

**Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**September 19, 2019**  
**Albert Dorman Honors College Conference Room (211), 11:30 AM–1:30 PM**

I. Convening of the Meeting – Ellen Thomas, President

The meeting started at 11:31AM

- II. Roll Call- The following voting members were present: A. Anandarajan, S. Adamovich, M. Bandelt, D. Blackmore, D. Bunker, E. Farinas, I. Gatley, H. Grebel, R. Goodman, Q. Jones, B. Khusid, N. Steffen-Fluhr, E. Michalopoulou, S. Pemberton, L. Potts, R. Rojas-Cessa, A. Rosato, L. Rodriguez-Freire, M. Schwartz, R. Sodhi, T. Narahara (sub for D. Sollohub), G. Thomas, E. Thomas, Y. Perl, A. Gerbessiotis, P. Armenante, and A. Lee.

The following non-voting members were present: J. Shafik (Student Senate), J. Yuan (GSA), K. Belfield, R. Lazer, L. Hamilton, A. Hoang, M. Kam, M. Stanko, K. Riismandel, S. Mongelli, B. Baltzis

The following guests were present: President Bloom, W. Fox, H. Rotstein, and A. Bose.

III. Approval of Minutes of the Faculty Senate (FS) Meeting on May 9, 2019.

The minutes of the FS meeting on May 9, 2019 were approved unanimously, with 3 abstentions.

IV. Report of Faculty Senate President

a. Introduction of new Senators

b. Reminder: Faculty Senate meetings moving to Tuesdays in the spring

c. Monthly meetings with Ed Bishof

d. Evaluations of Senior Administrators

FS will bring this to CFRR's attention again

e. Update on distinguished professors motion

The Senate voted on May 2, 2019 on CFRR's recommendation to revise the DP P&T process. An amended committee makeup was passed. At the same time a request was sent out for any additional feedback. The Distinguished Professor Committee was contacted several more times yet nothing has been received. P. Armenante stated the committee is meeting soon and will respond. The FS plans to resolve this long awaited vote this fall.

f. Response of GER sub-committee

Motion from meeting on 5.9.19: Four 200 level STS courses (STS 201, STS 205, STS 210, and STS 221) may satisfy either the Liberal Arts GER Literacy or the Social Science GER literacy, as long as one course is not counted as both GER literacies for a student

**Discussion:** S. Pemberton commented that there is no way to understand a solution as the GER subcommittee was not consulted. A. Gerbessiotis suggested a request for the minutes from the last GER subcommittee meeting. D. Blackmore moved to table until next FS meeting and after GER subcommittee meets. A. Rosato seconded. Motion was approved (14 yes, 0 no, 3 abstentions).

V. President Bloom's presentation and discussion (President Bloom)

Q&A with President Bloom. Highlights from presentation:

- NJIT is starting to look at what to do with the future of the Mueller Florist property and potential new residence hall on corner of Lock/ Warren St. **About this time next year will**

begin to seek community-wide input for the programming of any future structure, a FY2025 project.

- R1 status and U.S. News & World Report rank of 97 will give NJIT opportunities for new partnerships
- Fundraising goal of 10.3% from alumni donations
- 3% increase in enrollment.
- \$24 million for facilities improvement
- NJIT has highest tuition – (but room + board lowest, most grants do not pay room & board) with only a 1.9% FY20 increase in tuition, lowest in for senior publics
- Most 2020 vision goals reached and wrapping up 2025 plan. Envisaged faculty increases depend on enrollment

Q&A: Y. Perl: Can we use extra money from Tuition to reach 27 million on renovations? Pres. Bloom: Renovations are a priority for Board of Trustees (BOT) and there are plans to re-bond debt soon. K. Riismandel: Recently adjuncts were not paid and there needs to be more accountability for the system as they were not told they were not getting a paycheck and this was not the first time it has happened. Pres. Bloom: Appropriate documentation must be completed in order for payments to be made. Deans and chairs must resolve this administrative issue. E. Michalopoulos: Will there be a public forum for what happens with Mueller property? Pres. Bloom: More analysis necessary for what could potentially be the biggest building on campus. **We won't start building at the florist site until fiscal year 2025 as previously announced.** Yes, there will be opportunity for feedback. R. Sodhi: We may need another parking deck. Pres. Bloom: No plans for where but we already know that we shall need additional parking. G. Thomas: Is a key goal for NJIT to raise college board scores? Pres. Bloom: Average NJIT student score is 1270. With a very diverse student body we are looking for more input after winning back the "Gear Up Plan" grant. A. Bose: What first two things you would do with unlimited budget. Pres. Bloom: Facilities, faculty, and Infrastructure. K. Riismandel: Do you support some University Lecturers becoming tenure-track/tenured faculty? Pres. Bloom: Yes. R. Sodhi: NJIT needs to invest in foolproof system for students who cheat online. Pres. Bloom: More teaching workshops are available to professors than ever before. A. Rosato: How many lines are we expecting for faculty retirements and are there any incentives? Bloom: No retirement incentives as of now. Facilities are still the main priority. H. Rotstein: NJIT endowment, what is the structure and efforts to raise the endowment for academic purposes? Pres. Bloom: This varies per the donator rules and can be used for facilities, equipment, faculty fellowships and scholarships. The overall goal is to get to 150 million. Investment committee made up of BOT and Board of Overseers are using Riskval Company as the new investment manager. I usually request donations for student scholarships. W. Fox: The minimum class size is now 15. We need a map of prerequisites and courses scheduled instead of scrambling at the start of the semester. Pres. Bloom: There has been significant improvement with the new Registrar, and the updated software is much better than 2 or 3 years ago as it has A.I built into it now. B. Baltzis: All chairs and deans can request that a class with low enrollment run if students need the course to graduate. E. Thomas: The 2025 Strategic Plan should be available soon. Can the faculty see the plans sooner rather than later? Pres. Bloom: The plan is to finalize the draft by Spring 2020.

VI. Open discussion on what additional projects the FS should undertake during 2019-2020.

Comments regarding the need for a simulation from J. Trombella (Registrar) at the next meeting. G. Thomas requested clarity regarding the comparison of sports vs. academic investments. Y. Perl added that how to maintain our R1 status should be discussed in a meeting with Provost Deek.

VII. The meeting ended at 1PM.