RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CONTINUATION OF DIVISION I ATHLETICS

WHEREAS, NJIT transitioned from DIII to DI athletics over a period of 9 years and NJIT has now been a DI member for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, the goals for the transition to DI were to increase enrollment, improve campus life, and enhance regional and national visibility, and;

WHEREAS, the STEM pool of high school students from which NJIT recruits is less than 10% of those who are college bound, and;

WHEREAS, the number of student athletes has increased from 130 DIII to 252 DI athletes including 65 honors college students and 112 out-of-state students, and;

WHEREAS, the student athletes have GPAs, retention and graduation rates greater than the regularly enrolled students, and;

WHEREAS, attendance at athletic events has increased by 300%; over 23,000 people attended NJIT athletic events in 2012-2013, compared to 7,000 in 2005-2006, and;

WHEREAS, athletics is the largest source of regional and national multimedia visibility, and;

WHEREAS, athletics has contributed to the top line of the university budget, and;

WHEREAS, the Faculty Council reviewed DI athletics and found DI has made positive contributions to the NJIT community and time was needed to fully achieve the intended outcomes of DI athletics.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees finds that NJIT continue to participate in DI athletics and report annually on the inputs and outcomes of its DI athletics program.

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Holly C. Stern
Holly C. Stern, Esq.
General Counsel and Secretary to the
Board of Trustees
New Jersey Institute of Technology

November 7, 2013
Board Resolution 2014-22