

**NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**February 4, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cohen at 4:09 p.m. in the Agile Strategy Lab, Central King Building, NJIT Campus. In attendance were: Chair Cohen, Vice-Chairs Clayton, DeNichilo, Stamatis and Toft, and Board Members Baynes, Charters, Dahms, Montalto, Maser and Vierheilig. Absent: Vice Chair Shah and Board Member Profeta.

**Senior Administration Present:** In attendance, President Lim, Sr. Vice Presidents Pelesko, Christ and Brennan, NJIT President Johnson, General Counsel and Vice President of Legal Affairs and Board Secretary Curko, Vice Presidents Boger, Brady, Golden and Wozencroft, Interim Vice President Kornstein, Associate Vice President & Director of Athletics Kaplan, Chief of Staff Hageman, Chief of Public and Community Affairs Garretson, Chief Diversity Officer Jones, and Chief of State Government Affairs Matt Bonasia.

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 January 14, 2025, and posted on the University website on January 14, 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. DAHMS, SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THOSE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AT THAT MEETING, THE BOARD APPROVED THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2024. ABSECTIONS FROM MR. STAMATIS.

3. **Public Comments:**

Secretary Curko noted no one registered to speak.

4. **Presentation:**

Dean Payton introduced two students, Delali Kumaplay and Haley Patel, who shared their experiences attending the annual Grace Hopper celebration of women in computing conference. The conference, which had over 30,000 attendees, focused on the intersection of AI and gender safety issues in large language models. The students discussed the importance of mitigating bias in AI and the potential of AI in supporting agriculture, securing cyberspace, and expanding scientific discovery. They also highlighted the benefits of attending the conference, including building company connections and learning about emerging technologies and trends.

5. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS.CLAYTON AND SECONDED BY DR. BAYNES AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE JUNE 30, 2024 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

6. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TOFT AND SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FACULTY SABBATICAL LEAVES FOR AY25-26.

7. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY DR. BAYNES AND SECONDED BY MS. CLAYTON AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LECTURER SABBATICAL LEAVES FOR AY 25-26.
8. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. DAHMS AND SECONDED BY MR. STAMATIS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF ONLINE VENDOR MARKETING, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION SERVICES.
9. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. DENICHILO AND SECONDED BY DR. BAYNES AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS OF PHYSICS TEACHING LABS IN TIERNAN HALL 408 AND 409.
10. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON AND SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE EXECUTION OF A GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE ADMENDMENT TO THE DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT A REPLACEMENT FOR OAK HALL.

**11. Chair's Report:**

Chair Cohen expressed gratitude towards the trustees, faculty, and staff for their dedication to NJIT, emphasizing the importance of maintaining the university's mission and values. He acknowledged the challenges posed by recent federal orders and noted that the Board is actively working to understand and address these issues.

**12. President's Report:**

President Lim provided an update on the university's progress, highlighting the final phase of contracting for campus space, a forum for gubernatorial candidates, and the achievements of NJIT undergraduates and faculty members. He also discussed the university's proactive approach to monitoring and assessing the potential impacts of shifting policies and directives.

**13. Faculty Senate Report:**

Faculty Senate President Zarzycki presented on the faculty's priorities, including the acceleration of faculty hiring, the development of a new teaching rank, and the implementation of AI-based presentations to define core competencies for students and faculty.

**14. FY25 Engagement and Fundraising Progress to Date:**

Interim VP Kornstein reported on the fundraising and engagement progress, highlighting that they had raised 6.7 million dollars, with over \$2M towards the endowment. The funds received were over 55% towards their goal. Ms. Kornstein also noted the hiring of an Executive Director of Development for the Newark College of Engineering and the upcoming Giving Day on March 4th and 5th.

15. **CFO Report:**

Sr. Vice President Brennan reported on the operating budget being on target, enrollment figures, cash balances, and the endowment.

16. **Clery Crime Data:**

Sr. Vice President Christ called the Board's attention to the Clery statistics that were presented to the Board within the materials that were provided noting a 25% reduction in crime and the efforts to retain and recruit officers.

17. Chair Cohen announced that the next regularly scheduled Closed Session will be held on April 3, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. 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, April 3, 2025.

The next regularly scheduled Public Session of the Board will take place on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Administrative Center, 494 Broad St.

18. The Public Session was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.