

University Senate Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2022, 3:30-5:00 PM (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 April 4, 2022 carried.

Greetings from Richard Larson, University Senate President

- Welcomed everyone to the final meeting of the university Senate for academic year 2021-22.
- Senate is considering to move to a hybrid format for next year meetings and currently investigating appropriate meeting spaces.
- Senate attendance has improved under Zoom, also there's a feeling that the personal connection from meeting together has deteriorated a bit. Hybrid doesn't work for my own classroom for teaching but it might work for the University Senate.
- There are a number of joint senate-administration ad hoc working groups on key areas of interest such as on edge graduate education, tenure and promotion, academic judiciary, and course evaluations that have been or are being constituted and we hope to hear more from them quite soon.
- There should not be direct criticism of individuals in the Senate meetings. If senators wish to address critical remarks directly to individuals, whether fellow senators or administrators they're free to contact them individually.
- Comment - K. Lindblom: You as the Senate President cut off a fellow senator in the last meeting, so the best thing to do would be to acknowledge it and apologize.
 - Answer – R. Larson: I do apologize. I regret my action; it won't happen again.

Report from President Maurie McInnis

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- We had a fabulous Roth Regatta on Friday.
- We have Diversity Day coming up on Wednesday, a campus appreciation day for faculty, staff and students, and there's going to be free lunch and many other great activities.
- Announced that Dr. Carl Lejuez will become Stony Brook University's next executive Vice President and Provost, effective July 1, 2022.
- New Provost has already been on campus and met with the Senate Executive Committee and Office of Provost staff.
- Ten Stony Brook University faculty members were appointed to the rank of Distinguished Professor.
- Luryi and Lehmann elected 2021 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors.
- Stony Brook University's Student Affairs has been honorably mentioned as one of 2022's Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs.
- We are now at 78% graduation rates for six years and 66% for four years.

- Thanked Monica Bugallo for the extraordinary work that she has done this semester as interim provost.

Question – J. Sanders – Was there any discussion of collective efforts to encourage our Federal Government to get rid of student debt in Association of American Universities (AAU) meeting?

Answer – Student debt is an enormously complicated topic and completely eliminating it is probably not the right approach.

Question – P. Doesschate, H. Nekvasil, M. Rafailovich – Can we reduce the course fees and housing/dormitory fees for our students?

Answer – We try to support our students as much as we can but we are extremely limited in the resources that are available to us. We continue trying to advocate at a state level and work hard with our state partners to help them understand these problems and provide us more money to better support our students.

Report from Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Monica Bugallo

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Congratulated those who received the Outstanding Mentor awards, Stony Brook Trustees Faculty awards, and CELT Teaching awards.
- The provost office continues to be heavily engaged in supporting the research mission of the university. Currently reviewing 24 interdisciplinary teams' applications and will announce recommendations for funding in the next upcoming weeks.
- The [Provostial Seed Grants](#) for Interdisciplinary Work in Creative Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities was launched on April 18. The deadline for applications is May 16. This is an initiative in collaboration with CAS.
- Chairs retreat will happen on May 24-25th and will present an opportunity for current and future chairs to get together, discuss best practices about managing departments and programs, learn about university policies and procedures, and participate in several training activities.
- A new joint initiative between the Office of the Provost and the University Senate is a working group on tenure and promotion that will review the current processes and will come up with a recommendation on new processes and practices that will streamline existing ones and will be more equitable and adequate to the current educational landscape.
- Thanked everyone for their support during her time as Interim Provost.
- We are working on a smooth transition for our new provost and look forward to welcoming him on board.
- **Middle States Accreditation Reaffirmation Progress, Braden Hosch**
 - As reported in early spring, 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 April of 2024.
 - Over the next year we will be preparing a self-study document that will be submitted to our representative from the Commission.
 - We have assembled a steering committee and seven work groups.

- The final self-study design document will be posted on our [website](#) for Middle States accreditation where you will also be able to find additional supplementary information and progress reports as they become available.
- **Curriculum and Undergraduate Education report, Elizabeth Newman**
 - We have a joint administration and faculty senate working group working through the academic judiciary process.
 - The committee has completed a detailed overview of all of the various policies and procedures across our campus and we're looking forward to their final report by the end of the summer.
- **Report from Vice Provost for Research and Infrastructure, Alfredo Fontanini**
 - Partnering with facilities and services we've been working to address Chemistry building renovation and finding instructional space for the general chemistry lab.
 - We are working with consultants that would help us evaluating the quality and the usage of our research space on campus.

Report from Executive Vice President of Health Sciences, Hal Paz

- Dominick Fortugno has joined health sciences as director for health sciences academic support.
- Dr. Jonathan Buscaglia named Chief Medical Officer.
- Patricia Cooper became the new Chief Compliance Officer.
- Dara Goldstein named Chief Privacy Officer.
- We are in process of interviewing the Dean of Dental School.
- We have a search underway for a Chief Quality Officer as well as the Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer.
- We will begin a process in the very near future to look at the feasibility of our graduate program in public health becoming a School of Public Health.
- In weekend we had a groundbreaking for the new South Hampton emergency satellite located in East Hampton, Long Island.

Question – S. Walker – Will Dental School faculty get a chance to meet the candidates for the dean of the Dental School?

Answer – Yes.

Question – R. Larson – How you predict the COVID situation in Fall?

Answer – Based on Spanish Flu records, it could mutate to become a seasonal disease. Also, it could mutate the way that we go back to wear mask and take other precautions.

Question – R. Stein – Can you tell us about Stony Brook Medicine expanding into the Lake Grove complex?

Answer – That work continues, and we are planning on a Fall opening.

Report from UFS Spring Plenary 191 Report by UFS (Statewide) Representative, Brooke Ellison

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- To eliminate waste, redundancy, inefficiency and improve work efficiency and well-being, Chancellor is to name a Vice Chancellor for Health, Wellness, and Well-being.
- Discussed various reports including UFS President's report, SUNY Board of Trustees report, report from the UUP President, and SUNY Interim Provost report.
- Talked about the presentation by the library senior strategist and director of library information services.

Reports from Senate Reconstitution Ad Hoc Committee Working Group B, Suzanne Velazquez and Kenneth MacDowell

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Our group is reviewing and updating the Senate bylaws.
- Much of our phase two work is dependent on the discussions made by the restructuring working group, so we won't enter phase two until after those decisions are made.

Reports from UUP:

- B. Kube - East campus President
 - Encouraged members to attend workshops on workload that will be offered at the end of this month.
- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
 - West and East Campus UUP presidents spoke with Chuck Schumer at the LI Federation of Labor Annual Gala about the work UUP members do, and expressed our gratitude for all he has done to secure funding for higher education and policy that improves the lives of working people.
 - UUP had a membership meeting on April 28th with over 200 members in attendance.
 - UUP Academic and Professional Councils, which are open to all members, convened a joint meeting on 4/29 to discuss the changes in the Graduate School and the CIE.
 - UUP Delegate Assembly met early last month in Albany.
 - We were in Albany to discuss and ratify the set of initial contract proposals to the State.

GSEU Report, Chief Steward Doga Oner

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Discussed about the GSEU living wage campaign.
- 90% of graduate workers agree that their stipend is not enough to sustain themselves, 99% believe their stipend is not enough to live comfortably focus on one's research without financial worry and stress, 80% noted that their mental health have been impacted due to financial constraints, and 73% said the research and teaching has been impacted due to financial problems, and 92%

said the recent wage raises had not been enough to solve their financial problems.

- We submitted our letter to President McInnis 10 days ago, but we did not receive an answer from the administration directly.
- We are planning to expand our next campaign to outside of the university, also discussing these issues in fall orientations with new graduate students.
- We need an answer from the President.

Old Business

- University Senate, A&S Senate, and PEG Board elections are on-going on SOLAR.
- Last day to vote is May 6th.
- Encouraged everyone to vote.

New Business:

- [Resolution 191-02-1](#) *Costs of Administration Survey*:
 - Passed by 81% Endorse as written.
- Election for the University Senate Secretary / Treasurer:
 - Richard Stein elected as Senate Secretary/Treasurer by 63% vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.