

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2014

I. Call to order

Amitabha Bose called to order the regular meeting of the Faculty Senate at 4:03 p.m. on September 8, 2014 at Honors College Conference Room 211.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Joel Bloom, Fadi Deek, Michael Bieber, Denis Blackmore, Amitabha Bose, Daniel Bunker, Gabrielle Esperdy, John Federici, Haim Grebel, Michael Khader, Andrew Klobucar, Neil Maher, Eliza Michalopoulou, Yeoshua Perl, Zeyuan Qiu, Anthony Rosato, Yun Shi, Laurent Simon, Andrew Sohn, Cheickna Sylla, Steve Tricamo, Edward Bishof, Atam Dhawan, Charles Fey, Moshe Kam, Katia Passerini, Sapana Patel, Kyle Riismandel, Richard Sweeney, Jake Campbell, A. Patel, Michael Valyo.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

First meeting of year, there were no minutes to approve.

IV. Welcome and Comments by President Joel Bloom

Plan to focus on areas of improvement based on 2020 Vision:

- Welcomes Shared Governance as a way to have open discussions and exchanges using facts considering who we are “a Polytechnic/Urban Public Institution”
- Closing communication gap by implementation of procedures to mainstream information throughout the university
- US News rankings list NJIT as 149th ; an improvement from prior years
- Student Satisfaction Survey continues to show decline, more attention needed to address this concern
- NJIT has outgrown in facilities to accommodate large groups
- NJIT NeXT Campaign is currently at 130 million with hope to reach its goal of 150 million this year

- Undergraduate Enrollment increased by 600+ this year. SAT scores are higher; increase from 1161 in 2013 to 1190 for incoming class 2014

V. Recap of Faculty Senate Activities during Summer 2014 with voting

- a) Course Evaluations: BLUE by eXplorance is a new system that provides in-class evaluation option.
 - 1) Motion: To approve the new course evaluation system
 - 2) Vote: Motion carried unanimously

VI. Faculty Senate Committee Changes (9): purview and membership available online: www.njit.edu/facultysenate/committees/standing-committees.php

- a) Committee on Undergraduate Education replaces UCRC
- b) Committee on Graduate Education replaces Graduate Council
- c) Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities is new
- d) Committee on Academic Outreach is new
- e) Committee on Research, Scholarship and Creative Academic Activity is replaces FC Committee on Research
- f) Committee on Teaching, Learning and Technology (including Distance Learning) replaces TLT
- g) Committee on Information Technology, Library and Academic Resources replaces CITLAR
- h) Committee on Academic Assessment is new
- i) Committee on Academic Strategic Planning and Budget Priorities is new

VII. Presentation of Faculty Senate Priorities and their relation to the 2020 Strategic Vision Plan

- a) Faculty Hiring – FS is formulating a hiring plan that originates from the needs of each department.
- b) Improve University Rankings
 - (1) Raise admission standards both for new as well as transfer students; Falls under the purview of CUE

- (2) Focus on Research Infrastructure and Environment; Work closely with Atam Dhawan's Faculty Research Advisory Board; Falls under the purview of CRSCAA
- (3) Course Scheduling – implement curriculum guided course scheduling; 2020 Vision plan needs an explicit statement on faculty course scheduling and impact on research
- c) Review Graduate Distance Learning Efforts – Embanet must be reviewed by CGE and CFRR; any future online programs must be fully vetted by CGE and CUE; Provost Deek indicated a need for assurance of academic rigor in on-line course offerings; review of contract and profit sharing issues were also discussed
- d) Tenure-Track versus Non Tenure-Track – Report to be given at September 17th where the presentation will be voted on. Proposal will be sent to all member for input prior to meeting
- e) Tenure Track Teaching Load Transparency – continuation of Faculty Council initiative; led by ad-hoc committee of the FS
- f) Open Items:
 - (1) A suggestion was made that the FS add retention/student satisfaction/graduation rates as a priority
 - (a) Falls under the purview of CUE
 - (b) Discussion on the issue of “barrier courses” ensued

VIII. Adjournment

Amitabha Bose adjourned the meeting at 5:26 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sylvana L. Brito-Rodriguez

Minutes approved by: Faculty Senate on September 17