Minutes of Faculty Meeting  
October 12, 2011

I. Convening of the Meeting  
Professor Mill Jonakait

Professor Jonakait indicates that it is an honor to serve as Chair of the Faculty Council and she welcomes the faculty.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were approved by a voice vote.

III. Report of Interim President  
Dr. Joel Bloom

Looking forward, Dr. Bloom presented the priorities for the near future.

1) Academic Plan – hiring of new faculty, resource allocation for instructional staff, facilities, technology, and infrastructure.
2) Capacity Study – Enrollment projections, university capacity in classrooms, labs and networks.
3) Retention/Advising Ways and means to improve retention.
4) NEXT Campaign – Strategy and implementation
6) Middle State Report – Plan to implement suggestions.
7) UMDNJ – Plan to reappear before committee issuing report.
8) Facilities Bond – Insure NJIT’s status of one of three research universities with its requisite proportion of the November 2012 bond issue.
9) Branding – New Jersey’s Science and Technology University retaining the high achieving students. Emphasis on academics, jobs, economic development, research and commercialization.

IV. Provost Report  
Provost Ian Gatley

(a) Middle State Review – WE have completed the report. Now, we must start the implementation phase. For example, our Digital Library is slim. Focus on faculty expertise when the Middle State team comes to visit NJIT.
(b) Learning Communities – We have 300 freshmen in our learning communities. Results seem positive thus far from the students. We plan to expand the program for the next academic year.
(c) Incoming freshman – We plan on course placement of the freshman when they are admitted (i.e. Math class). This process will yield early intervention and better career advice.

(d) Graduate Students T/A, R/A – Students want to unionize. Our system of using and providing stipends to these students must be uniform and transparent. It must be fair across the board.

V. Course Student Evaluation

Professor Priscilla Nelson is the chair of a committee to review and evaluate our electronic course evaluations. Her committee is charged with an analysis of the course evaluations and to report back to the Faculty Council each semester. The major topic was the revision of the course evaluation survey form.

After much discussion, there was a call for question, which needed a 2/3 vote to implement. This failed, so we will be continuing discussion of this topic in our December meeting. Selective slides of the presentation are included in the Appendix.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Open Forum

Richard Sher and Dale Gary led a discussion of the proposed Shared Governance proposal which includes a two senate mode – The Faculty Senate and the University Senate. The details of the proposal are on the Internet. WE will be voting on the Faculty Senate portion of the proposal in our December meeting.

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Dr. Harold Deutschman