

**Institute Faculty Meeting Minutes**  
**March 31, 2021, 2:30-4:00PM**  
**WebEx**

**Presiding: Denis Blackmore, Faculty Senate President**

1. Approval of the February 17, 2021 Institute Faculty Meeting minutes  
Motion to approve the 2/17/2021 minutes by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Rosato.  
The minutes were approved with 0 no's and 1 abstention.
2. Faculty Senate Report
  - Robert Cohen in contact w/ the Presidential Search Firm
  - Will announce Presidential Search Committee in a day or two
  - Things are moving pretty quickly and expected to wrap up search process one month early
3. **Y. Perl:** What is our status for renewing the R1 next time and what needs to be done?  
Y. Perl made his presentation on renewing R1 status. Got input from S. Zivavras and A. Dhawan. More discussions followed.
4. **Cristian Borcea:** Approval of new Department of Data Science in YWCC  
Cristian Borcea presented a proposal for a Department of Data Science in YWCC. Q&A followed. Motion to approve Department of Data Science by Cristian Borcea and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion approved with 72 yes, 5 no, and 10 abstentions.
5. **Walid Hubbi:** Proposal for NJIT to make use of MOOC  
Walid Hubbi made his presentation to make use of MOOC. Discussion followed.
6. **Amit Bose:** Assessing the status of Shared Governance  
Amit Bose made his presentation on assessing the status of shared governance at NJIT: In the past few years, the administration has made increasingly more decisions unilaterally. Examples include: (1) The formation of the Pandemic Recovery Team with little consultation of the Faculty Senate; (2) The decision in summer 2020 to run 60% of Fall 2020 classes in the converged mode without any meaningful input from faculty and departments; (3) The decision over the past few years to insert a Dean's review of the short list in Faculty Searches without Faculty Senate approval; (4) Postponement, or attempt thereof, of Chairperson elections in NCE and YWCC. Q&A followed.
7. **Discussion of issues raised by Shawn Chester:** (1) Placement of incoming students: Over the number of unprepared students coming into my classes is increasing. Is there a placement exam for transfer students? (2) The Faculty Senate should have a Canvas page (3) The Dean of Students Office is understaffed; help is needed.
8. Open Forum: Questions, suggestions, discussion (time permitting)  
No other discussions were initiated.

Motion to end the meeting by D. Blackmore and seconded by Y. Perl.  
The meeting ended at 3:57PM.