

## University Senate Meeting Minutes

### November 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 October 3, 2022 carried.

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

- Welcomed everyone to the Senate meeting.

#### Report from President Maurie McInnis

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Currently in Denver, CO attending APLU annual meeting.
- Encouraged everyone to vote in mid-term elections.
- Mentioned about a national problem: the growing perception among Americans that a college degree is not worth it and this is leading to a lack of support for American higher education.
- SBU has developed both new and expanded services in central HR and is working on beginning the process to implement a new HR system.
- Governor's Island project is in a blind process as the city is representing three different proposals in public forums to get broad public input. We are hoping to know the results by new year.
- SUNY Board of Trustees Resolution expects all campuses move forward with both chosen names and pronouns for students, faculty, and staff by Fall 2023.
- To provide more mental health services, tele-counseling and tele-medicine platforms are available to our students.

Question – J. Sanders – Do we have any idea how many students have been affected by COVID this fall on campus?

Answer – In the first week of the semester we had about a hundred students, then it dropped to eighty and then fifty on average. Over the last three to four weeks, we've been averaging between twelve and twenty students that come to student support. Certainly, COVID still exists, but the numbers are much smaller relative to the size of our campus.

Question – J. Sanders – Graduate students' stipend keeps them below poverty line, who will support them?

Answer – Graduate students are not full-time employees and receive the stipend to assist them with their expenses.

Question – T. Iorio – We are not offering deals to out of state students like many other universities in other states, will that affect us losing students?

Answer – I'm not concerned as students choose our university because of the opportunities we provide that are distinct and different from those other campuses.

### **Plenary Reports from Pamela Wolfskill, Ed Quinn, and Brooke Ellison:**

- 192 Plenary reports can be viewed [here](#).
- There is a search for a new Chancellor.
- There were conversations about various topics such as UUP negotiations, hiring freezes, funding issues, expansion of telecommuting and remote work, salary inequities and mandated raises.
- Some resolutions were approved.
- Next Plenary session will be in January.

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

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Discussed about a few important developments in terms of graduate education including structure and leadership.
- Made it clear that that graduate school will remain and its open positions such as staff, dean of the graduate school and the Vice Provost for graduate and professional education will be filled.
- Will send out a survey for the new Vice Provost position to get a sense from SB community.
- Graduate students work hard but we see them as 50% employees not full-time employees.
- Graduate student's stipend was developed to offset and to fray the cost of their post-secondary education.
- Showed some data to confirm that our stipends are competitive compared to peers.

### **Reports from UUP:**

- B. Kube - East campus President
  - IDA applications will be accepted starting next Monday till January 27, 2023, for period of July 2, 2022 to March 31, 2023.
  - The Productivity Enhancement Program enrollment period has begun, and that will be open until December 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Flex Spend Accounts enrollment is open till December 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - Next chapter meetings coming up on November 13<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
  - Had a highly successful fundraiser for Fast Fund.
  - UUP contract negotiations continue.
  - Had a highly successful membership drive.
  - We've been in discussion with the provost office how to secure a fair pay and expand the length of appointment for our full-time lecturers.
  - Encouraged everyone to vote in mid-term elections.

### **Old Business**

- No old business.

### **New Business:**

- No new business.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.**