



KEAN

FULL SENATE MEETING AGENDA

24 MARCH 2026 3:20PM-4:20PM. Kean Hall Room 127 [In Person]

Full Senate Meeting Zoom Webinar Link: <https://kean-edu.zoom.us/j/92140686642?pwd=uEr8dXoLkMNfZKgoyVQLfIVJS46VyD.1>

Meeting ID: 921 4068 6642; Passcode: 232451

I. Call to Order. CK called the meeting to order at 3:22pm. CK noted with pride that Kean has its first Student Poet Laureate, Ameenah McKiethen.

II. Approval of Full Senate Minutes from 03/03/26. Motion to approve the minutes: JN, EF seconds the motion; all raise their hands to approve the meeting minutes.

III. Curriculum Items for Notification and/or Vote.

CK announced that Jung AH (Claire) will present this new program via Zoom, what it entails, and what students will gain from this program. CK then announces the newly revised programs for the Senate record.

New Program:

1. Nonprofit and Philanthropic Management (Graduate Certificate) [Jung Ah (Claire)

Yun] Revised Programs:

1. Teaching English as a Second Language, Non-Degree: Alternate Route Option [Gail G. Verdi]
2. Latin American Studies Minor [Gregory Shepherd]
3. Speech-Language Pathology, M.A. [JoAnne Cascia]

IV. President's and/or Provost's Address to the Senate.

- A. [Pending]

V. Old Business

A. New Modalities [*Synchronous Distributed Course*] proposed for merged NJCU + Course Cap Question

CK then moves to discuss a new modality, the *Synchronous Distributed Course* modality. There is discussion around the merger with NJCU of how this might be used on both campuses, both Kean and NJCU. As of right now, this is in the UCC Manual as only approved for Online Courses only and would need Full Senate approval to be included in the recently approved new modalities for courses at Kean. CK opens the floor for a discussion and requests if those who are being asked to teach in this modality would like to share their questions or concerns. MM shares his concerns about it, mainly focused on how the technology portion will affect not only the course, but how they can resolve potential technical issues that can arise, both at the virtual and in person sites, for both students and faculty. DC asks when this decision to introduce this new modality was made and was there ever a letter from Dr. Birdsell or the administration outlining its rationale and requesting Senate approval. MN brought up some concerns about the issue of the courses at both campuses; will there be co-teaching to ensure faculty presence at both locations? NR then brought up some concerns about the faculty location where this course will be taught; are faculty to be at both locations or only at Union campus. CK's understanding is that this impacts only certain specific the courses. This modality is where there is an in person classroom, say at NJCU, and then a group of Union students in a classroom in Union, watching a video feed from NJCU of the in person instruction. AE wondered if other universities or colleges are doing this method and wonder if this method will be beneficial or not. Also asks what is the backup in case there will be technical issues. CA mentioned his own experience where at Kean Ocean, someone was co-teaching the course; one professor was remote, and another was there in the classroom as well. NB asks if there has been any data presented on this subject; DSJ asks if there will be anyone there to ensure that the students are not only participating in class but to make sure that they are really engaging in the coursework or not. NR asks to possibly create an online form where faculty can list any concerns, questions and/or statements regarding this new modality. CK reminds all of the Suggestion Box feature already active on the Senate website and recommends using it for this purpose. MA talks about concerns about those attending in person at remote location, and how this was state of the art modality prior to the pandemic. Now everyone is comfortable using Zoom, and he wonders if this is not a better, cheaper option than



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outfitting classrooms for out-of-date *Synchronous Distributed Course* modality. Overall, many concerns are brought up regarding whether faculty/staff will have to be teaching courses in various locations on Zoom either for Kean or NJCU, whether students will be gaining the knowledge they need as well. Are we creating uneven student experiences when we have half a class in person with the professor and the other half remote, without the professor's presence. James Castiglione asks to address the Senate. He relays that this new modality requires Senate approval, and he raises concerns about labor related issues, of the additional amount of time this modality requires of faculty to prepare. He also notes that course caps need to be maintained and under no circumstance does this modality allow a doubling or other increase in course capacities. Robyn Roebuck notes that Dr. Birdsell is available via Zoom (ironically) to speak on this topic. CK brings Dr. Birdsell onto the Senate Zoom. Dr. Birdsell speaks in detail about the new modality and how Kean faculty have expressed desire to teach at NJCU campus but also have student on the Union campus. Dr. Birdsell then discuss how this set up of courses work, that various course work will be placed either on Kean Campus/ Kean NJCU, like a hybrid environment, where some will be taught remotely, in person. Dr. Birdsell then reiterates about how students will be attending their courses in a hybrid format whether they are attending the class in person at NJCU or vice versa; mainly giving students the option to choose where they would attend, or some courses require students to attend only at certain locations. He then mentions that question asked about if there is a possibility of slowing down the launch of this idea is not possible, given the NJ State mandate of the merger timeline. Arrangements for this new modality are already in motion and should be ready sometime soon prior to the start of the Fall semester. JN asks Dr. Birdsell two questions; whether just to make this 100% remote instead of doing a hybrid set up, and JN also wondered when this will start to take effect Dr. Birdsell then answers her question where there are various formats of how a hybrid environment can function; one-week students can attend they in person, another week, it can be remotely and provides more examples as to how being hybrid can create some advantages in the future. CK then mentions a question asked in the Q&A chat, "What happens in a classroom without an instructor if a student gets sick? Or if there is a problem in the room without an instructor?"

CK then requests closure on this topic for the sake of time.

A. Senate Election Update + Dates

CK moves onto the next part of the agenda, providing the timeline for the Senate elections. March 18 at 9AM- the online voting opened and voting will end on April 18.

B. NJCU Senate Merger - Update.

CK mentioned that there will soon be a small voting on the Guideline Student Evaluations but wanted to hear from Senators about any concerns, questions, or statements they would like to talk about regarding the NJCU Senate Merger along with there have been any effects happening in their own departments.

VI. New Business:

VII. NJCU Merger – Departmental Curricular Issues/Concerns [No discussion, due to time constraints]

VIII. Committee Reports:

None.

IX. Notice(s) of Motion:

A. Guidelines for Student Evaluations of Course Experiences: Process and Forms – Motion for Approval.

CK asks the Senate about the approval of the proposed Draft Guidelines for Student Evaluations; CO mentioned some issues regarding the format, wording of questions, etc. Susan Ahern for OAA, briefly presented some of the questions/concerns on the existing evaluations to the Senate. She mentioned that there will be a new platform in Watermark that will help with accessibility of the evaluation's questions. As of now, there are more questions on this, so CK asks to table the approval of the draft proposal and to revisit this at another time.



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X. Question/Discussion Period [30 Min.] [None, due to time constraints]

XI. Other Business/ Items (from Senate Members) [None, due to time constraints]

XII. Adjournment

CK asks to adjourn the meeting at 4:22 pm; MN makes the first motion; GV makes a second motion. All Senators vote to adjourn.

Upcoming Meetings:

Senate Executive Committee – 03/31/26 – In person J-302 + Zoom option.3:20pm

Full Senate Meeting – 04/07/26 Kean Hall 127 & Zoom Webinar. 3:20pm

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]	P
3	Denise Anderson [DA]	P
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 Fuentis [GF]	A
12	Aaron Gubi [AG]	E
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]	E
19	Patrick McManimon [PMcM]	P
20	Matthew Mongelli [MM]	P
21	Mahchid Namazi [MN]	P
22	Julia Nevarez [JN]	P
23	Cailin O'Connor [CO]	P
24	Nicole Rodriguez [NR]	P
25	Benito Sanchez [BS]	P
26	Galia Shokry [GS]	P
27	Dawn Smith-Jeffries [DSJ]	P
28	Zakeeyah Speight [ZS]	P
29	Gail Verdi [CV]	P
30	Veysel Yucetepe [VY]	P
	P = Present A = Absent E =Excused [] = Proxy * = Late **=Remotely	



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Student Representatives:

1	Favour Oyelade
2	

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

1	John Donnellan NJCU
2	Joyce Wright NJCU
3	James Castiglione
4	Robyn Roebeck
5	Susan A. Hern
6	Neva Lozada
7	Jesenia Cipolla
8	Cynthia Atkins
9	Jessica Hooper
10	Jeff Gomez
11	Katia Ciampa
12	Melissa Henry
13	losmith
14	mgarcia
15	Nicole Schroeder
16	Otamy Crossan
17	Palak Vaidya
18	Rachel Evans
19	Rachel Kahn
20	Rayola Osanya NJCU
21	Rongsun Pu
22	Ruth Gonzalez
23	Shuting Liu
24	Sean Keegan-landis
25	Andrea Rosa



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26	Catherine Nicholson
27	Claire M. Mulry
28	Daphna El-Roy
29	DPISCOPO
30	Elizabeth Hyde
31	Elsie Rivera
32	Emanuel Emanouilidis
33	frankatu
34	Giacinta Talarico
35	Hanae Haouari
36	Jennifer Van Dyke
37	Jessica Adams
38	Jessica Norwood
39	John Grew
40	JT
41	Kalasia Ojeh
42	Kathleen Rugh