

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
March 28, 2019
Albert Dorman Honors College Conference Room (211), 11:30 AM–1:30 PM

- I. Convening of the Meeting – Eliza Michalopoulou, President
The meeting started at 11:31AM

- II. Roll Call- The following voting members were present: T. Arinzeh, M. Bandelt, J. Luke (sub for D. Blackmore), D. Bunker, E. Farinas, I. Gatley, H. Grebel, D. Horntrop, B. Khusid, N. Steffen-Fluhr, E. Michalopoulou, S. Pemberton, L. Potts, R. Rojas-Cessa, A. Rosato, U. Roshan, M. Saadeghvaziri, M. Schwartz, R. Sodhi, D. Sollohub, G. Thomas, E. Thomas, Y. Perl, and A. Gerbessiotis.

The following nonvoting members were present: K. Belfield, R. Lazer, M. Stanko, K. Riismandel, and B. Baltzis.

The following guests were present: A. Akansu, L. Simon, W. Lin Cook, and S. Zivras.

- III. Approval of Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting on March 14, 2019
The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting on March 14, 2019 were approved unanimously, with 1 abstention.

- IV. Report of the Faculty Senate President

Teaching evaluations – students with a D or F; discussion with Provost Deek and expected reports by C. Brooks.
Teaching evaluations: new ad-hoc committee to consider changes in the surveys and process: one faculty member from each college, two lecturers, one professor of the practice.
The formation and charge will be discussed offline. We are looking for representatives for the committee. The committee will work with Ray Callouri to get the full survey and input.
Elections of VP and EC members – April 18, 2019; send nominations to T. Rosato.
Elections of academic unit senators; elections by April 15.
All Senators, Chairs, and Deans for units that need to have elections have been notified.
Next meeting: April 18.
Reminder for the R1 celebration after April 24th IFM in Campus Center (Ballroom A/Gallery). The Senate President stressed the need for faculty to attend Town Halls regarding Facilities, as there is low attendance.
Appointment of administrators/Faculty Handbook.
D. Bunker researched omitted sentence and found whole sections missing from the Handbook. The appointment process missing; only the search process is intact. CFRR should look into fixing this focusing first on the Dean and Provost selection.

- V. Presentation on scheduling and recruitment (W. Lin-Cook).
Presentation followed by Q&A with Faculty Senate. Highlights on recruitment: diversity is one of the priorities of the 2025 Strategic Plan. NJIT signed a new agreement with the city of Newark to recruit local high excelling high school students, and NJIT will continue to purchase Honor Society lists for both undergrad and graduate students. R. Sodhi asked a question about who

makes the visits for international recruitment. W. Lin Cook stated that countries are assessed and then it is determined if NJIT will send a representative or if an Educo agent will be used (Europe is not included in this recruitment process). Costs for recruitment agents include Visa prep for students in South Asian countries. B. Khusid asked if there has been an increase in applications for graduate students from targeted countries. W. Lin Cook will review and follow up with FS. Highlights on scheduling: A new hybrid model is used with centralized and decentralized scheduling, with freshman scheduling centralized and upper level/graduate course decentralized. Y. Perl asked a question regarding the number of students compared to that from five years ago. W. Lin Cook said that in 2014 there were 7,550 undergrads, 3,096 graduate students and in 2018 there were 8,627 undergrads and 2,933 graduate students. Concerns regarding the growth of undergrads and the lack of classroom space were expressed. There were comments from D. Bunker on Infosilem and on finding a new Registrar who understands how to use it. No official proposal was made for scheduling going forward, but any proposed changes to the system will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate leadership for consultation. Additional comments were made regarding the availability of access to students prerequisite classes so that faculty can be better informed as to why one section may do better than another may. Currently, faculty only has access to student transcripts only when that student is currently in their class.

VI. CGE motions: changes in CE, ENE, and TE PhD programs (S. Ziavras).

M. Bandelt made a motion to approve changes Ph.D in Transportation. D. Horntrop seconded. Motion was approved (19 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions). D. Horntrop made a motion to approve changes to Ph.D in Environmental Engineering. B. Khusid seconded. Motion was approved (19 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions). D. Horntrop made a motion to approve changes in Ph.D in Civil Engineering. M. Bandelt seconded. Motion was approved (18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).

VII. CFRR motion on the selection of Distinguished Professors (CFRR) Announced at IFMs; postponed from last year.

FS President discussed the history of the motion. CFRR took the initiative because it was a handbook issue. There was a divergence of opinions with Distinguished Professors leadership so CFRR was charged with bringing the proposal to FS. This was announced at all IFMs in 2018-2019. The motion was also postponed from last year and DPs were told it would be handled this year. M. Zhou was informed last week and asked if there was any information DPs wanted to share with FS. Provost Deek also aware and is generally supportive of what has been developed. I. Gatley made a motion to defer discussion until the next meeting as the document may change after CFRR meets with a DP subcommittee. D. Sollohub seconded and there was further discussion. A. Akansu reminded Senators that these discussions started last year and he had spoken with T. Tyson on and off line, he spoke with DPs one on one, with the chair of the University P&T, and M. Zhou before the Christmas break in 2018. Motion to postpone discussion and reconsider at next meeting was approved using a secret ballot (12 yes, 11 no, 0 abstentions). A. Akansu will return for the April 18th FS meeting.

VIII. CFRR motion on the evaluation of upper administrators (CFRR).

A. Akansu suggested breaking up motions into two sections: one to edit handbook and one for an addition to the handbook. G. Thomas made a motion to approve the edit of 7.2 in Faculty Handbook. A. Rosato seconded. The motion was approved (18 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention). Comments about this edit being rejected by President Bloom were made as he believes it is an HR issue. Friendly amendments by Senators were made to edit wording. T. Rosato made a

motion to remove the first sentence. D. Bunker seconded. The motion was approved (6 yes, 4 no, 2 abstentions). T. Rosato made a motion to remove the final sentence in section 7.X in the Faculty Handbook. D. Sollohub seconded. The motion was approved (17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions). This addition to the handbook is expected to get approval as Mr. DePalma has stated that faculty plays a big role in providing feedback on the President's performance. The motion was approved (13 yes, 3 no, 1 abstention).

IX. Other business.

I. Gatley suggested that going forward as a point of principle, FS items requiring a vote are to be presented and introduced at one meeting and then discussed and voted on at the following meeting for clarity.

A. Saadeghvaziri inquired about whether faculty members have access to the grades students in their classes have in the prerequisite courses. Discussion ensued as to whether this practice should be followed.