements for Rutgers digital badges; and proposing guidelines for review and assessment of individual badges and the badging system as a whole.
- Developing detailed procedures for submitting Rutgers badges for approval and ongoing review to ensure that digital badges meet and maintain established standards; determining whether and/or how such procedures could be appended to existing academic review processes, or whether a new review body and/or specific procedures or resources are warranted.
- Exploring the role of third-party software vendors (such as Credly and Canvas) in implementing a system of digital badges at Rutgers, including making recommendations about whether Rutgers should work with a sole vendor or allow multiple vendors, and which vendor(s) are preferred. Guidelines for establishing training for the use of digital badging system(s) should be included.
- Providing guidance on how to work with employers, professional societies, accrediting associations and others regarding Rutgers' use of digital badges, especially in terms of educating and marketing the use of such badges to employers.
- Creating a common visual identity template(s) for Rutgers' badges originating from different parts of the University.
- Proposing a process to assess the impact of digital badging on the larger learning environment at Rutgers and a plan to assess the efficacy of the badging system over time.

This work should be undertaken with reference to national trends in digital badging, and in particular the actions of our peer institutions (the Senate report provides much information in this area). The bullet points above should be thought of as starting points, as many sub-issues to be addressed may arise as you conduct your work. The expected end product is a report on digital badging that covers the above areas and makes recommendations for how to proceed on each. I am hopeful that your work can be completed by the end of the fall 2020 semester.

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