

Agenda of the Faculty Senate Meeting
February 25, 2020
Albert Dorman Honors College Conference Room (211), 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

- I. Convening of the Meeting - Ellen Thomas, President
- II. President Bloom's presentation and discussion (President Bloom, 30 min)
- III. Approval of Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting on February 11th
- IV. Report of the Faculty Senate President (10 Minutes)
 - a. OARS
 - b. Extended drop/add position statement on impact
 - c. Scheduling simulation update
 - d. Faculty profile pages - <https://people.njit.edu/test-people>
 - e. President search: Leadership profile and position description
 - f. Evaluation of upper administrators:

7.2 Evaluation of Provost, Vice Presidents, Deans and Chairpersons

With the knowledge and cooperation of the President, the Faculty Senate will conduct periodic evaluations (at least every three years) by the faculty of the Provost, Vice Presidents, Deans, and Department Chairpersons. The Council, after consultation with the President, may also evaluate the performance of other administrative officers whose work impacts academic affairs. The President of the Faculty Senate is responsible for transmitting the results of these evaluations to the President in the case of the Provost, and to the Provost for all other administrative evaluations.

- V. CGE motion on Master's Thesis (Sotiri Zivras, 15 minutes)
- VI. Motion on Changing the Constitution - Executive Committee Formation (Eliza Michalopoulou, 15 min)
 - 4.2 Executive Committee
 - 4.2.1 Formation
The Faculty Senate shall maintain an Executive Committee consisting of the President and Vice President of the Faculty Senate, **the past President of the Faculty Senate**, and three **two** other voting members, elected by the voting members according to procedures specified in the Faculty Senate Bylaws.
- VII. Graduate Student Association and FS collaboration (Jun Yuan, 10 minutes)
- VIII. New Business

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
February 25, 2020
Albert Dorman Honors College Conference Room (211), 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

- I. Convening of the Meeting - Ellen Thomas, President
The meeting started at 11:31 AM

- II. Roll Call-The following voting members were present: X. Zhou, M. Bandelt, L. Rodriguez-Freire, D. Blackmore, D. Bunker, H. Grebel, R. Goodman, Q. Jones, B. Khusid, P. Armenante, N. Steffen-Fluhr, E. Michalopoulou, R. Dent, L. Potts, R. Rojas-Cessa, A. Rosato, U. Roshan, A. Anandarajan, M. Schwartz, R. Sodhi, D. Sollohub, G. Thomas, E. Thomas, Y. Perl, A. Gerbessiotis, A. Lee

- III. The Following non-voting members were present: J. Shafik, K. Belfield, R. Lazer, O. Tukel, F. Deek, L. Hamilton, A. Hoang, M. Stanko, S. Kent, B. Kolarevic, B. Baltzis, G. Chottiner, J. Yuan

- IV. The Following guests were present: Omar Itani (Graduate Student Association), Joel Bloom (President), Sotirios Ziavras (Provost of Graduate Studies)

- V. President Bloom's presentation and discussion (President Bloom, 30 min)
President Bloom: A modest increase in state funding (head count driven) is expected. To get OBA money, NJIT must agree on two things: First, for students who have a household income at or below \$65,000 and no other support, all costs will need to be covered by NJIT. This could cost NJIT about \$3.5 million. Second, there would be a 4 year cohort rate for tuition and fees. This means that all costs would be at a fixed rate from freshmen to senior year. The state must also be held accountable on their end. A. Rosato: Does the cohort funding also apply to transfer students? Pres. Bloom: Yes. Pres. Bloom: We will never admit students to simply make more money, but it is time to graduate the students that are admitted. We need to improve our 67% graduation rate. It's time to have a conversation on how to do a better job for the students. Y. Perl: Andrew Christ said we are not going to build dorms with company that requires a certain guarantee of student occupancy. Pres. Bloom: The company is to be hired based on the fall 2022 dorm demand. The third party will pay the bill, while NJIT will own the land. A. Rosato: Are there any plans to have the new dorms allocate spacing for visitors and faculty? Pres. Bloom: No, but other dorms will allocate space for graduate students and faculty. D. Bunker: Will the third party guarantee the number of beds to NJIT or directly to the students? Pres. Bloom: No, just to NJIT, not to individual students. Y. Perl: How can we project how many people will actually come to NJIT? Pres. Bloom: Andrew Christ conduct a study examining cohort retention rate that determines future projections. D. Sollohub: The US Census project sees a decline in college attending students. How is NJIT dealing with this? Pres. Bloom: Although there is a decline, the applicant pool from last year was approximately 9200 for 1400 freshmen seats. NJIT is increasingly becoming known as a prominent research center. NJIT offers more focused niche activities and its reputation continues to improve. Question of how faculty and students can engage even more. R. Sodhi: Is there an expected graduate impact? Pres. Bloom: Yes, there has been a decline in graduation rates. After the President was done, Provost Deek continued the conversation. Provost Deek: We have the lowest Peer score amongst our peers (25%), which measures how NJIT is perceived by others. NJIT has done well, can do even better. Graduation rates and support to help students succeed have improved. P. Armenante: Although financial aid is given to students, many undergraduate students work, which is reflected in their academic performance. Is there already something in place that students will have to pledge to not work if they get financial aid? Provost Deek: We

don't have a system like that in place, and probably can't have something like that. A. Rosato: There are rigid boundaries between departments about chairing Ph.D. committees. Can they be taken down? Provost Deek: I endorse it. However, it is in the faculty and chair's hands, but lowering boundaries can be done. We are working on developing a IT strategic plan for Computer Science. We invite people to create a committee. Y. Perl: How is the relationship between NJIT and NJII? F. Deek: I will explain this at an upcoming Faculty Senate meeting to present and explain.

VI. Approval of Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting on February 11th

The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting on February 11, 2020 were approved unanimously

VII. Report of the Faculty Senate President (10 Minutes)

a. OARS

Questions were raised at the last meeting about faculty's role in helping manage students w/ special services. Dr. Laurent Simon to be at next Faculty Senate meeting on March 10, 2020 to discuss current system as well as tutoring.

b. Extended drop/add position statement on impact

Push back from faculty. Concern about students entering classes late and being behind on work. Any questions/ comments should be emailed to the FS President.

c. Scheduling simulation update

Jerry Trombella said they have data from this spring and it is moving along, should be available by the end of this semester.

d. Faculty profile pages - <https://people.njit.edu/test-people>

There are some glitches, but there are changes still being made and N. Rubio is working on them.

e. President search: Leadership profile and position description

Pres. Thomas gave a report at the IFM about the meeting with the BOT Executive Committee. Afterwards, President Bloom stated he will not seek, nor accept, to extend his contract beyond 2022. The BOT is working on a leadership profile. The Faculty Senate can put their own ideas on paper and then present them to the BOT. G. Thomas: A new president will have to support evaluation of the president. A. Rosato: Collect ideas from Faculty Senate members through email about this, and not wait for the BOT.

f. Evaluation of upper administrators: Current handbook

7.2 Evaluation of Provost, Vice Presidents, Deans and Chairpersons

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Pres. Thomas: G. Thomas (Chair of CFRR). An evaluation of upper administrators that has stronger language than that in the Handbook will not be accepted. In the Handbook there is no evaluation procedure for the President. G. Thomas: It should be possible to evaluate presidential priorities. Y. Perl: This might be the time to pass something stronger because it will affect the next president. A. Rosato: President Bloom will still be on retainer so it might not work because of his influence. Pres. Thomas: We can continue to work on

something stronger. G. Thomas: We should consider a list of things to go into the survey to evaluate the president.

VIII. CGE motion on Master's Thesis (Sotiri Ziavras, 15 minutes)

S. Ziavras: With these new changes, students and their advisors would decide on which system they want to choose. After input from G. Thomas, there was a motion to give all students a choice of the old or newly proposed procedure. Several pros and cons were brought up in the ensuing discussion. Then there was a motion to send it back to committee (CGE). Motion to approve: D. Bunker. Seconded: D. Blackmore. 18 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions. S. Ziavras will come back to a future Faculty Senate meeting with a revised proposal.

IX. Motion on Changing the Constitution - Executive Committee Formation (Eliza Michalopoulou, 15 min)

4.2 Executive Committee

4.2.1 Formation

The Faculty Senate shall maintain an Executive Committee consisting of the President and Vice President of the Faculty Senate, **the past President of the Faculty Senate**, and **two** other voting members, elected by the voting members according to procedures specified in the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

Motion on changing the Constitution regarding Executive Committee Formation. Motion to approve: E. Michalopoulou. Seconded: Y. Perl. 20 yes, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions.

X. Graduate Student Association and FS collaboration (Jun Yuan, 10 minutes)

O. Itani: Purpose is to develop systems to help students and listen to the students' needs. There are representatives for each department. There are also standing committees: student affairs, academic affairs, finance, communication, and management and programming. Travel awards of up to \$500 are available. A. Rosato: There should be some support available for BS/MS students.

XI. New Business

No new business. The meeting ended at 1:20PM.