

University Senate Meeting Minutes

February 7, 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 December 6, 2021 carried.

Greetings from Richard Larson, University Senate President

- Welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the university Senate in Spring 2022.
- Announced passing of Dr. Richard Leakey, a professor in the Stony Brook University Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the Turkana Basin Institute (TBI).
- Since the President and other upper-level administrators submit formal reports from their sectors, Senate will abbreviate the administrative presentation sections going forward and spend more time on reports from Senate committees. This also will allow administrators give a very brief presentations and be available to answer questions for a certain amount of time.
- Thanked President and Provost offices to provide Senate a space in Wang Center, so Senate office and conference room will move to a new space after 30 years.
- Announced that Interim Provost will not present a report today, although she has submitted a written report to the Senate.

Report from President Maurie McInnis

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- The Governor has proposed that Stony Brook University and the University at Buffalo be officially designated as the two flagships of the SUNY System.
- The Governor did not propose a tuition increase anywhere for higher education, but put significant money immediately into both the tap program and the excelsior program.
- The Governor also outlined a 10-billion-dollar investment in healthcare sector and a pot of money to hire new faculty.
- We are kicking off the search process for the next Provost and the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration.
- We began Dean searches for Dental School and the School of Medicine.
- Stony Brook University has accepted an invitation to join the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) as a full-time member, elevating the university's profile and enhancing the student-athlete experience.
- The American East conference voted to disqualify stony brook university student athletes from conference championships.
- We have begun our institution wide strategic planning effort called project REACH. There will be many opportunities to engage in the process, and we will keep the campus community informed as this process moves forward.

Question – T. Sears - Chemistry department building is facing some

extremely disruptive renovations that are scheduled to begin this semester. Dr. Goldbart met with faculty but later left his position. What kind of assurances can you give us that our teaching and research activities be able to continue?

Answer – A. Fontanini – In provost office we are working in constant coordination with the President's office, the Facilities and Services, the Dean of CAS, and Chemistry Chair to explore some options, related expenses and timeline. This is an incredibly complex situation and we're all doing our best.

Report from Winter Plenary, Edward Quinn

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

Report from Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Monica Bugallo

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

Report from CAPRA, Axel Drees

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Introduced the CAPRA members, sub-committees, and explained the charge.
- Commented on faculty hiring process and the new Master's program relationship.

Report on Senate Restructuring

- **Fred Walter**
 - Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
 - Our Senate is built on the concepts of three major governance units that were defined in mid-1970s.
 - University has evolved and the major governance units do not adequately represent the smaller units on this campus, so it's time to think about restructuring the Senate.
 - Discussed about three considerations.
- **Suzanne Velazquez**
 - Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
 - Represented working group B that are conducting a phased review process of the bylaws.

Reports from UUP:

- B. Kube - East campus President
 - Healthcare workers are mandated for a third COVID shot.
 - UUP is developing proposals that will be presented to the State in April.
 - We have about 100 COVID patients in hospital and 11 in ICU.
- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
 - Budget got the largest increase in funding over two decades.
 - UUP is distributing masks to faculty and staff.
 - Thanked UUP members who donated to the winter coat drive. All donations will be going to families and individuals facing adversity.
 - We launched our believe in students FAST fund in November which has assisted over 50 students so far.

- Since June 2021, the Grievance and Workplace Concerns committee has handled well over 100 cases, approximately 5% of our membership.

Old Business

- No old business.

New Business:

- Course Evaluations & Electronic Accessibility (Classie): Postponed to the next University Senate meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM.