

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
July 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cohen at 4:23 p.m in the Agile Strategy Lab, Central King Buidling, NJIT Campus. In attendance were: Chair Cohen, Vice-Chairs Clayton (via Zoom), DeNichilo (via Zoom), Montalto, Stamatis and Toft, and Board Members Baynes (via Zoom), Charters, Dahms, and Maser. Absent: Vice Chair Shah.

Senior Administration Present: In attendance, President Lim, Interim Provost and Sr. Executive Vice President Dhawan, Sr. Vice President Christ, Sr. Vice President for Finance & Chief Financial Officer Brennan, Vice Presidents Alexo, Boger, and Wozencroft, Associate Vice President & Director of Athletics Kaplan, Interim Vice President for Human Resources Wilson, Chief of Staff Hageman, Chief External Affairs Officer Garretson, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer Golden, Chief Diversity Officer Jones, and Vice President and Secretary Stern.

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 10, 2023, and posted on the University website on July 10, 2023 for filing with that office and posting in such public place as designated by said Clerk.”

2. **Public Comments:**

Dr. Yehoshua Perl addressed the Board, noting that he has been a Professor of Computer Science for 38 years. He stated that he has a serious warning that NJIT will not receive R-1 designation in the next round for consideration, as research is down at NJIT and NJII. Last time, we were close to not getting R-1 status, and he commended Dr. Deek’s efforts to secure our status. He believes we should have 450 faculty, rather than the 360 we currently have, and we should have more PhD students. We have 200 and we should have 350. We spend money on Athletics that should go to research and teaching. He stated that what we are doing is wrong, and he was opposed to the construction of the Wellness and Events Center. We should go and find a New Jersey company to give us money for the naming rights; naming rights are being given too cheaply. He is calling on the Board to take his concerns seriously, or else our R-1 status will disappear. We cannot have business as usual. He is happy to talk to people privately. Dr. Lim thanked Dr. Perl for all he does, and for sharing his viewpoint.

3. By a motion duly made by Gary Dahms, seconded by and unanimously approved by those members in attendance at that meeting, the Board approved the public minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2023.
4. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MONTALTO, SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFFICERS.
5. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON, SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY 24 ANNUAL OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET.
6. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON, SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY 24 TUITION & FEES.
7. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TOFT, SECONDED BY MR. STAMATIS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO CKB 218 AND 105 VENTURE LINK 4TH FLOOR.
8. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. MASER, SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR HVAC AND PLUMBING CONTRACTING SERVICES IN FY 24.
9. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. MASER, SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR CARPENTRY CONTRACTING SERVICES IN FY 2024.
10. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. DAHMS, SECONDED BY MS. MONTALTO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AWARD ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE LICENSING FOR CISCO DNA SWITCHING EQUIPMENT.
11. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON, SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT TREES FOR SCHOOLS GRANT APPLICATION.
12. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. STAMATIS, SECONDED BY MS. CLAYTON AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXCLUSIVE LICENSE OF UNIVERSITY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.
13. **Chair's Report:**

Chair Cohen reported that it has been a busy summer, with no downtime. We are taking a look at the management of the endowment. There is a lot going on with NJII, and the

actions of the NJII Presidential Search Committee. Summer programs at NJIT are taking place, and the students have done remarkable things. A number of university administrators are currently Interim, and we are looking forward to a period of stability. He commended Dr. Atam Dhawan for his service as Interim Provost, and everything he has done. He is deserving of our gratitude and appreciation. Dr. Lim has completed his first year as President, and we will have both a new Provost and new Faculty Senate leadership, and Student Senate leadership. We will select a new NJII President soon. Enrollment continues to grow; our trajectory is not altered. We continue the work on the Strategic Plan, and getting the stakeholders to opine. Chair Cohen congratulated Dr. Lim for a successful first year.

14. **President's Report:**

Dr. Lim thanked the Board for everything they do, and thanked the members of the President's cabinet. This is a special day, as it is the last day for Dr. Atam Dhawan in his Interim Provost role, and he will return to his position as the Sr. Vice Provost for Research, a key role at an R-1 institution. The Board commended Dr. Dhawan for his service. Dr. Lim noted he is honored to share that NJIT is one of only three public institutions in New Jersey to earn at least a 4.5 star rating out of 5 stars in a new "best colleges" list by Money magazine. The American East Conference recognized 12 student-athletes from NJIT as America East Presidential Scholar-Athletes for their academic achievements. We have completed an NJIT-focused Spanish-language episode of the Amazon Prime Series "The College Tour" to air in the Fall. This supports our anticipated designation as an Hispanic serving institution. Dr. Lim discussed a number of NJII awards, including one of the inaugural 2023 Empowering Women award; also, the NJII Healthcare Division team was honored as a NJBIZ 2023 Healthcare Heroes: Medical Technology Pioneer award honoree.

Dr. Lim also discussed our research accomplishments, calling attention to the 2023 NJIT Undergraduate Summer Research and Innovation Symposium, which will be integrated with Innovation Day and held on July 26 – 27, 2023, and will feature talks from Board Chair Robert Cohen as keynote speaker, as well as Dereje Agonafer, Presidential Distinguished Professor at University of Texas, Arlington, and Jamie Renee, Executive Director of the National Academy of Inventors. 150 students will be presenting at the symposium.

Dr. Lim highlighted the accomplishments of our faculty, including Dr. Fatemeh Ahmadpoor from the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, for an NSF Career Award of \$531,000; Dr. John Meriwether and Andrew Gerrard from the Center of Solar Terrestrial Research for an Air Force Office of Scientific Research award of \$543,000, Dr. David Bader from the Institute of Data Science for an NSF Award of \$932,000. For this fiscal year, we have \$69 million in external research awards YTD, an 11% increase over the last year. For external research expenditures, we were up by 6% as of the end of May (\$62 million v. \$58 million).

15. **Report of FY 23 Fundraising;**

Dr. Ken Alexo gave a report of FY 23 fundraising, calling the Board's attention to the reports in the meeting materials. We are still finalizing the FY 23 results (unaudited). We have \$1.4 million more in gifts and pledges. In terms of funds received, we are \$6 -7 million ahead of last year. Fewer alumni made gifts, which was disappointing. The percentage of alumni that are engaged, however, is greater than last year. He reviewed the recent alumni events.

16. **Report of Clery Crime Data:**

Sr. Vice President Christ gave a report on the Clery Crime Data, referencing the statistics contained in the Board materials.

17. **Report of Upcoming Calendar of Events:**

Chair Cohen reviewed the calendar of upcoming events in the Board materials, encouraging participation.

18. Chair Cohen announced that the next regularly scheduled Closed Session, will convene on September 21, 2023 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, September 21, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Public Session of the Board will take place on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

19. The Public Session was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.