![Kean University seal]

KEAN

FULL SENATE MEETING MINUTES
17 FEBRUARY 2026 3:20PM-4:20PM. Kean Hall Room 127 [In Person]
Full Senate Meetings: **Zoom Webinar Link** Meeting ID: 921 4068 6642; Passcode: 232451

I. Call to Order. CK called the meeting to order at 3:21 with a pitch for the importance of Senate membership and appreciation for the active participation of our current Senators, both in the Full Senate as well as serving on Senate Committees. He observes that the Senate Committees are doing real service work in vetting and addressing faculty and & staff concerns around such topics as IT and research and alumni concerns. He encouraged staff and faculty to fully participation in the upcoming elections and to self-nominate before the Feb 27th deadline.

II. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting.
    1. Approval of Full Senate Minutes from 2/03/26. Motion to approve, BL; second JN. All approve.

III. Curriculum Items for Notification and/or Vote.
    New Programs:
    1. **Artificial Intelligence Minor and Data Science Minor** - Dr. Daehan Kwak described the content and objectives of the AI minor. JN expressed appreciation for these new minors and shared that it is long overdue. She also appreciates that the ethics of AI is part of the minor. She asked whether the development of a certificate program was under consideration for these two minors? If so, what sort of support might be needed? Dr. Kwak indicated that there are conversations underway about a certificate program, looking at what the GE for an AI cert program might include. The expansion of an AI program would require additional faculty to implement it.

IV. President's and/or Provost's Address to the Senate.
    Dr. Birdsell sent his regrets, as he will not able to be present today, but looks forward to a future date to address the Full Senate.

V. Old Business.
    1. **2026/2027 Senate Election - Schedule and Update – Matt Mongelli**
    Self-nomination forms are out now. Deadline for self-nominations is February 27th. The List of candidates will be shared starting March 4.
    2. **Departmental ARTP Guidelines Update** – BS shared a concern expressed by his Dean about signing any process related documents that the Deans did not actively create. GV shared that she wants to be sure she doesn't go around her Dean by forwarding things directly to the provost's office. CK affirms the importance of moving these items forward and suggests meeting with respective Deans to sort out any lingering concerns prior to submission to the Provost for review.
    3. **GEIC Update:** Professor Rachel Evans invited all attendees to attend a performance of *Urinetown* at Wilkins Theater Feb 20-28. She then thanked her co-chairs of the GEIC, Bridie

Chapman and Mukul Acharya. There are many working groups in formation (to be kicked off March 17) but their work will not be complete by end of the semester. The current plan is to use the current distribution courses and map them to the new GE PLOs. At the most recent Senate GE committee meeting, the GE committee approved a template for the new curriculum sheets. Once the calendar is approved by the VPAA, it will be distributed with the template.

VI. New Business.

1. **KU/NJCU Senate Merger – Discussion of Proposed Idea for Interim Arrangement** – CK shared the NJCU constitution and their structure, which includes representation (2 people) from every academic department. CK suggests that the NJCU Senate composition remain in place (as its own transitional governing body for the coming Academic Year) until each Executive Committee can discuss what a merged Kean Senate might look like. He suggests that as a default clearly NJCU faculty & staff would be eligible to run for the KU senate when they are officially Kean faculty & staff in AY26/27. NR suggests that this is an interesting time to consider delineating a senate that is faculty focused and one that is admin/staff focused, noting that the current senate tends to be faculty focused. Perhaps there are two branches of the KU senate. JN suggests we review alternative models, circulating other options that she has researched. MA asks about how we are including student governing bodies. NR shared her understanding of how NJCU and KU student governing bodies will be part of the merger. She specifically referenced how the Office of Student Conduct will be managed – NJCU will adopt our policies and practices. CK will prepare a resolution for Full Senate consideration at our next Full Senate Meeting.

2. **Full Senate Meeting Attendance - Issues for Discussion.**
   CK shared the advantages of in person full Senate meetings, allowing all to participate as expected. Also, due to the webinar format of Zoom, no actual verbal discussion can take place if a Senator is attending remotely as a attendee. He shared the language from the constitution regarding attendance – noting that the online option is most likely a carry-over from the pandemic. CK proposes that all senators (or their designee) attend in person. BB asked that the language from CK's proposed revision be amended to include *"or their designee"* after *"Each Senator".* BLee affirmed the value of face to face, coming together, observing body language. CoC expressed agreement as well. WH asked about the "what-ifs"? What are the consequences for missing meetings? BLee explained that there are excused absences and that designees be sent in the senator's stead. NR parliamentarian noted a point or order, requiring a motion and second prior to discussion. NR suggests that delegates be officially voted on so there is someone available to cover as needed. Admin offices are challenged by this designee situation. BB moves that all senators or their designees are required to attend the full senate meetings unless otherwise directed by the senate chair. KC seconded. MA asks whether the next person who was running for senate and received the next highest number of votes be temporary senators and/or designees. CK notes that the

constitution specifies that designees be chosen by the senators from the senators' areas. CoC shared that being invited as a designee last minute is challenging.

VII. Committee Reports.
> None.

VIII. Notice(s) of Motion.
> **Full Senate Meeting Attendance Vote**. Motion: to revise Article 3.3.1 of the Senate Constitution to replace *"When attending online, each Senator or their designee shall provide their actual name so that their attendance may be recorded"* with *"All Senators or their designee are required to attend Full Senate Meetings in-person, unless otherwise directed by the Senate Chair in advance."* Vote results: 24 Yes, 2 No, 1 Abstain. Motion carries.

IX. Question/Discussion Period. Further Open Discussion on Agenda items. (Time Permitting)
CK reads a recent Suggestion Box request into the record: *"All of our One Drive files are owned by IT head as IT thinks Kean owns all intellectual property of my research data. I believe there is ongoing conversation between KFT and IT to clarify that this is not true. But IT keeps refusing removing IT head's ownership of all my Drive documents. Can we have a discussion regarding this issue? Thanks."* CK has requested the Senate Academic Technology & Multimedia Committee look into this further at their next meeting.

MM reminds senators that self-nominations are ongoing until Feb 27. Please encourage colleagues to do so.

GS shared that a pedestrian was hit in a traffic accident today and that campus safety should be a topic for the Senate to discuss. CK will add this to the next Exec Comm Mtg Agenda. Robyn Roebuck noted that the Sustainability Taskforce, operation subgroup is reviewing traffic patterns. There are studies and data available that the Senate may wish to review.

JN noted that there are two studies that relate to how research is supported here at Kean and she wishes to have these discussed by the Senate. CK will add this to the next Exec Comm Mtg Agenda.

X. Adjournment. CK asks for motions to adjourn the meeting; KC makes a motion; JN seconds. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm

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XI. Upcoming Meetings.

1. Senate Executive Committee – 02/24/26 – In person J-302 + Zoom option. 3:20pm
2. Full Senate Meeting – 03/03/26 Kean Hall 127 & Zoom Webinar. 3:20pm
3. The complete meeting schedule for the spring semester is available at:
https://www.kean.edu/offices/university-senate/meeting-schedule-2025-2026-executive-committee-and-full-senate
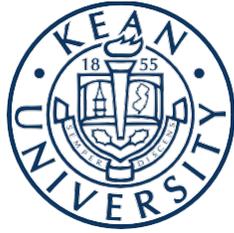
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Senators in attendance

1	Mukul Acharya [MA]	**P**
2	Craig Anderson [CA]	**
3	Denise Anderson [DA] **[Ed Johnston]**	**
4	Billie Bailey [BB]	**P**
5	Norma Bowe [NB]	**P**
6	Dean Casale [DC]	**P**
7	Kathleen Curran [KC]	**P**
8	Gilda DelRisco [GDR]	**P**
9	Adam Eckart [AE]	**P**
10	Edward Farnum [EF]	**P**
11	Gabriel Fuentes [GF]	*
12	Aaron Gubi [AG]	**P**
13	Will Heyniger [WH]	**P**
14	Ipek Kocoglu [IK]	**P**
15	Craig Konyk [CK]	**P**
16	Barbara Lee [BLee]	**P**
17	Brenna Levine [BL]	**P**
18	Holly Logue [HL]	**P**
19	Patrick McManimon [PMcM]	**P**
20	Matthew Mongelli [MM]	*
21	Mahchid Namazi [MN]	**
22	Julia Nevarez [JN]	**P**
23	Cailin O'Connor (CoC)	**P**
24	Nicole Rodriguez [NR]	*
25	Benito Sanchez [BS]	**P**
26	Galia Shokry [GS]	**P**
27	Dawn Smith-Jeffries [DSJ]	**P**
28	Zakeeyah Speight [ZS] [Megan Engels]	**P**
29	Gail Verdi [CV]	**P**
30	Veysel Yucetepe [VY]	**P**

P = Present **A** = Absent **E** =Excused [ ] = Delegate * = Late **=Remotely

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Student Representatives:

1	
2	

Guests: names gathered from sign in-sheet and webinar participant list*

1	Joy Moskowitz
2	Jonathan Mercantini
3	Robyn Roebuck
4	Scott Snowden
5	Andrea Rosa
6	Catherine Nicholson
7	Matthew Halper
8	Daphne El Roy
9	Elizabeth Hyde
10	Katherine Bustamonte
11	Kathleen Rugh
12	Laura Lorentzen
13	Melissa Henry
14	Nicole Schroeder
15	Peter Gadsden
16	Rachel Kahn
17	Renalison Pereira
18	Sean Keegan-Landis
19	Shuting Liu
20	Claire Mulry
21	Joe Gasparo
22	Rachel Evans
23	Catricia Shaw
24	Susan Ahern
25	L Szekero
26	Ted Olsen
27	Navim Soubou

Apologies for those names we were unable to capture due to technical difficulties with the webinar.