Minutes of Faculty Meeting
May 9, 2012

I. Convening of the Meeting  Professor Mill Jonakait

The meeting was convened at 2:40 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 29, 2012 Faculty Meeting were approved.

III. Report from the President  Dr. Joel Bloom

MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (MSCHE) REPORT

The report indicates that NJIT meets or exceeds all fourteen standards outlined in the commission’s “Characteristics of Excellence in Higher Education”. We need to retain more of our freshman and sophomores. The report indicated that we have a disproportionate impact (positive) in higher education, given our means. We also have an admirable service to those students who are first in their family to attend college.

Presidential Vision
The university is founded on providing jobs, education, research and economic development. We realize that the economics and state revenue receipts are down. The state budget is important to us. We are a transformational university with the results in education, retention and graduation equivalent to our benchmark universities.

Our externally funded faculty research is comparable to the top tier of universities.

We look to economic development for the state, nation, and global community.

We are an engaged community. We have a caring, inclusive campus with a shared governance and with 24/7 campus operations across a broad diversity of disciplines.

We are a well financed community with a long term strategic operational capital, and financial plans that are well managed and transparent.
IV. Report on Hiring from the Provost  
Dr. Ian Gatley

We had a total of 26 searches for 12 positions. The finalists looked so good that we decided to expand the hiring. We have 17 acceptances thus far and we will have more hiring next year.

V. Report on Mathematics  
Curriculum Changes  
Dr. Jonathan Luke

The mathematics curriculum has been changed to produce a unified pre-calculus curriculum, serving the needs of the diverse disciplines at NJIT. The math placement will be based on high school grades in pre-calculus and calculus and SAT scores.

VI. Report on Committee on Athletics  
Dr. Dale Gary

Drs. Dale Gary and Steve Tricamo headed up a Faculty Council Ad hoc Committee on Athletics, assembled in response to a petition signed by 60+ members of the faculty. Documents examined included the following:

- Annual Athletic Program Budgets - 2006-2011
- Board of Trustees Minutes from 2004-2012
- NJIT Operating Budgets from 2005-2012
- IRP Survey of Students 2007-2010

NJIT went from a Division III athletic program with a budget of less than 1 million/year to a Division I program with a budget of 7.5 million dollar/year over the past three years.

Overall the committee concluded that the athletes do well academically, with a relatively high graduation rate, and the program is run well compared to similar programs across the country.

VII. Report from Institutional Research  
Dr. Perry Dees

The NJIT SAT’s for entering students is generally unchanged over the past 10 years, with transfer students outperforming the first time-full time freshman. The SAT verbal has not been found to be a good predictor of freshman success. The EOP students performed well in terms of 6 year graduation rates when compared to first time-full time freshman, and the graduation rate for transfer students approaches the 6-year graduation rate for the Dorman Honors College students.
VIII. Report from the Chair of Faculty Council  

Dr. Mill Jonakait

Dr. Jonakait reviewed the past year, including the Middle States Commission report and the selection of NJIT’s new president. She spoke about the new hiring program for faculty and the active role that the Faculty Council took looking regarding issues such as Research, Athletics, Student Enrollment, Student Capabilities, and Shared Governance, including the movement towards a better communication between the faculty, Faculty Council and the Board of Trustees.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

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Dr. Harold Deutschman