Below are highlights of the 2017-2018 Senate. I would like to thank the constituents, Senators, and committee members for all of the work they do. The Senate is established “to provide members of the academic community of New Jersey City University with a participatory role in decision-making and in the governance of the University.” That mission is seen in the following highlights.

The Senate served as a forum for communication within the University.

President Henderson gave two presentations to the Senate at the September and at the May meetings.
Dr. Karen Morgan, Assistant Provost, presented on the NJCU Online Catalog.
Dr. Wanda Rutledge gave a presentation on NJCU Athletics
Dr. Natalia Coleman gave a presentation on Scientific Undergraduate Research Institute (SURI)
Dr. Joshua Fausty Presented on the General Education Program three times

The Senate approved the following policies.

- New Procedure for Approving Academic Degree Programs
- Policy for Granting Emeritus Status
- Policy for Granting Distinguished Service Award
- The Riotto Award
- Transfer and Residency Requirements reduction to 120 credits from 128

These policies represent the work of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, the Graduate Studies Committee, the Faculty and Professional Staff Affairs Committee, the Planning and Budget Committee, and the Academic Standards Committee.

In addition, the Faculty and Professional Staff Affairs Committee reviewed the applications and made recommendations for Faculty Emeritus and Sabbatical Leave. The Instructional Technology Committee worked with IT to upgrade the classroom technologies throughout the campus.
Courses and Program Approvals

Through the Curriculum and Instruction Committee 26 course proposals, 6 program proposals, and 10 changes in course/program proposals were approved.

Through the Graduate Studies Committee 11 course proposals, 3 Program proposals, and 3 changes in course/program proposals were approved.

Pending

These are significant items that will be addressed in the 2018-19 School year. The All University Requirement for a Foreign Language has been revived and is moving through the appropriate committees. The Doctoral Policy Task Force, charged with reviewing the current Doctoral Handbook, is nearly completed their work. The Ad Hoc Committee on Administrative Evaluation completed their work. Its report and recommendations have been forwarded to the administration. The Senate forwarded the recommendation for Infosilem made by the Academic Support & Services Committee to the administration.

Conclusion

There are several initiatives that we can look forward to this year. I am looking forward to the increased involvement of students. Several standing committees have begun the creation of Committee Manuals—this will support the continuity and the transparency of the committees’ work. Finally, we will continue with our training in teleconference software to facilitate remote committee meetings.

In the Fall of 2017 Senate President Joe Riotto suddenly became ill and passed away. It was a tragedy that is difficult to put into words. I hope we can find consolation in the fact that the people of the Senate—constituents, Senators, and committee members—ensured that the institution to which Joe dedicated himself remained stable, strong, and vital to the University. Thank you for your work and support.