Endorsement of the Call to Conversation

Student Senate
November 28, 2005

The Student Association endorses the process of President David Leebron’s Call to Conversation. The Call to Conversation actively engaged students in a dialogue on the future of Rice University. Students have expressed a sincere interest in furthering the development of Rice and appreciate that President Leebron included students in an open dialogue of the challenges and opportunities that Rice will face.

The Student Association recognizes the many steps taken by President Leebron to assure that the thoughts, concerns, and vision of undergraduate students were collected. We appreciate the range of means provided to engage in the conversation. President Leebron sought the opinions of students through individual forums at each residential college and a university forum with the Student Association and the Student Senate. At each forum, President Leebron provided his thoughts on the Call to Conversation and welcomed the feedback of students. In addition, students engaged in the conversation during monthly office hours in the President’s office.

In addition, all students were sent a link to the document and invited to join the conversation through an online website that allowed students to provide their comments in writing at their convenience. Students responded to the call with diligence and thoughtfulness. In addition to the many students that engaged in the colleges and the Student Senate, hundreds of students submitted their comments online.

It is the hope of the Student Association that the comments gathered through the conversation be incorporated in President Leebron’s vision for the university. The diverse range of student viewpoints collected will provide a powerful indication of the unique nature of the Rice experience. The comments convey the importance of Rice traditions and a balanced approach to fulfilling the university’s great potential that is respectful of these distinct traditions.