

Minutes

Lecturers and Educators Congress

Nov. 17, 2021

4:30-5:30PM – [WebEx](#)

Present: Maria Stanko (President), Jaskirat Sodhi (Vice President), Catherine Siemann (Secretary), Scott Kent (Treasurer), Caroline Devan, John Esche, David Fisher, Risa Gorelick, Mary Konsolaki, Robert Platt, Matthew Riegel, Matthew Toegel, Ryan Tolboom, Katherine Tyrol, Louis Wells

I. President's Report (Maria)

- Special December meeting on FRIDAY Dec. 10, 11:30-1, Eberhard 112 with food and guest Charnette Hockaday, Associate Dean of Students
- Please RSVP to Scott Kent, kent@njit.edu to get a headcount for food.
- Next semester: discussed meeting online or in person? Is this time good or would another be better?

II. Pandemic Instructional Delivery (Maria)

- Re-application for vaccination exemptions for Spring 2022
- No expectation that boosters will be required
- Mask mandate is likely to still be in place in Spring 2022
- Extension of withdrawal deadline until Nov. 23
- Course mode of instruction should match registrar's course listing
- Final exam time/location/mode changes should be approved by chair

III. Committee Reports

a. Faculty Senate - Jaskirat/Maria

Jaskirat reported on the extension of withdrawal deadlines. We are acquiring Election Buddy, a new software to carry out anonymous elections. Presumably students and LEC can also use it. The Egypt campus has been controversial for not following a shared governance model, accreditation concerns. Maria added the

frustration with no public presentations by candidates for the Presidential search. One of the three finalists took another job, and another candidate was brought in.

b. Ad-hoc Committee on University Lecturers – Jaskirat

We met once and discussed the major points Jaskirat raised in the last meeting; they were overall well-received. Two subcommittees have been formed: one on pay and voting rights for ULs, another to examine our status in the Faculty Handbook.

c. TLT - Kate

A student built a chrome extension that bypassed the Health pledged; the student has been disciplined. Kate expressed concerns about hampering student creativity; she and Geri Milano drafted a statement on this. Kate would like feedback; the document has been posted to the LEC Canvas, and Maria will distribute it via email.

d. Joint Committee Strategic Planning Steering and Academic Steering Planning and Budget Priorities – Mary Konsolaki

Cathy Brennan [Sr VP for Finance and CFO] presented and gave an overview. We have been spending more than we have been making – we are losing Federal aid. We have been growing 7% and spending 20%, drawing down reserves. We are the most expensive public institution in NJ. Suggestions: reductions (admin rather than academic), new revenues. Scholarships: merit vs. need. Higher cost for STEM programs vs. humanities.

Perry Dees [director of OIR] presented on the 2025 Implementation
Maria pointed out that talk about hiring is usually research faculty; let's remind them that we also need to prioritize effective teaching, which is done largely by Lecturers and Adjuncts.

e. PSA – Caroline – the back payments have been coming through; if anyone is concerned whether they've received what they are owed, they can ask for an accounting. December 10th is the projected day for the last of the three payments. There will a General Membership Meeting before the end of the semester.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm.