Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of the New Jersey Institute of technology

October 29, 2014

Presiding: Dr. Amitabha Bose – President of Faculty Senate

I.   Convening of the meeting   Dr. Amitabha Bose

  A. At 2:38 PM the meeting of the NJIT faculty was convened.
  B. The minutes of the April 23, 2014   faculty meeting were seconded and approved
     by acclamation.
  C. Dr. Bose introduced Moshe Kam, the new Dean of Engineering.

II.   Faculty Senate Report   Dr. Amitabha Bose

A. Shared Governance

The first 60 days of Shared Governance were reviewed. Shared Governance entails a commitment by NJIT's stakeholders groups which includes faculty, instructional staff, administrators, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, alumni and senior staff to work together according to 11 general principles. It involves two senates, a University and a Faculty Senate. A diagram showing the new University Shared Governance structure was shown.

B. Faculty Senate Initiatives and Priorities

Several Senate priorities were discussed including Faculty Hiring, improvement of scholarly research infrastructure and environment, improvement of undergraduate admission standards, graduate distance learning efforts including EMBANET, course scheduling and meaningful participation in 2020 strategic planning.

C. Transition items from Faculty Council

The FS approved a report on non-tenure track instruction. The report contains recommendations for improving support for SULs/Uls and Adjuncts. Other recommendations included improvement of administrative support for instructional staff, create an Instructional Staff resource guide and create an adjunct recognition program to elevate involvement of adjuncts at NJIT and acknowledge their contributions and improve visibility.

The role of University and Senior University Lecturers in research and in faculty governance has been referred to the faculty senate committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities for consideration.

Other transition items to be dealt with included the new course evaluation system, grade appeal policy, TAC and load justification review and the Motion on Sabbaticals.

D. Approved Motion on Sabbaticals

The approved motion on sabbaticals from the April 23, 2014 Institute Faculty meeting was reviewed. The FS President informed the Faculty that the Provost and President will not present the faculty approved motion to the BOT for final approval because as provided in writing by the Provost. " The current language implies that a decision, not a recommendation, is being made by the committee, tying the Provost/President's hands and essentially leaving the BOT to rubber-stamp."

E. 2020 Strategic Vision Plan Process

The 2020 strategic vision plan was discussed. A summary of the reviews of the FS Ad Hoc 2020 committee was presented. The Ad Hoc committee expressed a clear preference for an expanded or two-tiered version of the 2020 Document. The FS President expressed his concern that the process that has been utilized to draft and write the 2020 Vision Plan has not been consistent with the principles of Shared Governance. The FS will continue to insist that those principles demand that faculty have a right to be meaningful contributors to the 2020 Vision Plan.

III. Report by the President   Dr. Joel Bloom

The President reported on the current projects that are being undertaken by the president and senior staff of the University. These projects include: strategic planning to achieve the highest aspirations for NJIT, hiring in teaching and research, increasing the number of graduate students, retention and student satisfaction. Increasing the number of graduate students is important for increasing research.

The President talked about the need to increase the number of smart classrooms, build new and upgraded laboratories, increase technology, work on the York extension, and solve the parking problem. An update on the events center and campus-wide maintenance and capital upgrades were presented.

Other topics covered by the President dealt with external relationships and partnerships such as NJ's science and technology university/ A Polytechnic University, Statewide secondary school/higher education/industry partnerships, government relationships, alumni engagement, marketing, branding, and fundraising.

IV. New online Course Evaluation System

The new system combines the best features of the in-class, paper based system and the online system. NJIT purchased third party product, "Blue", from Explorance. The product integrates with Banner/Moodle and is accessible via Pipeline, Moodle or e-mail link. Blue is customizable and will be used within the next two weeks. There will be no change to the actual form, only the way it is used. The instructor will have a choice if he/she wants to use it only in class and for what period of time.

Evaluations will start in the Fall of 2014. Period 1 will start Nov 17-22 and will allow instructors the opportunity to conduct an in- class evaluation. Period 2 will start November 23-December 12

during which time the evaluation system will remain open 24/7. The results will be evaluated after the first week and if 80% of the students in class filled out the questionnaire the evaluations will close. The Faculty Senate voted to set the threshold for Fall 2014 at 80%. Students will be able to access forms from computers, tablets and smartphones. Faculty will see the response rate in real time. Reports will be available early in the next semester.

V. **Report by the Provost**   Dr. Fadi Deek

A. 2020 vision – Status Update

October 24, 2014 the final revised draft was presented to the President. October 24-November 24 presidential review and financial modeling for resource allocation will take place. November 24, 2014 final draft of plan and resource allocation will be sent to the BOT. February 5, 2015 vision 2020 (with tactics, metrics, assessment, and resource allocation plan) will be submitted for BOT consideration.

The Provost showed a graph of graduate and undergraduate enrollment from Fall 2001 to Fall 2014. Graduate enrollment decreased a bit while the undergraduate enrollment increased. The total enrollment stayed about the same.

Undergraduate SAT scores were presented from 2011 to 2015. In general, an improvement was seen in all colleges. Projections for 6 year graduation and 4 year graduation and retention rate from 2015 to 2020 were presented. Retention in 2020 is projected to be 90% while 6year and 4year graduation rates are projected to be 65 and 30% respectively.

Externally funded research decreased in all colleges from 2010 to 2014. Although total funded external research decreased from 2010 to 2014, it is projected that funding will steadily increase from 2014 to 2020.

Research Support and Infrastructure Enhancement were discussed. Topics presented included Support, Services, Infrastructure and Multidisciplinary Research.

Faculty Hiring was discussed. 18 positions were allocated as follows: NCE 5, CSLA 4, CCS 3, SoM 2 and CoAD 1. Some additional hiring into CCS/SoM, NCE/CoAD and DMS may occur.

VI. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm

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Dr. Tamara Gund - Secretary