

## Meeting #6

**University Senate Meeting  
Monday, 20 March 2023  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom**

**All attachments are in the link below:**

[Senate Meeting Docs March 20, 2023](#)

Started: 2:00 pm

- I. **Test Zoom Voting**
  - a. Successful
  
- II. **Motion to Approve the University Senate Meeting Agenda** [01aSM Agenda 3-20-2023 draft.docx](#)
  - a. Moved President Acebo to 3 pm
  - b. Approved
  
- III. **Motion to Approve the University Senate Meeting Minutes of the February 13, 2023 Senate Meeting** [01bSM Minutes 2-13-2023 Draft.pdf](#)
  - a. Approved
  
- IV. **University Senate President's Report, Dr. Fran Moran**
  - a. Committee reports are posted on SharePoint
  - b. An "Action Item" note has been identified on the Agenda where a vote is required.
  - c. Dr. Moran thanked the AFT for organizing the rally. It was well attended, including by administration.
  - d. SACC Update
    - i. Approved - Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning
    - ii. Approved - Student Retention Ad Hoc Committee
    - iii. Approved - Ad Hoc Committee to work with the acting Provost to draft a plan regarding the performance of individual administrators and managers (need to shorten this title)
    - iv. Approved - Ad Hoc Steering Committee to Coordinate Response to Issues Related to Academic Portfolio Reduction (Motion at Senate meeting to officially appoint members)
      1. Volunteers: Dr. Meriem Bendaoud – Biology – CAS; Dr. Venessa Garcia– Criminal Justice – CPS; Dr. Reed Carroll, Biology – CAS; Dr. Hanae Haouari, Chemistry – CAS; Dr. Ethan Prosen, Biology – CAS; Dr. Scott O'Connor, Philosophy/Religion – CAS; Dr. Beimnet Teclezghi, Mathematics - CAS
        - a. Senate **Approved** membership
        - b. Called for volunteers from the College of Education and the School of Business.

- v. Constitutional Amendments will be shared with the Board of Trustees
  - vi. Discussed Academic Standards Committee's recommendation on an Absence and Attendance Policy
    - 1. Jodi Bailey will review the language and Senior Team will discuss the motions
  - vii. Discussed recommendations made by the Academic Support & Services Committee (See February 13, 2023 Senate Minutes)
  - viii. Discussed recommendations made by the Committee on Instructional Technology (See February 13, 2023 Senate Minutes)
  - ix. Discussed course evaluation software researched by the Faculty & Professional Staff Affairs Committee: Blue, Smart Evals and Watermark
    - 1. Rachel Fester asked to be put in touch with the Committee. (See February 13, 2023 Senate Minutes)
  - x. Discussed the Senate approved restructuring of the General Education Committee.
    - 1. The Senior Team will examine the motion.
  - xi. Planning, Development & Budget Committee
    - 1. President Acebo will look into the Library's budget
- V. **SGA Report**, Mr. Thyquel Hailey, SGA President and Ms. Khadija Diop, SEC Student Rep.
- a. Today's Campus Conversations was canceled. New date will be announced.
- VI. **University Senate Committee Reports**
- a. **Academic Standards Committee**, Ms. Theresa Spataro, Chairperson (**action item**) [02aASC Enrolling and Withdrawing from Class Policy -.pdf](#) [02bAdd Drop Infographic.pdf](#) [02cASC Report Math 112 3.15.23.pdf](#) [02dCredit Load .pdf](#)
    - i. Tried to clarify policies
    - ii. Fully recommending a more dynamic listing of policies with useful links.
    - iii. Recommending UAC have power to withdraw students from AURs/Foundation course, which need approval to drop them.
      - 1. Concern: Academic Grievance Process should be added to list
      - 2. Concern: More attention to the Pass/Fail policy
      - 3. Concern: Withdrawal Policy – needs clarification of what documents need to be sent and how they should be sent. The form: when are the signatures required? When or should the instructor sign the document?
      - 4. Concern: Faculty need some kind of note informing them of student progress
      - 5. Concern: If student withdraws from NJCU then they should automatically be withdrawn from classes. Will revisit this next at the next meeting.
      - 6. Created an information sheet outlining the add/drop and withdrawal procedures. Requesting QR codes for students.
    - iv. Credit load policy
      - 1. Redefine that 12-15 credits is full-time but need Dean's signature to register for 18 credits.
      - 2. Winter session should not allow more than 3 credits.

3. Summer can allow for 6 credits per session.
  4. Concern: Is there a check and balance in GothicNet.
  5. Concern: Wording – f/t student is enrolled for a min of 12 credits and only permitted to enroll for 16 or more credits with permission of Dean.
  6. Concern: over 21 credits requires more money. Consider why the limit is set to 22 credits and how tuition is affected.
  7. Reality: Probation: f/t 13 credits; system automatically allows them to add courses. Need something in place to stop them.
  8. Concern: Add “undergraduate” students to the policy language
  9. Concern: ALP English is 6 credits and can affect their progress; ENG, MATH, and OTC courses. Would it be appropriate for the General Education Committee to also look at this policy?
  10. Concern: Science students will take more than one 4-credit course. This will affect their course load. Students will need to work more in these courses.
  11. Concern: Prerequisite courses, if they do not pass they are not automatically removed from the requisite course when already registered for it in the following semester/session. There should be an automatic withdrawal from the requisite.
  12. Concern: Consider a strategy of registering for 18 courses with the intention of dropping one. The block is a hurdle.
  13. Concern: The full-year registration is affected by failing a prerequisite.
  14. Concern: Prerequisite- not finishing the prerequisite during the annual registration cycle.
- v. MATH 112
1. Motion: The following Math courses are no longer part of the All University Requirements and therefore not bound by the AUR policy on Pass/Fail grades. The Committee recommends approving Math 112 for issuance of a Pass/Fail grade, following the Pass/Fail policy currently enforce.
  2. Math Dept requested that a pass grade in the Math Emporium be allowed to change a failed grade in MATH 112 or 114. ASC recommended assigning an IN grade allowing the student to immediately complete the Math Emporium.
    - a. Concern: the student may not immediately take the Math Emporium affecting the ability to pass the class.
- vi. Motion to table the rest of the ASC report until April. Joseph Moskowitz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Shamburg. Approved
- b. **Academic Support & Services Committee**, Dr. Nelda Ephraim & Dr. Zhimin Wang, Co-Chairs [02eAcademic Support and Services Committee Senate Report 3-2023.pdf](#)
- i. Recommendations:
    1. The lines of communication need to remain open between the departments, UAC, departmental advisors, and students.
    2. Once a new advisor is hired, UAC should send a short note to students and encourage them to meet with their advisor at their earliest convenience.

3. As more and more students rely on their phones for information, advisor information should be accessible to students on the NJCUMobile App.
  4. Communication between UAC and departments should be strengthened so that students can complete their degrees during right sizing. All academic advisors should know the sunseting plans.
  5. Both advisors (UAC advisors and departmental advisors) and students should use the UAC Advising Manual as a guiding source.
- c. **Faculty & Professional Staff Affairs Committee**, Dr. Max Herman, Chairperson
- i. Unanimously recommends Tania Leon for the Honorary Doctor of Arts.
- d. **General Education Committee**, Dr. Scott O'Connor, Chairperson [02fGeneral Education Committee 2.28.23 pdf.pdf](#)
- i. The Committee approved two principles by which they will develop a detailed plan to submit to the University Senate:
    1. Will propose revisions to the GE outcomes in order to map each of the NJ state-wide community college GE outcome requirements to one General Education outcome requirement at NJCU; will not propose that the program consist only of those outcomes at the statewide program.
    2. Will propose an expansion of the GE program such that the state's certification of a course as satisfying a GE requirement in the state-wide GE program is by itself sufficient for allowing that course satisfy a GE requirement at NJCU and satisfy the very same requirement as it does throughout the state; will not propose that that the GE program consist only of those courses approved for the state-wide program, and do not intend to remove approved GE courses from the program.
    3. The aim is to have changes in place by fall 2024. They will start in April to be voted on in the May Senate and SACC meetings.
  - ii. Concern: Add another layer of early registration to transfer students.
  - iii. Concern: Gen Ed is difficult to complete. (Considering having only one Learning Outcomes and abandoning the Tiers.) But there are very few courses for some Learning Outcomes.
  - iv. Concern: Consider some of the prerequisites for the Tier 3 courses. Many students do not have them.
  - v. Concern: Please let departments know what they need to do to revise their courses to support the efforts of Gen Ed.
  - vi. NJ Transfer has a list of all state-approved Gen Ed courses.
- e. **Graduate Studies Committee**, Dr. Xiaodi Zhu, Co-Chair (**action item**) [02gGraduate Studies Committee \(GSC\) report 3-2023.pdf](#)
- i. **Approved:** COUN TBD-1: College and Other Postsecondary Career Counseling for School Counselors
- f. **Planning, Development & Budget**, Dr. Joyce Wright, Chairperson [02hPlanning Development Budget 3-2023.pdf](#)
- i. Ben Durant joined the meeting
  - ii. Discussed options for Fort Monmouth and the School of Business

- iii. Discussed NJCU's financial situation and ways to save money, e.g., summer session course offerings and locations, 3-day workweek
- iv. Discussed the logic of sunseting the viable ECE without faculty input; Governor Murphy is putting more money into early childhood education.
- v. A recommended template for New Program Budget Proposal will be reviewed by the committee.
- g. **Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning**, Dr. Christopher Shamburg, Chairperson
  - i. The Committee met on 1/25, 2/8, 2/28, and 2/15. It reviewed the Middle States requirements for strategic plans; reviewed the research and documents of the previous strategic planning initiative; discussed NJCU's current situation, strengths, and needs; and brainstormed the issues that should be included in a survey of the NJCU Community.
  - ii. Rachel Fester from Institutional Effectiveness will design a survey from the Committee's notes, subject to the review by the committee, and will be distributed in April.
  - iii. As the University broadens the scope of strategic planning, the members of the Ad Hoc group will continue to have a role.
  - iv. All of the Committee's documents are available for review here:
  - v. <https://livenjcu.sharepoint.com/:f/s/AdHocSenateStrategicPlanning/EglGQdmVPcpOnDZr1hRPYnwBkZmVtOGjeLMhGl3rp4aGfw?e=zxMiHo>

VII. **University President's Update**, Mr. Andy Acebo

- a. Agenda was changed to allow for this presentation during the committee reports at 3:00 pm.
- b. Thanked faculty, staff, and students for elevating the importance of NJCU via the rally and other activities.
- c. Remains confident and optimistic that, with solidarity, we will find the relief that we need.
- d. **More sunseting is being considered**, but we cannot cut our way to correction.
- e. Governor's budget is now public. We received a \$3 million cut from last year's allotment. Will be signed at the end of June.
- f. We are on a path to recovery.
- g. Board of Trustees
  - i. There are 6 vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Want mission-focused board members who have a respect for shared governance.
  - ii. Is asking Board to fast-track an addition of a Senate representative to sit on the Board of Trustees.
  - iii. Asking Board for an alumni voice.
  - iv. Asking Board for more time to debate issues on the floor.
- h. Spoke at the Legislative Assembly for Higher Education last Thursday (3/16/23).
- i. Is creating a President's Round Table and will have a representative from each college. Will meet periodically in an unfiltered conversation to discuss the issues.
- j. Open hours for people to walk into his office for conversations.
- k. Concern: Will President let the Union have members on the President's Round Table.
  - i. Acebo: Yes
- l. Concern: When will appealers be formally notified of final decision for sunseting.

- i. Acebo: His presentation to the BoT was the formal notification.
- m. Concern: Appointing Deans without searches is problematic. Hiring Assistant Provost after firing of Associate Provosts is problematic
- n. Concern: Asked to push that the Senate representative on the Board be a voting member. The state requires a voting student member. But the state does not preclude a voting faculty member.
  - i. Acebo: Will look into the matter
- o. Concern: Announcing the final retrenchments soon would help individual members.
- p. Concern: Programs on hiatus are being harmed by this status.
  - i. Acebo: He will meet with the Provost to discuss this issue.
- q. President Acebo has made some preliminary decisions on retrenchments of 10 faculty lines. The delay with sharing has been on him with preparing for the Assembly presentation.
- r. Concern: Should the budget that is proposed be passed, what should we expect?
  - i. Looking to unload some of our real estate or to gain partners, in Fort Monmouth. Letter of intention that will mitigate by a 1/3 the costs at Fort Monmouth. Natural attrition reduced the faculty size.
- s. Concern: Are we considering merging with another institution?
  - i. Mergers are not on the table currently. But this would be a long-term solution.
- t. Concern: Is there a March Board of Trustees meeting?
  - i. Acebo: No meeting is scheduled. He will carry all agenda items to the April meeting.
- u. The institutional organization will have department mergers and consolidations in the future, but they are not linked to sunseting and retrenchment.

## VIII. **New Business**

- a. **None**

**Adjourned: 4:40 pm**

Respectfully submitted by

Dr. Venessa Garcia

Senate Secretary