



UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING

MINUTES

October 6, 2026, 2:15 – 3:30 pm

Kean Hall Room 127 [In Person]

[Zoom webinar link](#), Meeting ID: 945 4407 0581; Passcode: 028054

I. Call to Order

Full Senate Meeting called to order at 2:20 by Chair SA

II. Approval of Minutes

September 8, 2026, meeting, NGC moved to approve, GS Seconded, Minutes approved unanimously

III. Curriculum Items for Notification and/or Vote

None **IV. President and/or Provost Remarks**

None **V. Announcements**

SA announced Faculty Peer Observation of Teaching originally approved by the university senate signed into LOA #192

VI. Standing/Ad hoc Committee Reports

None **VII. Old Business**

a. Resolution 2026-05 regarding ARTP Standards – Universal and Departmental

SA provided background on the approval of departmental standards. Universal standards were developed by an ad hoc committee in close cooperation with Dr. Baecher. Dr. Birdsell provided feedback, which was incorporated. SA said the goal is for the Provost and President to sign these documents. SA said many universities have such guidelines, but Kean does not. The departments did a lot of work, and it is desirable to finalize these documents.

Senator comment: Some departments have their guidelines on the Kean website, and others don't. SA responded that she is unaware whether the documents are on the departments' websites because she was on sabbatical.

DA proposed that it should be clear to any faculty joining the university what the expectations are.

SA responded that all departments have developed standards for research, teaching, and service, so they are not universal guidelines. GS noted that in some departments, universal guidelines aren't feasible because different types of research have different demands and timelines. SA reiterated that departments should move forward with their guidelines, as they worked diligently and in good faith on the documents.

Senator comment: Shared governance – review process at the departmental level should be standard but also flexible. NR suggested adding a clause stating "review as needed" to the documents.

The resolution would be voted on at the next meeting

- b. Resolution 2026-06 creating a Senate Subcommittee on Teaching & Learning SA introduced this resolution by providing the context that teaching should also have prominence. Teaching and service were combined. If resolution is passed, volunteers would be solicited for this committee for 2026-2027.

Senator comment: In our department, people are concerned that incoming faculty are not career-ready when they start their job at Kean.

SA proposed that academic rigor should be prioritized. SA solicited more discussion. As there were none, **SA stated that the resolution would be voted on at the next meeting.**

- c. Resolution 2026-07 to pause new distance learning courses and programs pending an audit of current offerings including a student and faculty survey to assess student learning

SA stated this resolution is about course modality specifically. Like other universities, course offerings and online options continue to grow. Online classes and programs are needed; however, modality affects student learning, especially given how classes are currently administered. F2F students can register for online classes in the last two weeks before the semester starts, creating scheduling issues, including the cancellation of F2F classes. SA suggested not adding additional online sections three to four weeks before the start of the semester.

SA also shared an email from a faculty member outlining many of their concerns and preferences about not teaching online next semester.

CC, as chair of the distance learning committee, shared that the committee often discusses topics like those in the email. The committee suggested consistent course design, training faculty for online teaching, and better tools.

A senator commented that, in a rush to create DL courses, we are losing sight of the mission of Kean University. Many students need help learning how to learn. With so many students underprepared for college learning and then taking online classes, it adds to the declining quality of our students as well as their career readiness. We need to distinguish between online and inperson students.

SA said communication and teamwork are difficult in an online class. Suggested having a "wall" between these two groups of students. SA provided examples of universities that do this. Chairpersons are dealing with challenging scheduling issues. The goal is to initiate conversations with the administration to address these concerns. SA shared that the draft resolution was emailed to Dr. Youngblood, who suggested additional discussions about the concerns. The DL committee members should be included in these discussions due to their experience and the work they have done, as well as the fact that most teach online classes.

YS from KJC campus. Can these issues be assignment issues as opposed to online or F2F. Let faculty choose which they prefer to teach.

MM inquired if the DL committee approves online courses. Caitlin responded that the charge got taken away and the committee had to come up with new charges.

SA suggested that all departmental faculty should review the course shell, as the chairperson is not specialized in all content areas. MM responded that, in general chemistry class, there are 20 sections taught by different instructors, but it is ensured that the content is the same.

BS shared that teaching derivatives in an online class in 8 weeks isn't possible. Some courses just can't be taught in 8 weeks.

SA responded to YS question about the length of online classes. SA responded that they are usually 8 weeks long. JO, VP for Transformational Learning at Kean Global, responded that 15-week online courses are also offered. He expressed interest in working with the DL committee and/or other bodies where the engagement is deemed appropriate. He suggested there is some misinformation about how courses are built and delivered. SA thanked JO and expressed interest in collaborating with Kean Global to find solutions to the issues identified.

JO shared that their data has not shown a difference in difficulty between online and F2F classes. JO also said online courses are advertised to students unlikely to come to Kean, and the average age is 27.

As there were none, **SA stated that the resolution would be voted on at the next meeting.**

VIII. New Business IX. Question/Discussion Period

Senator comment: Curriculum sheets and the 4-year plans are not on Kean Website. JM responded that all curriculum sheets are now posted on the registrar's website. NJCU programs that were adopted are also posted, but they are linked to the catalog. Work on the 4-year plans is underway. JM thanked everyone who made this possible.

X. Adjournment

SA requested motion to adjourn

DSJ motioned to adjourn, seconded by DA, Unanimous vote to adjourn Meeting
adjourned at 3:23pm

Upcoming Meetings

- A. Senate Executive Committee – 10/13/2026 In Person; Room J-302 2:15 pm
- B. Full Senate Meeting – 10/20/2026 Kean Hall 127 & Zoom Webinar. 2:15 pm The complete meeting schedule for 2026-2027 is available at:
<https://www.kean.edu/offices/university-senate/meeting-schedule-2026-2027>

Senators

1.	Dawn Adams-Harmon [DAH]	P
2.	Sucheta Ahlawat [SA]	P
3.	Denise Anderson [DA]	P
4.	Billie Bailey [BB]	P
5.	Norma Bowe [NB]	**
6.	Nira Gupta-Casale [NGC]	P

16.	Matthew Mongelli [MM]	P
17.	Reenat Munshi [RM]	E
18.	Mahchid Namazi [MN]	P
19.	Julia Nevarez [JN]	A
20.	Eunice Nkansah [EN]	P
21.	Cailin O'Connor [COC]	P

P =

7.	Kathleen Curran [KC]	P
8.	Gilda DelRisco [GDR]	P
9.	Edward Farnum [EF]	P
10.	Will Heyniger [WH]	P
11.	Ipek Kocoglu [IK]	P
12.	Craig Konyk [CK]	P
13.	John Lee [JL]	**
14.	Brenna Levine [BL]	**
15.	Patrick McManimon [PMcM]	P

22.	Nicole Rodriguez [NR]	P
23.	Dina Rosen [DR]	P
24.	Benito Sanchez [BS]	P
25.	Gaila Shokry [GS]	P
26.	Zakeeyah Speight [ZS]	P
27.	Dawn Smith-Jeffries [DSJ]	P
28.	Gail Verdi [GV]	P
29.	Shuo Yang [SY]	P
30.	Veysel Yucetepe [VY]	P

Present **A** = Absent **E** = Excused [] = Proxy * = Late **=Remote

KJC Executive Members

1.	John Donnellan	P
2.	Hanae Haouari	P
3.	EunSu Lee	P

4.	Christopher Shamburg	P
5.	Joyce Wright	P

Guests in Attendance

Susan Ahern
Barbara Lee
Charles Campbell
James A. Castiglione
Chris Doran
Jay O'Callaghan
Joy Moskovitz
Laura Baecher

Robyn Roebuck
Michael Salvatore
Scott Snowden
Chris Doran
Camille Sherrod
Neva Lozada
Marianne Gass
Carmen Llerena

Guests on Zoom Webinar

Andrea Rosa
Brid
Claire Mulry
Daphne El-Roy
Dawn Marie Dowd
Erell Feb Germia
Jacqueline Keli
Jason Martinek

MH
Eric O'Neil
Chenyi Ma
Elsie Rivera
HP
J.D Jayaraman
Kathleen Rugh
Jin Wang

Jessica Adams
Kathleen Banks
Reva Narasimhan
Robert Daly
Simone Mack-Bright
Victor Tuazon
Wanda Rutledge
Wei Zhang
WEBY

Koren Goodman
Marguerite Mayhall
Nicole Schroeder
Petal Gadsden
Joseph Hogan
Janice Strassburger
Audrey Fisch