

Agenda for the Faculty Senate Meeting
November 10, 2020
WebEx, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM

- I. Convening of the meeting – Denis Blackmore, President
- II. Approval of minutes of 10/27/20 meeting
- III. Report of the Faculty Senate President (\cong 10 min.)

 - a. Questions about Jersey City, interactions with Dean of Students office, TAC
 - b. Recommendation for enhancing faculty engagement

- IV. Presentation by Robert Cohen, President, Board of Trustees, followed by Q & A (\cong 40 min.)
- V. Presentation by Andrew Christ, RDCO VP and Covid-19 Taskforce Director, followed by Q & A (\cong 35 min.)
- VI. TAC Problems- A Report by Jay Meegoda and/or Amit Bose (\cong 25 min.)
- VII. New business

Minutes for the Faculty Senate Meeting
November 10, 2020
WeBex, 11:30AM-1:30PM

- I. Convening of the meeting-Denis Blackmore, President
The meeting started at 11:29AM

- II. Voting Members Present: B. Khusid, M. Vinnikov, R. Rojas-Cessa, A. Rosato, G. Esperdy, M. Schwartz, N. Maher, Y. Perl, H. Grebel, R. Goodman, A. Gerbessiotis, R. Sodhi, E. Thomas, D. Bunker, I. Gatley, P. Armenante, A. Borgaonkar, N. Steffen-Fluhr, D. Hornthrop, D. Blackmore, S. Adamovich, A. Kosovichev, Alice E. Jung Lee, E. Farinas, Q. Jones, M. Bandelt, A. Utrera, L. Rodriguez-Freire

- III. Non-Voting Members Present: K. Sandell, A. Hoang, B. Baltzis, K. Belfield, K. Riismandel, O. Tukel, L. Hamilton, J. Bedient, J. Yuan, M. Stanko, F. Deek, A. Dhawan, M. Knight, B. Kolarevic, M. Kam

- IV. Guests Present: Gal Haspel (Biological Sciences), Jay Meegoda (Civil & Environmental Engineering), Diane Montalto (Board of Trustees), Daphne Soares (Biological Sciences), Farzan Nadim (Biological Sciences), Robert Cohen (Board of Trustees), Lawrence Raia (Board of Trustees), Laurent Simon (Undergraduate Studies), Wayne Fox (MTSM), Amitabha Bose (Mathematical Studies), Sotirios Ziavras (Graduate Studies), Andrew Christ (Real Estate Development and Capital Operations), Melodi Guilbault (MTSM)

- V. Approval of the minutes 10/27/2020 meeting
Motion to approve minutes by A. Gerbessiotis and seconded by A. Borgaonkar. Minutes were approved unanimously with 0 no's and 0 abstentions.

- VI. Report of the Faculty Senate President
President Denis Blackmore first welcomed the new senator from Physics, Alexander Kosovichev, then gave his report: Jersey City and questions on its financial health. Complaints of the Dean of Students Office regarding issues with students and grading. Have an Institute Faculty Meeting focused on faculty questions and input. Trying to get more faculty involved with faculty governance. Mentioned Ian Gatley's example of bringing thorny issues back to one's department/school for discussion.

- VII. Presentation by Robert Cohen, Chair, Board of Trustees, followed by Q&A
Robert Cohen gave his presentation on the Board of Trustees. Short Term goals: looking at the 2025 Plan and educating the Trustees in the plan. Long Term goals: Coming out of the Pandemic. Going to have to look beyond New Jersey for students. Research and Industry constantly changing. Prioritization of different infrastructures and money spending. Presidential search: Aggressive search to find the right person. Have not gone public and initiated the search process because there is no benefit for going early. Voted on the timeline and no changes or deviations from the timeline. Q&A followed with discussion.

VIII. Presentation by Andrew Christ, RDCO VP and Covid-19 Taskforce Director, followed by Q&A

Andrew Christ gave his presentation on the University's covid situation. Resumed on campus presence of faculty and staff and welcomed students back to campus. Pandemic Recovery Plan is flexible and comprehensive that allows for immediate shift online and modified operations in response to changing circumstances. Went over surveillance testing, outcomes of the Fall, and students' experiences with converged learning. Touched on the plan for Spring 2021: continue the same comprehensive flexible plan, academic calendar remains as published, monitor variables for operational changes get input from governmental entities and communicate important information in usual ways. Health and safety of students, faculty, and staff is first and foremost. Q&A followed.

IX. TAC Problems-A Report by Jay Meegoda/Amit Bose

Jay Meegoda and Amit Bose gave their presentation on TAC related issues, problems, and possible solutions. Q&A followed.

X. New Business

No New Business

The meeting ended at 1:33PM. Motion to adjourn by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Rosato.