

## Minutes

### Lecturers and Educators Congress

October 29, 2025

4:15-5:45 PM – Colton Hall Room 210, Conference Room or [via Zoom](#)

Present: Ryan Tolboom (President), Jaskirat Sodhi (VP), Catherine Siemann (Secretary), Scott Kent (Treasurer), Geraldine Milano (Web Coordinator), Jose Alcala, Annie Chatterjee, Johanna Deane, John Esche, David Fisher, Risa Gorelick, Crystal Hamai, Thomas Ogorzalek, Jeffrey Reaves, Olena Rudna, Rosemina Vohra, Omar Woodruff, Chris Zeiner

#### I. **President's Report** - Ryan Tolboom

##### A. Updates on LEC representatives

John Esche on Search Committee for Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Ryan Tolboom on CFRR

Johanna Deane, University Senate

Chris Zeiner & Jeffrey Reaves, University Senate Finance Committee

Jeffrey Reaves, TLT

##### B. LEC Outreach to New Hires

Ryan has a list of new hires in the Lecturer category and will reach out to them.

##### C. Spring Schedule is Up

#### II. **Committee Reports**

##### A. **Ad Hoc Task Force on Federal Actions** - Johanna Deane – 10/13 meeting

1. Subcommittees are refining and modifying their charges
2. SWAT analysis of what is likely to occur over the next few years

3. DEI subcommittee commissioned a student survey over the summer. Much higher than usual feedback for a summer survey (3x)
4. Compact documents are a blueprint for what the federal government is looking for and provide us with ideas

B. **UCAN** - Scott Kent – New president and new union representative. Negotiations for the new contract will begin in January; the current contract expires on June 30.

C. **CFRR** - Ryan Tolboom/Jose Alcala – has been meeting every Monday, mostly working on the language of the Teaching Faculty proposal. Has been meeting with various administrators and stakeholders. Moving forward, but needs to be kept consistent with various contracts, etc.

D. **Faculty Senate** - Jaskirat Sodhi / Ryan Tolboom – Faculty Senate passed a motion to table indefinitely the motion on the New Jersey Mutual Defense Resolution.

Increased Undergrad enrollment, the PhD is solid, but the Master's programs are dropping off dramatically because of losing international enrollment, with a significant impact on our budget. Students from India and China, esp. in Computer, students from India on Visas.

Project Spark – transition from Banner to Workday is underway.

Discussion of the Institute Faculty Meeting. The government shutdown affects research. Task force looking at the impact. Visa pause in effect. Trump compact for higher education is now available to all institutions.

AI microcredentials are now up in Canvas.

We have a large number of applications, but the yield is falling off. 66-67% acceptance rate. High school grades are back down to the level of 2020. David Fisher commented that a larger number of students are putting down multiple deposits. Ideas about differential pricing. Discussion of other universities' strategies: Stevens will be free under a certain family income; Kean is giving out of state students in-state tuition.

E. **TLT** - Geraldine Milano

1. AI Exploration Day – March 26, 2026 – run by Nikki Bosca and CEIE. Campus Wide Conference. Free but registration required. A ycall for proposals will go out shortly.
2. IST Open House yesterday 10/28 – run by Blake Haggerty.
3. ALC Update – enrollment update
4. Project Spark – Pooja Goel and Peggy Kenrick – transition from BANNER to WORKDAY. Will be fully deployed in July 2026. Chrome will be sunset; Workday will take over expense reimbursement.

Cornerstone will be sunset; all recruitment will be done in Workday.  
[www.njit.edu/projectspark](http://www.njit.edu/projectspark)

5. AI Teaching and Learning Working Group – Nikki Bosca & Justine Krawiec. Microcredentials have rolled out.
6. Security and Compliance – Blake Haggerty. If traveling abroad, it is recommended that you not take your personal cellphone or laptop. IST will provide you with an NJIT clean cellphone and laptop to take.
7. Future of AFS (Andrew File System) – moving to Google Drive

F. **University Senate** – Johanna Deane – meeting focused mostly on orienting new members and discussing the role. Mary Beth Boger is the new VP; Louis Hamilton is new Secretary. Brian from Student Senate Member at Large, Burt Kimmelman is the Faculty Member at Large. Alumni association offered a potential fund for students falling behind financially. Construction updates. Parking updates. Hope to have additional classroom space by spring 2027. Discussion of health insurance costs. Discussion of Wellness Day falling on Yom Kippur. Dean Pelesko is working on title changes in the constitution.

### III. **New business**

Risa discussed the changes in insurance plans. Open enrollment ends this week.