

## University Senate Meeting Minutes

**August 29, 2022, 3:30-5:00 PM (Hybrid – Wang Center Theater and Zoom Meeting)**

Meeting called to order by Dr. Richard Larson, the University Senate President, at 3:30 PM. Meeting recording can be viewed [here](#). A motion to approve the agenda and the minutes from May 2, 2022 carried.

### **Greetings from Richard Larson, University Senate President**

- Welcomed everyone to the first hybrid meeting of the university Senate for academic year 2022-23.
- Senate will continue using hybrid format so our colleagues can join the meeting remotely.
- Thanked President McInnis for the reception.
- Senate began to reconsider its structure last spring, but it didn't go that well. We are going to be more systematic and solicit more input from people at a much earlier stage.

### **Report from President Maurie McInnis**

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Excited to see faculty and students back on campus.
- Student enrollment is a little bit down this year.
- Governor has declared Stony Brook University a flagship for SUNY system and for the State.
- Our research is up over twenty two percent this year.
- We are still thirteen million dollars shy in revenue from tuition than where we were before the pandemic, and that is mainly due to the loss of a lot of international students.
- We will have new tiger teams particularly focused on NIH areas.
- Introduced new members of leadership including P. Lloyd, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine; Jed Shivers, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration; and Peter Igarashi, MD, Dean of the Renaissance School of Medicine.

Question – M. Rafailovich – We don't hear much about SUNY Korea, is it still ongoing?

Answer – They had some leadership challenges but they are having a new President now.

Question – K. Wilson - How the university is pursuing the amelioration of the student loan crisis?

Answer – The President made decision to forgive certain amount of debt in student loans based on several criteria. That's not the work we do. That is work that the Federal loaners do directly with those individuals.

### **Report from Provost, Carl Lejuez**

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).

- Thankful to be the university provost.
- Talked about hiring and investment decisions made for the new academic year.
- Mentioned it is crucial to have competitive faculty and staff salaries, and competitive stipends for graduate students.
- We try to make the best decisions we can with the resources we have.
- Introduced new Dean of Libraries and Dean of School of Medicine.
- Searches for Dean of College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, College of Business, and Graduate School are in progress.
- The Provost's Office is working with key partners to develop the framework for Simons STEM Scholars Program which will welcome its first cohort of students in Fall 2023.
- The Office of the Provost is leading the next phases of strategic planning for the university.
- Provided report from Dr. H. Paz who couldn't be available today.

Question – What's your philosophy about the libraries in the modern digital age?

Answer – I believe the libraries are crucial. We have to fund them to be able to get benefit from staffing to use technology, but until overall budgetary things change, it will be slower than I would like.

Comment – B. Kube – Dr. Paz's report didn't really address any of the issues we have at the hospital. Hospital is severely understaffed and the staff are overworked.

Answer – At minimum, I can acknowledge that. My sense from Dr. Paz is that the hospital is absolutely crucial in the future of the University. I think it is a big piece in his mindset in the hiring of the new Deans. I think it is a major part of where investments need to go, and we need to figure out how to continue supporting the hospital.

- **Middle States Accreditation Reaffirmation Progress, Braden Hosch, Dominick Fortugno, Laszlo Mihaly**
  - Presentation can be viewed [here](#).
  - The middle states commission for higher education re-accredits institutions every eight years, so we will be having a visit from an external evaluation team in the Spring.
  - We are in process of data collection based on the evidence.
  - The working groups will produce a draft report.
  - There will be a time to have comments on the draft report.
  - The completed self-study report will be submitted to Middle States.
  - Explained the structure and primary focus of the working groups.

### Reports from UUP:

- B. Kube - East campus President
  - The surveillance testing in the HSC galleria will be discontinued as of August 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - We sponsored our annual barbecue at the hospital on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

- The carryover of annual leave days above 40 on January first will not be offered this year. If you have, or will have, an annual leave accrual balance above 40 days on December 31st any balance over 40 days will be forfeited on January 1st. Do not wait until the end of the year to request days off. Managers have been instructed to schedule days off to minimize the loss of days. If you are unable to use all of your days and are in jeopardy of losing them, consider donating them to a person in need of donations for medical leaves.
- UUP is in contract negotiations.
- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
  - We have been busy this summer planning events, meetings, and workshops to bring us together to know our rights, organize around winning a fair contract, and build solidarity amongst our diverse membership.
  - We planned workshops on discipline, IP, tenure, workload, etc.
  - Contract negotiations are well underway. Expecting an update soon, so please log in to the Members Only [portal](#) regularly for updates.
  - We have reviewed closely the State's conceptual proposals and among the greatest items of concern are the proposals related to job security, specifically the creation of a new post tenure review process.
  - This new provision could also impact our contingent faculty members who are ineligible for tenure, possibly limiting work for adjunct faculty by increasing workload for 'unproductive' tenured faculty to teach more sections.
  - UUP has a number of proposals trying to expand job security, particularly for contingent faculty with proposals for longer term guaranteed appointments and pathways to tenure.
  - We will need to work together to raise our collective voices to demand better pay, more secure working conditions for contingents, and to defeat attempts to curtail our hard-won job security.
  - We can only win a fair contract if we all do our part. Consider becoming a department rep for your area. This is how we have lines of communication to or from departments.
  - We are collectively responsible for the success and failure of our union and contract negotiations. Together, through collective bargaining and action, we can win.
  - UUP Statewide President, Fred Kowal will be joining us at our Welcome Back BBQ on September 6th, and we are eager to connect with all of you.

### **Old Business**

- No old business.

### **New Business:**

- No new business.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.**