

August 23, 2011

Mr. Kenneth Swalagin
University Senate
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
ASB III, Suite 110
Cook/Douglass Campus

Dear Mr. Swalagin:

I am writing in response to the Updated Response to Charge A-0906 on Commencement Dates, as adopted by the University Senate on April 29, 2011. I thank the members of the Academic Standards, Regulations and Admissions Committee for their attention to this issue.

My administration is pleased to accept the Senate's authorization to move the 2012 University Commencement to Sunday, May 13th, and will proceed with planning the commencement ceremonies for that date. I understand that this is an interim authorization, and that the Senate wishes to undertake further review and evaluation of the 2011 Commencement before making a decision about the dates for subsequent commencement ceremonies.

I appreciate your continuing deliberations on this issue and look forward to the Senate's final decision on permanently moving University Commencement to the Sunday after final exams by January of 2012.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. McCormick

c: Richard Edwards, Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Leslie Fehrenbach, Secretary of the University
Barry Qualls, Vice President for Undergraduate Education