

**Agenda for the Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**January 26, 2021**  
**WebEx, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM**

- I. Convening of the meeting – Denis Blackmore, President
- II. Approval of minutes of 12/15/20 meeting
- III. Report of the Faculty Senate President ( $\cong$  10 min.)
  - a. Presidential search, NJIT priorities
  - b. Concerns about deans' roles in hiring
- IV. Proposals for Presidential Search: Yehoshua Perl ( $\cong$  20 min.)
- V. Proposal for Data Science Department in YWCC: Dean Craig Gotsman ( $\cong$  35 min.)
- VI. Proposal for B.S. in Data Science: David Bader ( $\cong$  25 min.)
- VII. New Business

**Minutes for the Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**January 26, 2021**  
**WeBex, 11:30AM-1:30PM**

1. Convening of the meeting-Denis Blackmore, President  
The meeting started at 11:32AM
2. Voting Members Present: A. Rosato, E. Farinas, P. Armenante, Q. Jones, A. Kosovichev, R. Sodhi, H. Grebel, A. Gerbessiotis, D. Blackmore, L. Rodriguez-Freire, M. Schwartz, M. Vinnikov, D. Bunker, S. Adamovich, Y. Perl, A. Utrera, R. Goodman, U. Roshan, E. Thomas, I. Gatley, A. Borgaonkar, N. Steffen, D. Horntrop, A. Eun Jung Lee, M. Bandelt, N. Maher, B. Khusid
3. Non-Voting Members Present: M. O'Connor Knight, K. Belfield, K. Sandell, B. Baltzis, C. Gotsman, A. Hoang, A. Dhawan, K. Riismandel, O. Tukul, L. Hamilton, J. Bedient, J. Yuan, M. Stanko, F. Deek, B. Kolarevic, M. Kam,
4. Guests Present: David Bader (Computer Science), Eliza Michalopoulou (Mathematical Sciences), Laurent Simon (Undergraduate Studies), Amitbha Bose (Mathematical Sciences), Sotiri Ziavras (Graduate Studies), Cristian Borcea (Computer Science), Julie Ancis (Humanities)
5. Approval of the minutes 12/15/2020 meeting  
Motion to approve the minutes by A. Rosato and seconded by E. Thomas. Motion was approved with unanimously
6. Report of the Faculty Senate President  
D. Blackmore gave his report: Dean's role in hiring-next FS meeting will have a proposal for change in the Handbook regarding the Dean's role in the hiring process. Sharing thoughts. At the Board of Trustees meeting coming up-FS will give a report on what it has been doing, future plans, and suggestions on procedures. Two important items have been suggested to us: acceleration of the presidential search procedure (speed it up by 3 months) and NJIT's five-year plan should continue to have vigorous hiring of new faculty as one of the top priorities. Informal consensus to recommend the acceleration of the presidential search process by 3 months and continue the hiring of new faculty to the Board of Trustees.
7. Proposals for Presidential Search: Yehoshua Perl  
Y. Perl gave his presentation on proposals for Presidential Search. Create an ad hoc committee that can draft up qualifications for the next president and put some pressure on the Board of Trustees to move the process along. Motion to create a small ad hoc committee on the presidential search by Y. Perl. Discussion followed on the purpose of the committee and what function it would serve. Y. Perl rephrased his motion to suggest setting up a committee for setting the qualifications for the candidates. Q&A with discussion followed. The motion was not voted on, so D.

Blackmore charged Y. Perl to set up a small committee with 2 or 3 people to work with, and put together a draft that will be considered at the next Faculty meeting.

8. Proposal for Data Science Department in YWCC: Dean Craig Gotsman

Dean Gotsman gave his presentation on the proposal to establish a Department of Data Science in YWCC. Dean Gotsman gave background on YWCC, showed enrollment numbers, potential and expected growth, growth in Data Science generated job opportunities, the job market during the pandemic and future job trends, talked about NJIT @ Jersey City, and effects on YWCC. Organizational Changes: downsize Computer Science-make it more manageable, 5-6 core founding faculty from within YWCC, move BS in DS and MS in DS from Computer Science to Data Science, more students in YWCC, increased Data Science visibility and prominence, joint appointments, and more collaborations. Benefits to other NJIT colleges/departments: increased enrollment will increase tuition revenue, create joint appointments with other departments, collaborations with corporations and faculty, and provide service courses to the rest of the University. Q&A with discussion followed. Motion to approve this proposal by C. Gotsman and seconded by A. Gerbessiotis. The motion was tabled. New motion: to give general support to this proposal for a new Data Science department. The new motion was approved with 0 no's and 2 abstentions.

9. Proposal for B.S. in Data Science: David Bader

David Bader gave his presentation on a proposal to establish the BS in Data Science degree program. Program announcement went out and hopes to launch this program by September 2021. Showed that many emerging jobs in the US require data science. NJIT is in the prime location for Data Science, a region where data scientist jobs are most needed in the US. The proposed BS in Data Science degree program aligns well with the Institutional Strategic Plan. It should have a positive impact on existing programs at NJIT. Showed enrollment projections, admission requirements, coursework, course development, and participating faculty. Plan to leverage existing NJIT resources to recruit women and underrepresented minority students. Presented institutional response. Motion to approve proposal for BS in Data Science by D. Bader and seconded by Y. Perl. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. No new business

The meeting ended at 1:40PM