

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY UNIVERSITY SENATE

MINUTES: Regular Meeting of the University Senate

DATE: November 20, 2020

TIME AND PLACE: 1:10 p.m., Remotely via Zoom

PRESENT SENATORS: Ahmed, Albert, Alexander-Floyd, Alizadeh, Ameri, Arman, Aubert, Avallone, Bachmann, Baldi, Barbarese, Bekdash, Bhatt, Bhattacharya, Bhuyan, Bogden, Boikess, Boison, Borisovets, Brienza-Arcilla, Britton, Castaneda, Cavanagh, Chadalvada, Chen, Chintalapudi, Chiu, Choo, Coleman, Cooper, Dane, Dasari, Davidson, Ding, Dool, Drazer, Eafrazi, English, Esposito, Everett, Farmer, Fellenz, Fernandez, Fernandez Arroyo, Figueira, Foster, Garner, Gillett, Giraud, Gohel, Gomes, Goonetilleke, Gould, Gower, Granadeiro, Guo, Haley, Hara, Hatefi, Hodes, Huang, Hunter, Hurd, Ibrahim, Immidisetti, Jarrín Montaner, Joergensen, Kaye, Kettle, Kiss, Kosar, Kothari, Kovacs, Lamar, Lawson, Linardopoulos, Lutz, Maglione Rico, Mahajan-Cusack, Mansukhani, Marchetta, Markert, Markowitz, Marsh, Marsic, Matto, Mayes, McKeever, Mena-Segovia, Mendicino, Mickelsen, Miranti, Moghe, Morton, Nickitas, O'Connor, Oberle, Oliver, Ozel, Parsa, Patel, Pedro-Santiago, Pichugin, Pinto-Figueroa, Piotrowski, Ponzio, Rabinowitz, Rivera, Rizvi, Roth, Ryan, Saltzman, Sass, Schroth, R. Schwartz, S. Schwartz, Sesti, Shapses, Shinbrot, Shobut, Siederer, Simonds, Smith, Song, Spiegel, Stephens, Stephenson, Strom, Struble, Szatrowski, Takhistov, Thompson, Todorinova, Tommasi, Trees, Valverde, Vargas, Vellangany, Ventura-Martinez, Vidal, Virani, Volino, X. Wang, X. Wang, Ward, Warde, Wayne, White, Willett, Wirtenberg

EXCUSED SENATORS: Allamand, Crews, Fox, Holloway, Hunter-Fratzola, Lyles, Maloney, Sahota, Van Stine

ABSENT SENATORS: Adya, Anderson, Eloy, Atkins, Ayad, Barone, Bator, Beegan, Blanchett, Bridgeman, Buyske, Cabrera, Cantor, Chefitz, Cifelli, Cohen, Cole, Dreyer, Eaton, Ebert, Fadahunsi, Farley, Farris, Feldman, Flynn, Garcia, Gursoy, Halkitis, Henderson, Holdom, Hsueh, Johnson, Joy, Kane, Kaplun, Kashalikar, Kukor, Kustka, Lei, Liu, Lopez, Maddox Douglas, Madson, Mahon, March, Marchitello, Mazurek, Menifield, Miller, Molloy, Moore, Murphy, Mutcherson, Nath, Nelson, Paskhover, Potter, Potter, Rajan, Ribau, Sacks, Segarra, Shankar, Shapiro, Silver, Sinacori, Stern, Tan, Thakuria, Veysey, Walkup, Williams, Winters

CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM, INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND CHARGES, AND CHAIR'S REPORT – Jon Oliver, Chair

Senate Chair Jon Oliver called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. He then explained that today's Administrative report was not going to be delivered due to unavoidable events. He continued by welcoming the day's speakers: Senior Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs, Dr. Vicente Gracias, RBHS Chancellor Brian Strom and Interim Camden Chancellor Margaret Marsh and thanked them in advance for their anticipated reports.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY – Mary Mickelsen, Senate Executive Secretary

- **Agenda:** The meeting's agenda including time limits, was approved by the Senate.
- **Minutes:** The Minutes of the October 16, 2020 Senate meeting were approved as distributed by the Executive Secretary.
- **Communications:** The following communications were presented by the Executive Secretary:
 - The following policies have been updated/added in the University Policy Library:
 - [University Policy 60.1.11: Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy](#)

Following introductions from Senate Chair Oliver, Chancellor Brian Strom and Vicente Gracias delivered their reports touching on the following topics included in the Health and Safety Restart Program:

[Chancellor Brian Strom's Report](#)

[Dr. Vicente Gracias' Report](#)

Dr. Gracias and Chancellor Strom then answered questions on the above topics and the following:

- The availability of Personal Protective Equipment among faculty and vaccinations for healthcare workers
- Antibody testing for students, including PCR testing (Polymerase chain reaction)
- Steps they are taking towards possible shutdowns in Newark and RBHS – clinical teachings will continue along with lab courses
- Went over the importance of mask wearing including the risks vs. indoor and outdoor distancing
- Clarified questions regarding testing for students, faculty and staff. Advised senators about drive through testing's and the 6 up and running centers on campus
- The efficacy of the COVID-19 nasal testing vs. saliva testing touching on the accuracy of both

COMMITTEE REPORT

A-1912: University Policy Prohibiting Consensual Relationships in Academic Settings – Farid Alizadeh and Joseph Markert, FPAC Co-Chairs

The FPAC was charged as follows:

Review the draft University Policy Prohibiting Consensual Relationships in Academic Settings and the accompanying Mitigation Plan for Consensual Relationships Template. Make any appropriate recommendations. Respond to the Senate Executive Committee by, December 2019.

The current policy on Consensual Relationships in Academic Settings can be found [here](#).

Senator Alizadeh reviewed the background of the charge, the committee's work and the recommendations that followed. After some discussion, the report was amended to remove recommendation #1, which read: *Change the title from "Policy Prohibiting Consensual Relationships in Academic Settings" to "Policy on Consensual Relationships in Academic Settings."*, with the consideration that when this policy was approved by the Board of Governors on June 2, 2020 the title of this policy had already been changed to the above recommendation. The Senate then approved the amended report.

CAMDEN CHANCELLOR'S REPORT – Interim Camden Chancellor, Margaret Marsh

Interim Camden Chancellor Margaret Marsh delivered her [report](#) surrounding the current state of the Camden campus and answered questions on the following topics:

- The pandemic and the effects on students with online learning challenges including the RU engaged initiative, which checks on the wellness of students
- Diversity and inclusion within faculty recruitment
- Working towards exploring ways to represent the history of Rutgers with new public art exhibits
- Current status of the Camden campus student food insecurity involving the food pantry
- The struggles behind asynchronous classes and remote learning

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Senate Vice Chair Peter Gillett reported on the November 6, 2020 Senate Executive Committee Meeting

REPORTS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARDS OF GOVERNORS AND TRUSTEES: Senator Troy Shinbrot reported on the approval of the BOG budget.

REPORTS OF CAMPUS FACULTY AND STUDENT LIAISONS: Camden Student Senator Hosen Arman reported on their campus efforts to help strengthen the student online experience since COVID-19, Newark Student Senator Sarah Shobut reported on their efforts for the Pass No Credit option for students, and a COVID-19 relief fund for students, New Brunswick Faculty Senator Tugrul Ozel reported on the coalition of Rutgers faculty councils, New Brunswick Student Senator Gavin Mayes also reported on the efforts of the Pass No Credit option for students, and RBHS Faculty Senator Laura Willett reported on the issues within COVID-19 efforts and their new contract.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:
Morgan Smith, Senate Administrative Assistant and
Mary Mickelsen, Senate Executive Secretary