



University Senate

Professional Studies Building, Room P203A rm 1; Extension 3459

### **2019 State of the University Senate**

Dr. Christopher Shamburg, University Senate President

Below are highlights of the 2018-2019 Senate. I would like to thank the constituents, Senators, and committee members for all of the work they do. This work embodies the Senate's mission "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."

#### **Program and Course Proposals**

The Senate reviewed and approved 34 courses and 7 academic programs. The programs were:

- Minor in East Asian Studies
- Minor in Business Analytics and Data Science
- Early Childhood Education Infant Toddler Option
- Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics and Data Science
- Master of Science in Financial Technology
- Multidisciplinary Program BA/MA in Teacher Ed. with Triple Certification

#### **30-Day Resolution**

At the beginning of the academic year the Senate passed a resolution that all committees must review all items within 30 days-- courses, program changes, resolutions, etc. As of December 2018, the Senate has had no significant items backlogged.

#### **Significant Resolutions**

Through the work of various committees and the full Senate body, the Senate passed resolutions on the following items:

- A proposal of a Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latin Studies
- A system for improved accountability for temporary course approvals
- A proposal for a Dedicated Exhibition Space at the Guaraní Library
- A resolution honoring the Monday Common Hour
- A resolution for a feedback system for the implementation of a second Wednesday Common Hour
- A proposal for a second Reading Day each semester
- Research on counseling services available for students
- Revision of the criteria for visiting scholars
- Senate participation in the Associate Provost Search and the Provost Search

- Follow up on the Senate's recommendations for the implementation of the University's course scheduling software, Infosilem
- Updates on Interfolio, the on the new online system for submitting promotion and tenure material through Senate representation on the Interfolio Task Force
- Commutation with Public Safety on concerns of faculty and staff through the University's Safety, Security and Sustainability Working Group

### **All University World Language Requirement**

Not all of the Senate's work results in the passing of resolutions. For example, there was a lively debate in the Senate on a proposed "All University World Language Requirement". This was a faculty initiative that was developed and approved by several Senate committees. It was debated on the Senate floor, and did not pass a full senate vote.

### **Current Issues**

Here are some major issues that the Senate is currently working on:

- Research on the state of academic freedom at NJCU
- The creation of "Committee Manuals" for the Senate standing committees.
- Revisions of the Doctoral Handbook
- Revisions on the policy on Honorary Degrees
- Study of the University's Institution Review Board procedures (IRB)
- Revisions of the Faculty Handbook
- An updated Student Grievance Form
- Recommendation on the University's elimination of the SAT/ ACT requirement
- The proposed use of outside companies to manage our online programs
- The progress of the Senate Resolution on a system for administrative evaluation

### **Request for Board Consideration**

After the Senate passes a resolution, it is brought to the administration for approval. According to the Senate Constitution, if no agreement is made, the Senate has the right to ask the Board of Trustees to consider the matter. In that regard, the Senate Executive Committee has requested a meeting with the Board of Trustees to review three topics:

- The administration's overruling the elections of department chairs
- Sharing the rubrics for promotion and tenure
- The lack of Senate approval for curricular changes to the Applied Learning program

It has been an honor working with all of the constituents of the Senate. I am looking forward to the 2019-2020 Academic Year.

Thank you,

Chris