

**NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**July 17, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cohen at 4:27 pm in the Agile Strategy Lab, Central King Building, NJIT Campus. In attendance were: Chair Cohen, Vice-Chairs Clayton, DeNichilo, Shah, Stamatis and Toft, and Board Members Baynes, Broder, Dahms, Montalto, Maser, Shain and Vierheilig. Absent: Vice Chair Charters, and Board Member Profeta.

**Senior Administration Present:** In attendance, President Lim, Sr. Vice Presidents Pelesko and Christ, General Counsel and Vice President of Legal Affairs and Board Secretary Curko, Vice Presidents Boger, Brady, Golden, and Kelly, Interim Senior Vice President Kenney, Interim Vice President Wall, Chief of Staff Hageman, Chief of Public and Community Affairs Garretson, and Chief of State Government Affairs Matt Bonasia, and Associate Vice President Kaplan.

1. In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chair Cohen read the following statement:

“Notice of this Meeting was provided to the public as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, in the Schedule of Meeting Dates of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Institute of Technology which was sent electronically to the Star Ledger, the Herald News and the Vector on July 7, 2025, and posted on the University website on July 7, 2025 for filing with that office and posting in such public place as designated by said Clerk.”

2. **Minutes:**

BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TOFT, SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THOSE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AT THAT MEETING, THE BOARD APPROVED THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 13, 2025. ABSTENTION FROM MS. CLAYTON, MR. SHAH, MR. STAMATIS, MR. BAYNES AND MR. PROFETA.

3. **Public Comments:**

Secretary Curko noted no one registered to speak.

4. **Presentation:**

Vice Provost Wunmi Sadik highlighted the impact of reduced federal funding on NJIT, noting increased financial strain, greater faculty time spent on grant writing, and fewer research opportunities for students. Despite these challenges, NJIT is proactively supporting faculty to adapt while maintaining quality and resilience. The Provost has formed a task force to provide stopgap funding and support, launched AI innovation grants through CEIE, and implemented an impact statement process in promotion and tenure to address federal policy effects, with added support for faculty preparation. addressed faculty concerns during a time of uncertainty, with the administration outlining initiatives such as open forums, surveys, Faculty Fridays, and tenure support. The task force reaffirmed the university’s commitment to sustaining research and academic quality while supporting faculty needs around funding and work-life balance.

5. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TOFT AND SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO

APPOINT 2025-2026 TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS.

6. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TOFT AND SECONDED BY MR MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.
7. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. DAHMS AND SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO APPOINT ELISA CHARTERS AND CHRISSY BUTEAS TO THE NJII BOD.
8. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON AND SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY26 ANNUAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET.
9. BY MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON AND SECONDED BY MR. TOFT AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE LICENSE FOR UNIVERSITY FIREWALL.
10. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON AND SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY26 TUITION AND FEES.
11. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. SHAH AND SECONDED BY MR. STAMATIS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF UNIVERSITY ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING (ERP) SOFTWARE LICENSE.
12. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. BAYNES AND SECONDED BY MR. SHAIN AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE HARDWARE PURCHASES, SOFTWARE PURCHASES RENEWALS, AND SERVICES THROUGH SELECT IT RESELLERS.
13. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. BRODER AND SECONDED BY MR. SHAIN AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR CARPENTRY SERVICES IN FY2026.
14. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. MASER AND SECONDED BY MS. VIERHEILIG AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR HVAC AND PLUMBING CONTRACTING SERVICES IN FY2026.
15. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. STAMATIS AND SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING SERVICES IN FY2026.

16. **Chair's Report:**

Chair Cohen reported on the success of a recent AI event with 300+ attendees across multiple locations, underscoring strong interest in AI and NJIT's regional reputation. He shared reflections on the past year, expressing gratitude to the Board, administration, and faculty for their commitment during leadership transitions and challenges. He emphasized the value of learning from peer institutions, noting that NJIT is not in isolation, and expressed confidence in the university's future given the talent and dedication of its people.

**17. President's Report:**

President Lim noted higher education's rapidly changing policy and funding landscape but emphasized NJIT's focus, trust, and shared purpose. He highlighted recent achievements, including NJIT's fifth consecutive year as a "50 Best College Value," a 33rd straight semester with a 3.446 department-wide GPA, 66 student-athletes earning perfect GPAs. President Lim celebrated three Highlanders recognized for entrepreneurial achievement at the New Jersey Immigrant Entrepreneur Awards, including alum and Trustee Dhiraj Shah, Foundation Board Member Arthur Kapoor, and Professor Suresh Kumar. A new agreement with Mercer County Community College was announced, allowing Fintech graduates to transfer directly into NJIT's program.

**18. Final FY25 Fundraising and Engagement:**

Mr. Wall noted FY25 faced fundraising challenges in part due to staffing transitions of front-line fundraisers. With new leadership in place, the department is focused on restoring a positive trajectory.

**19. CFO Report:**

Interim SVP Kenney confirmed a projected surplus of \$8.1 million for the current fiscal year and a balanced budget for FY26, achieved through tuition increases, revenue enhancements, and cost savings.

**20. Clery Crime Data:**

Sr. Vice President Christ reported a downward trend overall in crime statistics. Additionally, he discussed public safety improvements at NJIT, attributed to full police staffing for the first time in years.

21. Chair Cohen announced that the next regularly scheduled Closed Session will be held on September 18, 2025 at 2:00 pm to discuss personnel, real estate, legal and contractual matters.

The following resolution was read and approved by all Trustees present:

WHEREAS there are matters that require consideration by the Board of Trustees that qualify under the Open Public Meetings Act for discussion at a Closed Session;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees shall have a Closed Session to discuss matters involving personnel, real estate, legal and contractual matters on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 2:00 pm at the Agile Strategy Lab, Central King Building.

The next regularly scheduled Public Session of the Board will take place on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 4:00 pm at the Agile Strategy Lab, Central King Building.

22. The Public Session was adjourned at 5:17 pm.