

(Since I didn't have a prepared written speech, this is my best attempt to recreate what I said.)

Remarks to the NJIT Board of Trustees during the Public Session of the April 5th Board Meeting

Good morning. My name is Amit Bose. I thank the Board of Trustees for their dedication and service to NJIT.

I have been teaching at NJIT for 16 years. Each year when the weather gets nice, one of my students invariably asks "Dr. Bose, can we have class outside?" And each year, I find some reason to say no. Well this year when the weather turned nice a few weeks ago, one of my students again asked if we could hold class outside. This year, instead of saying no, I decided instead to poll the rest of the students to see what they thought. They all agreed that class outside would be a good idea. So I told the students to get me a whiteboard, some markers and choose a location to meet. A few days later we held class outdoors. Now why did I choose to do so? I did so because I wanted to show my students that I not only listened to them, but also that I take action based on what they request of me.

I think we find ourselves here in a similar situation where the Faculty is asking you, as Board members, to take action on certain issues of great importance to us as Faculty members, as students and as members of the NJIT community. There are actions you can take. One, you can grant sabbaticals to the nine faculty members who were denied one. Two, you can tell the senior administration that a faculty hiring plan that minimizes the input of the Department and the Deans is not in the best interest of the University. Three, you can tell Dean Gentul and his office to stop de-registering students in the middle of the semester. Four, you can freeze tuition rates for next year. Instead of raising tuition, raise admission standards. That would be in everyone's interest. And five, you can redo the Presidential search next year, properly. These are five things that if you take action on this faculty will support you. We need to see some action from you. That is what Dr. Palazzo the Chair of the Middle States Accrediting Committee said as well.

Let me conclude with the following, in the December 12th Presidential Search Committee meeting, we were in this room and during a break, Dr. Vince DeCaprio came over to me and said "Dr. Bose why don't you sell the presidential search process to the Faculty?" I replied that I thought the process was unfair. He responded "If you think the process is unfair, why don't you resign." Let me repeat this. A Board member asked me, as a faculty representative on the search committee, to resign. Actually I did listen to him; three weeks later I resigned. So now I have a reciprocal request for you Dr. DeCaprio and the rest of Board. If you are unwilling and unable to educate yourself to be able to make decisions that are in the best interest of this university, decisions that positively impact all of us, not just a select few, then you too should resign. This is one action that I believe will receive unanimous approval from the Faculty. Thank You.