Administrative Review Committee (ARC)
Year End Report (2024-2025)

The primary task for the University Senate Administrative Review Committee (ARC) during the 2024-2025 academic year was to assemble and analyze the results of the spring 2024 Survey of Faculty and Professional Staff regarding Stony Brook Administrators and Services. The survey continued in the tradition of the ARC in conducting a comprehensive survey of faculty and staff perceptions of the work of the university administration. These surveys are usually conducted once every two years with the survey administered at the end of a spring semester and the results analyzed and presented to the Senate during the following academic year.

The survey results, containing quantitative results along with filtered comments, were developed during the fall 2024 semester, and presented to the Senate at the March 2025 Senate meeting. The results are also contained in a report now available on the Senate web site.

The ratings of top University administrators were better than the previous survey, and remarkably, were better than all results for a Stony Brook University President and Provost in the past 25 years of ARC surveys. We try to maintain some consistency in the personnel questions asked in all surveys, and while exact comparisons cannot be made, we can generally compare the results of the 2024 survey with previous results.

Many of the non-personnel survey categories were not as positive as the personnel ones, but there were no surprises in these results. As expected, parking and facilities fared poorly in the survey results presented at the March meeting. That presentation led to a request for a subsequent meeting by Jed Shivers, who was interested in more detail concerning facility issues. The committee is now tabulating details to be included in a report that we expect to be published early in the Fall 2025 semester.

One of the valuable aspects of the ARC surveys is the opportunity for respondents to include comments for most of the survey categories. The ARC evaluates these comments by first removing anything that might identify the responder, then aggregating and sub-selecting comments that fit themes apparent from the comments and consistent with the tabulated results. We find that this brings life to the survey results. In the case of facilities, as in previous surveys, we experienced many comments relating to specifics of many of the university buildings. These are the comments that we are now tabulating for the Fall 2025 report.

The numerical data for all survey sections, including facilities, are accompanied by qualitative summaries of comments, including illustrative quotes. These chosen quotes give a sampling of the very diverse viewpoints of respondents. All comments are provided in separate sections of the report to help give a more comprehensive overview of the respondents' quotes.

The survey report of the 2024 Survey is notable for what is missing.

- Most Deans are not included in this report, either because they have served less than one calendar year in office, stepped down from office during or shortly after the survey was conducted, or their unit is relatively small and did not reach the threshold of 30 respondents that Senate surveys have historically used as a minimum number.
- Many services that have consistently been evaluated quite well or quite poorly in past Senate surveys were omitted in this survey (e.g., childcare services have consistently received a good rating). Other services, some of which have received poor ratings, were re-evaluated in this survey.