



# Stony Brook University

## A&S Senate Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2024, 11:30AM - 1:00PM

### **Zoom meeting**

- Call To Order at 11:30am.
- Acceptance of the [Agenda](#)  
The motion to accept the agenda is carried.
- Approval of April 8, 2024 Meeting [Minutes](#)  
The approval of the minutes is carried.
- Welcome from A&S Senate President, F. Jason Torre
  - Welcomed everyone to the first Fall 2014 A&S Senate meeting.
  - Recognized colleagues from the Lichtenstein Center. They are affiliated with the Arts and Sciences Senate. They are going through our promotion and tenure process. We will be updating our bylaws to ensure that they are fully and more accurately recognized.
- Remarks by Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Amy Cook
  - Report can be viewed [here](#).
  - Shared with and reminded everyone of the changes that were made to the provost guidelines for Academic Review last year.
- Remarks from Stony Brook University Senate President, Brenda Anderson
  - Introduced herself as the University Senate President, a faculty of Department of Psychology, and a neuroscientist.
  - Thanked A&S Senate members for all their efforts.
  - Briefly explained what interested her in becoming more involved with the Senate.
  - Appreciated some of the valuable changes that Richard Larson, past Senate president such as joining administration/committee chairs to EC meetings.
  - The Senate is working on the presidential search.

- Remarks from Stony Brook University Senate Vice President, Nancy Tomes
  - Introduced herself as a distinguished professor in the history department, past president of the University Senate, and College of Arts and Sciences officer to the Senate.
  - Expressed the importance of to operating as one Stony Brook University.
  
- Remarks by Dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, David Wrobel.
  - As CAS dean, has very strong priorities in terms of student/faculty/staff support, and the research and teaching mission.
  - This first semester he will meet with every chair of each of the 25 departments in the college for an hour and a half.
  - Plans to get to a faculty meeting at any and every department that will invite him in the second half of the semester.
  - The goal of the first semester is to fully understand the landscape infrastructurally and in terms of faculty and staff and students.

Question – Have you made a commitment to being here for a long time?

Answer - I am here for a 5-year term, and if I'm able to stay longer than that, whether on the faculty or continuing in this administrative role, I'd be very happy.

Question – Research shows that highly interactive collaborative learning environments in early large courses can make a substantial difference in the trajectories of students from under prepared backgrounds as well as students from diverse backgrounds. But there's only one room on campus where you can teach an active learning space of more than 100 students. I'm interested in figuring out how we can create at least one more active learning space for large classes, particularly in STEM, where they have been shown to be very beneficial.

Answer – I'll be working with Provost and his team to see what the possibilities are for expansion of that physical infrastructure.
  
- Old Business:
  - a. Follow Open Discussion: Shared Governance Models - Would the members and affiliates of the A&S Senate benefit from a single Senate Structure?

- i. For Reference purposes, see: [April 2022 Working Group C: Constitution Report to the University Senate](#)
- ii. Straw Poll on preferences.

We have the poll results. EC is in the process of discussing the matter with Deans for their feedback as well.

- New Business:
  - a. Fall Logistics Planning
    - i. Meeting Frequency for Fall – December meeting will be canceled due to attendance issues.
    - ii. Modality for Spring – We'll try to have a hybrid modality for spring.
- Adjournment at 1pm.