

Faculty Senate Motion Regarding the 2020 Vision Plan

December 11, 2014

The NJIT Faculty Senate strongly believes that the greatest chance for success of any strategic planning effort occurs when all constituent groups are fully engaged throughout the entire process of creating the plan. The process for creating *2020 Vision: A Strategic Plan for NJIT* began in this manner in the spring of 2014 when the administration encouraged faculty input in the preparation for this vision statement. The Faculty Senate appreciates that such actions represented a departure from past practices, during which faculty were not consulted in the elaboration of strategic plans for the university.

Following that promising start, however, continued faculty participation in revising and refining the draft of *2020 Vision* was not actively sought. Many faculty members feel that ongoing faculty participation was actually discouraged by the administration, which only reluctantly allowed the Faculty Senate to make suggestions to the final document. While we understand that the administration was working with a tight timetable to produce the plan, this less inclusive process represents a missed opportunity to forge a fully collaborative vision for NJIT. Moreover, it is inconsistent with Faculty Senate's interpretation of Shared Governance.

As a result, the Faculty Senate abstains from providing a recommendation regarding approval of the *2020 Vision: A Strategic Plan for NJIT*. This action should not be construed as opposing the total content of the plan, but rather the process followed in generating the final document. The Faculty Senate, however, remains enthusiastically committed to Shared Governance and looks forward to working with all constituent groups in the coming years for the betterment of our university.