



MINUTES

Student Senate Meeting

03 April 2024, 2:30 PM

CKB Agile Strategy Lab

1. Attendance
2. Previous Minutes
 - a. approved
3. Public Forum
4. Old Business
 - a. Senator Reports
 - i. Eric Huang, Megha Saju, Jhanvi Pai, Hunter Russo, contributions from Devon Wallerson & Kamil Arif
 1. Honors college needs to reach out to YWCC
 2. Not enough sections
5. New Business
 - a. Resignations
 - i. Melisa Bilgili
 1. Chemical Engineering Representative
 - b. Swearing in
 - i. Shahd Ali
 1. Hillier College of Architecture and Design
 - a. Sworn in
 - ii. Natalia Peña
 1. Diversity & Inclusion Officer
 - a. Sworn in
 - c. New Student Organization
 - i. Philosophy Club
 1. Intro:
 - a. GBM with 10 members, discussing existentialism, epistemology, active discord/groupme, not doubt about interest, student-based research
 2. Questions:
 - a. What types of events?
 - i. Tabling at CC asking students for opinions, speakers to come in to collaborate with HC for colloquiums, book clubs
 3. Conclusion:
 - a. Thank you, want to start conversations
 4. Vote:
 - a. Approve 29
 - b. Deny 2
 - c. Abstain 0
 - i. approved!
 - ii. Racquetball Club
 1. Intro:



- a. Purpose to provide engaging space to interact with racquetball, in WEC, bring it to all people of all skill levels, coaching days, access to athletics, support from athletes, growing at large rate
 2. Questions:
 - a. conference/off campus event?
 - i. tournament hosted by bryant university, already recognized as small org
 - b. How many members going to tournament?/ finances
 - i. 7 was attending, 3 dropped out due to scheduling, funding from athletics
 - c. How many members in club?
 - i. Roughly 30
 3. Conclusion:
 - a. A lot of enthusiasm and motivation
 4. Vote:
 - a. Approve 29
 - b. Deny 1
 - c. Abstain 1
 - i. approved!
- iii. Genetically Engineered Machines
1. Intro:
 - a. Gel electrophoresis experiments, showcased initiative without funding, going to be part of an international competition about genetic engineering
 2. Questions:
 - a. How do you get to IGEM?
 - i. Need funding, have fundraising initiatives planned
 3. Conclusion:
 - a. We hope you support our endeavor, future of mankind
 4. Vote:
 - a. Approve 29
 - b. Deny 1
 - c. Abstain 1
 - i. Approved!
- iv. Fashion Club
1. Tabled due to absence
- d. Constitutional Amendment
- i. [Section III - Vacancies](#)
 1. Giovanni Olaya
 - a. Setting deadlines for vacancies
 - b. Allowing vacancies to get job done in proper time
 - c. Questions
 - i. Currently closes when VPA decides, this allows it to be consistent
 - ii. Different when resignation?



1. This was done for that purpose, keeps it open long enough
 - iii. Difference from general elections?
 1. Leaves it open for summer, allows more people to hear about opportunity
 - iv. Can incoming first-year students run?
 1. No, no GPA
 - d. Discussion
 - i. 6 weeks is better, 3 weeks is too early - Friendly amendment, denied
 - ii. Just for senators, not executive board
 - iii. Spring semester starts second week of january, good timeline if person wants to fill in vacancy
 - e. Extended discussion
 - i. 4 weeks friendly amendment, accepted
 1. Friendly amendment
 - a. Approve 29
 - b. Deny 2
 - c. Abstain 0
 - i. Approve
 - f. Re-extended discussion:
 - i. Roles filled not during general elections, open during summer, valuable to fill them in beginning of semester
 - ii. Up to discretion of eboard during summer vacancies to vote and elect vacancies
 - iii. Friendly amendment: vacancies voted on first GBM of semester
 1. Reflects intentions of original amendment
 2. Approve 25
 3. Deny 5
 4. Abstain 1
 - a. Approved
 - g. More discussion
 - i. Presidential veto b/c violates constitutions
 - ii. Tabled to next week
 - h. Vote:
 - i. Approve
 - ii. Deny
 - iii. Abstain
- e. Finance Bylaws
- i. [Presented on Screen](#)
 1. Justin Ferraro
 - a. Budget Transfers: Want to transfer budget you must email your request during the current semester
 - b. Transfer Money: Must be emailed to VPF



- c. Event Spending: Only Undergraduate can not be charged and events with purpose of fundraising can not use senate budget.
 - d. Prize Spending: 12% max for prizes
 - e. Undergraduates can not be charged in order to join a Student Organization
 - f. Organization must provide full breakdown of all funds for given budget and grant requests
 - g. Clarification of procedures for purchasing tools
 - h. Retreats reduced to 30% of max budget, \$40 per person for food for conference or eboard dinner.
 - i. Questions
 - i. Maximum Portion able to be allocated?
 - 1. No maximum however it ensures all financial exchanges must go through VPF
 - ii. Budget Transfers confirmed through VPF or committee?
 - 1. Doesn't go through committee as this sid decided between organizations and made to keep record with VPF
 - iii. Is there a maximum amount for sending budgets to the next semester?
 - 1. No maximum amount
 - j. Discussion
 - i. Need clarification for certain changes requires further discussion
 - ii. Tabled to next week
- 6. Senator Reports
 - a. Giovanni Olaya
 - i. Meeting with Dr. Lewis Hamilton
 - 1. Anyone can take honors courses
 - 2. Honors isn't a full ride for everyone
 - 3. Looking to double in size
 - 4. Looking to create new courses with YWCC, 8 new courses already
 - 5. Dean's scholar program varies as the college is only a helping hand not the full part
- 7. Executive Reports
 - a. Lauren Azer
 - i. Volunteers for Committees: Take Back the Night
 - a. April 18th at 6:30pm
- 8. Announcements
 - a. Next Meeting
 - i. April 3, 2024
 - 1. Agile Lab, 4:30 PM: Election Town Halls
 - ii. April 10, 2024
 - 1. Agile Lab, 2:30 PM: General Body Meeting



2. Agile Lab, 4:30 PM: Election Debates
- b. Senator of the Month!
 - i. March

Constitutional Amendment: Vacancies

2. In the event a Senate position is vacant, the senate shall advertise and attempt to fill the vacancy by accepting applications. The period to accept vacancies will commence from the last day of spring semester until the third week of the following spring semester. Consequent by the director of student life to the approval of the application, aspirants will then go before the Senate and present their case. The members of the Senate shall vote on the applicants, with the vote having the status of supermajority. After the completion of this process, the candidate will then either accept their role, or be dismissed.
- the meeting
5. Vacant positions cannot be filled if there are less than four weeks remaining until the end of the term.
6. All vacancy rules are up to the discretionary change of the Academic Affairs committee and the Vice President of Administration.

Finance Bylaw Additions:

Wording changes will be mentioned on screen

Additions/Changes:

1. Budget Transfers: (add section to clarify policies)
 - a. Transfers requests to reallocate a portion of an organization's budget from the



current semester to the next, must be submitted within the current semester. This request must be completed by emailing to ss-vpf@njit.edu

- b. Transfers from one organization's budget to another organization's budget must be completed by emailing ss-vpf@njit.edu
2. Events:
 - a. Organization members, and the undergraduate student body, can not be charged for attending events funded by an organization's Student Senate budget
 - b. Events with the purpose of fundraising can not be funded by an organization's Student Senate budget
3. Non-Event Spending:
 - a. Addition of: **A max of 12% of an organization's semesterly budget can be used towards the purchase of prizes for giving out to organization members and the student body**
 - b. Changes in bold: Undergraduate sStudents may~~should~~ not be charged money to join an organization or attend an event **funded by an organization's Student Senate budget**, except to net zero costs for insufficiently subsidized conferences/competitions, merchandise, or approved exceptions
4. Grants:
 - a. Clean up wording and making current policy more clear
5. Co-Hosting:
 - a. Remove equal funding clause
6. Prizes:
 - a. Remove system that is no longer being utilized from bylaws
7. Purchasing Tools:
 - a. Update bylaws to match Office of Student Life Policies and clarify procedures
8. Penalty System:
 - a. create summary of restrictions posed to organizations, these restrictions are already stated in the document, but would be highlighted in this section to make restrictions more clear



NJIT STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Eric Huang, Megha Saju, Jhanvi Pai, Hunter Russo

With contributions from Devon Wallerson and Kamil Arif

Informatics Chair & Associate Chair Dr. Michael Halper & Dr. Lin Lin

7 February 2024, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

GITC 3501

Attendance

- Dr. Michael Halper - Informatics Chair
- Dr. Lin Lin - webex
- Eric Huang
- Ausberto Colon
- Hunter Russo
- Megha Saju
- Jhanvi Pai

Honors Sections for IS / IT

- Honors College has to reach out for course enhancements/honors sections
 - It's up to professors to go out of their way to make their courses mixed
 - Not enough honors students to make an entire section for most classes

Scheduling (IS)

- 6 new professors hired in informatics this year!
- IS 218 and IS 322 faculty are being searched for
- IS 390 and IS 344
 - Working on more in person

Scheduling (IT)

- Not enough sections for IT sources
- Same issue as every department - only 1 or 2 professors for upper level classes
 - Courses in the same specialization take place at the same time
- Waitlist monitoring is used to gauge interest for a class
 - Tell students to get on waitlist (so they know if new sections are needed)

Web Dev specialization

- Different IT202 sections have vastly different experiences based on teaching
- Remove IT201?

Email senate@njit.edu with any questions





IT / IS Math Requirement / NIS specialization

- We suggested to replace the MATH138 requirement to be MATH111 instead
- Reasoning is that it would unlock a lot of electives in the NIS specialization for IT majors, and enable other majors to take any electives that had a math prerequisite.
- Proposed to add 3 courses to the NIS specialization list of courses. (cs241, cs351, cs408)

WIS stuff

- Course catalog is out of date
 - Two updates already put in but still in the process, will be reflected Fall 2024
 - YWCC107
 - IS333 replaced

Prerequisite chains

- IS 247 -> IS 375 -> IS 448 prerequisite chain?
 - Professors generally expect people to have taken the previous course in this chain
 - No explicit prerequisites currently allowing elective-takers to sequence break
- IS 117 -> IS 218 -> IS 219 -> IS 421 prerequisite chain?
 - IT202 can be used as a prerequisite and break the sequence for IS219 currently
 - IS218 is not a prerequisite for IS219 currently
 - Already an idea that's being discussed in the department

HCI stuff

- Second lab requirement for current students despite old catalog year
 - 1 credit short without the lab - no way around it
 - Advising mistakes were made
- AD 201 HCAD discrepancy
 - Advisors from both HCAD and YWCC depts have to work with each other
 - Supposed to get waiver to bypass AD111 prereq
- Major issues with cross registering with HCAD and Rutgers
 - Can also affect criminal justice specialization and immersive media for IT
 - **If you are denied a permit, GO TO ADVISING!!!**

Misc

- NJIT doesn't show up on Navigate app
 - Already met with advising dept
- WIS accreditation mistake
 - Not currently accredited but the website says it
 - We just saved NJIT from a lawsuit!!

Email senate@njit.edu with any questions





NJIT STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Giovanni Olaya Albert Dorman Honors College Representative
meeting with Dr.Louis Hamilton, Dean of the Albert Dorman Honors College
7 March 2024, 12:00PM
Virtual Meeting

- Misconceptions About the Honors College
 - 1) Anyone at NJIT can take an honors course not just honors students.
 - 2) Scholarships vary within the college, not everyone gets a full ride
 - 3) **ADHC is an academic college**, just not a degree-granting college.
- Direction of the College
 - **ADHC is set to expand massively**
 - i. The Goal is to DOUBLE the size of the Honors College over the next 6 years. (Goal set by the Board of Trustees in February).
 - ADHC is working towards a greater student experience
 - i. Expanded HSRI funding
 - ii. New Study Abroad options
 - iii. Expanding Service opportunities and course.
 - ADHC is **hiring new faculty** to manage their expanded class.
 - **The Global Studies Track is set to launch next year.** Massively expanding study abroad opportunities on campus.
- Dean Hamilton will like to come and speak to the Senate himself in the near future.

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7 March 2024, 12:00PM

Virtual Meeting

- Honors Courses and YWCC
 - ADHC is working hand and hand with YWCC to build new stand alone honors sections.
 - Especially as YWCC has been reworking curriculum, new honors sections have been worked in.
 - **The real challenge, according to Hamilton, is NCE**
 - NCE lacks honors only sections and has been much less cooperative than YWCC
- Dean's Scholars
 - The Dean's Scholar **program** between ADHC and the degree-granting colleges.
 - ADHC's responsibilities as outlined by the university are to
 - i. Coordinate colloquium with the degree colleges.
 - Except NCE who has not been cooperative
 - ii. Provide Dean's Scholars with honors course.
 - iii. Allow them to be in HSRI and honors housing
 - Therefore the degree-granting colleges hold most of the control over the Dean's program and the quality of the program is up to the degree granting colleges.

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