

LEC Meeting – January 29, 2020

**Minutes**  
**Lecturers and Educators Congress**  
**January 29, 2020**  
**Fenster Hall 590, 4:30 PM–5:50 PM**

Present: Kyle Riismandel (President), Maria Stanko (Vice President), Scott Kent (Treasurer), Catherine Siemann (Secretary), Jon Curley (Humanities), Melodi Guilbault (MTSM), Thomas Ogorzalek (HCAD), Rafeeza Shahabudeen (Adjunct), Ryan Tolboom (YWCC), Katherine Tyrol (Humanities), Chris Zeiner (NCE)

Also Present: Jacob Chaffin (UCAN)

The meeting was called to order at 4:37pm.

**I. President's Report & Committee Reports**

There was no President's Report.

Finance: next meeting in a week. Chris ran through the upcoming agenda briefly.

TLT: Kate Tyrol can't meet this semester because of a schedule conflict. A call was put out to see if anyone is interested – next meeting is February 11 – Tuesdays at 3. Maria Stanko is there representing Biology.

5-year plan to upgrade classroom technology – first systematic review ever done.

New exam proctoring policy for online classes: TLT committee policy, to make things consistent and to be effective. It's on the Registrar's Website.

Security Awareness Training was real, but they're aware it looked like a phishing scam. They are now testing out fake phishing emails.

Pearson e-learning programs are being sunsetted.

ITE had a workshop in January focused on Canvas.

Microsoft is changing the way the university is going to get access to Microsoft Office – “educational qualified users” – who counts? Could be an issue for staff, for adjuncts getting access semester to semester.

FACILITIES: Scott Kent.

Makerspace II got its certificate of occupancy.

Teardown is going to happen on the Mueller property soon.

NJIT bought the Warren Street School for \$5M, and claim they are going to try to save the façade. The plan is to build a dorm and a parking deck, to be operated by a private company under the supervision of Residence Life. Open for Fall 2022.

Master energy plan.

New landscaping masterplan is coming – starting next fall.

Another one of our empty buildings is going to be sold to a developer for at-market apartments.

UNIVERSITY SENATE: Scott Kent.

NJIT has hired a VP of Human Resources, Dale McLeod.

NJIT's endowment us at \$130 Million.

Enrollment was down this fall, up some this spring. Enrollment is looking positive for fall, but the graduate recruiters have been flown home from China because of the coronavirus outbreak. Goal is 13,600 total grad and undergrad students.

II. **Graduate Student Update** Jacob Chaffin, from UCAN.

Over the course of bargaining, it was discovered that Research Assistants were paying a number of university fees. Their contract says it's to be waived, and the TAs have their fees waived. UCAN has filed a grievance, for it to be retroactive. 25% of graduate employees have signed the petition already. [tinyurl.com/stopfees](http://tinyurl.com/stopfees) Request that the petition be circulated more widely. Graduate contract negotiations are still ongoing; the university has made a counteroffer for a more favorable contract. Action on February 6 at the Board of Trustees meeting, 4pm. Late payments for grad students are a problem. LEC direct communications with Board of Trustees discussed.

III. **Response to Provost re. Master Teacher issue**

The Master Teacher Committee of the Faculty Senate recommended to the Provost that ULs be eligible to be Master Teachers. A vocal minority of senior faculty objected on the grounds that all ULs were expected to be excellent teachers anyway. The Provost asked for a response. Since the new Strategic Plan is looking at creating a Teaching Faculty, recognizing superior teaching by ULs helps to achieve those goals.

IV. **Teaching Faculty Committee**

An LEC committee will be formed to start working on the issues surrounding the new Teaching Faculty. Kyle Riismandel and Jaskirat Sodhi will co-chair the committee; they are looking for volunteers.

V. **UCAN – Scott Kent**

Adjunct raises!

- a. Retroactive to September, 1600/credit hour – 4800/3 credit class = +3%
- b. Fall 20 1725/credit hour – 5175/3 credit class = +8%
- c. Fall 21 1850/credit hour – 5550/3 credit class = +8%
- d. For those who are above the pay scale, they still get the 3%, 8%, 8%.

The meeting was adjourned around 5:50pm.