

University Senate Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2021, 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 October 4, 2021 carried.

Greetings from Richard Larson, University Senate President

- Welcomed everyone to the November meeting of the university Senate.
- Welcomed Dr. Paz to Stony Brook and thanked him for joining the Senate meeting.

Report from President Maurie McInnis

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Thanked all who planned and executed the events of inauguration week.
- Thanked Senate President Dr. Larson for inviting her to give the first Presidential Inaugural Senate Lecturer and for the great Club Red event that followed her speech.
- Following the work of the strategic budget initiative, we have moved into implementation phase.
- Created a new process to manage clinical placements.
- Working on establishing a permanent contract evaluation team to identify ways to save money.
- Working on removing some of HR paper-based processes.
- Strategic Budget Executive team is midway through its review of the strategic hiring requests through each of the Vice-Presidential areas.
- Looking at the request for increased stipends for graduate students.
- Stony Brook's Governors Island proposal has made it to the next level and we were asked to interview with members of the mayor's administration and members of the trust later this week.
 - Question – R. Larson - What impact the vaccine mandates have had on staffing in the hospital?
 - Answer - Over 98% of hospital staff are vaccinated. We gladly will welcome back those who make the choice to become vaccinated. Additional overtime pay was authorized for places that we have staff shortage, and we are very aggressively recruiting to fill any of those positions.

Report from Provost Paul Goldbart

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Attended closing reception for N. Nagasawa's NYC Exhibit on Oct. 16th.
- The Provost's Office has launched a new Faculty Pathways website that will connect faculty at each stage of their career with high-caliber mentoring and development opportunities, interdisciplinary connections, and new avenues for leadership and collaboration.

- Attended the annual Chemistry Research Day.
- Thanked all those who participated and contributed to the inauguration week.
- Thanked Dr. Larson for inviting Dr. McInnis for the first ever University Senate Inaugural Presidential lecture.
- Thanked Laura Lindenfeld for her past and ongoing service to the provost office.
- The President's Office recently announced the launch of a new Accelerating Research website to create opportunities for researchers beyond the STEM disciplines and fostering more effective collaboration on our campuses with partners in our community, and to support grant seeking activities.
- E. Newman, R. Martinelli, and C. McMahon:
 - SUNY will replace Blackboard with Bright Space Learning Management System (LMS).
 - There is a demo of the new LMS on Nov 5th. Please let us know your thoughts after exploring its features.
 - There are no plans to shift Google and Microsoft 365 email platforms.

Plenary reports from E. Quinn:

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- There were five resolutions:
 - A resolution to formalize virtual senate meetings.
 - A resolution to state that the SUNY UFS urges Governor Hochul to craft an Executive Budget that would both make New York State a leader in sustainably and equitably supporting and advancing SUNY and CUNY core academic missions.
 - A resolution to urge Chancellor Malatras to work with GOER and the unions to extend SUNY's telecommuting policy with an emphasis on flexibility and productivity, drawing on stakeholder input, and pursue a permanent policy.
 - A resolution to urge Chancellor Malatras to make SUNY's 1976 policy on applied learning contact hours congruent with current New York State regulations.
 - A resolution to support "the letter and spirit of the AAUP Joint Statement on Legislative Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism and American History."

Reports from UUP:

- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
 - UUP was awarded \$5,000 fast fund seed grant from Believe in Students to reduce or eliminate our students' financial challenges.
 - UUP will soon begin its next round of contract negotiations with New York State.
 - Academic Council meeting on research faculty issues will be held on 11/30.
 - UUP employees who take time off to vote must choose the accrual type VOT (Voting Time) in the SOLAR Time Reporting System.

- UUP will be meeting with President McInnis on 11/22, and looking forward to unpacking our mutual commitment to driving this institution forward in a bold and ambitious direction.
- B. Kube – East Campus President:
 - UUP was able to negotiate with the SUNY and the governor's office of employee relations regarding the overtime payment for hospital eligible positions in order to mitigate staffing problems created by vaccine mandates and chronic understaffing occurred in hospitals over the years. The agreement was signed on October 21st.
 - UUP members are allowed to carry over more than 40 annual days until December 31st of 2022.
 - We need to get the most input from our members for the contract negotiations.

Old Business

- Nominations for President – R. Stein – The University Senate Executive Committee is presenting one candidate for University Senate President position, who is the current incumbent Dr. Larson. The election for the Senate President will take place in December Senate meeting.

New Business:

- K. MacDowell – A motion to endorse the UFS resolution Telecommuting Policy – OP 189-03 (85% endorse as written, 7% endorse with amendments, 8% take no action).
- E. Quinn - A motion to endorse the joint statement on efforts to restrict education about racism – UG 189-05 (86% endorse as written, 9% endorse with amendments, 5% take no action).

Meeting adjourned at 5:12 PM.