

# University Senate Meeting Minutes

**December 1, 2025, 3:30-5:00 PM (Hybrid Meeting – Wang Theater & Zoom Meeting)**

Meeting called to order by Dr. Brenda Anderson, the University Senate President, at 3:30 PM. A link to the meeting recording will be provided upon request. A motion to approve the agenda and the minutes from November 3, 2025 carried. List of attendees can be viewed on the University Senate [website](#).

## Greetings from Brenda Anderson, University Senate President

- Welcomed everyone to the last Fall 2025 University Senate meeting.
- Discussed 2024-2025 University Senate [Annual Report](#).

## Election of Next University Senate President

- Michael Boerner presented his candidacy for University Senate President, emphasizing his commitment to shared governance and communication.
  - **Question:** What do you think is the largest challenge facing the university?
    - **Answer** - We need to figure out ways where we can build constructive, sustainable communication models, especially regarding shared governance, so that faculty have voices, and the concerns of the university are heard.
  - **Vote:** Voted by acclamation. Since there were no other candidates and no opposition, motion for Michael Boerner to serve as the next president of the University Senate passed.

## Report from President, Andrea Goldsmith

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
  - Discussed recent incidents of hate graffiti on campus and emphasized the university's commitment to creating a safe and welcoming environment for all members of the community.
  - Highlighted the importance of shared governance and encouraged the Senate to engage more deeply in strategic planning discussions.
  - Question about responses to the presence of external law enforcement.  
Answer: SBU follows the SUNY policy ([SUNY Protocol for Interacting with Outside Law Enforcement](#)). We ask anyone to contact UPD, because they are an organization that is trained, understands the policies, will abide by them and is available 24/7 to contact the General Counsel, who, in turn, can judge a warrant. This ensures that the first person to encounter external law enforcement is not responsible for making decisions.

- o Question about Pres. Goldsmith's philosophy for growth and how it influences the strategic plan. Answer: It is *our* strategic plan. The total growth wouldn't be limited to the main campus, but could be on other campuses. Welcomes faculty, professional staff and student input. Philosophically, as a flagship university, we have an obligation to educate more New Yorkers. We are small for a public AAUs University. As an innovator, we should consider the many strategies to grow successfully.
- o Question related to study abroad opportunities. Answer: Have seen other universities with a high proportion of students studying abroad. Many creative ways to do that, including for engineering students.
- o Question related to Freedom of Information Requests. President Goldsmith responded that she is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all students, faculty, and staff. The right policies and procedures are in place for dealing with violations of university policies. We are fully committed to responding to FOIL requests in a timely manner.

## Report from Provost, Carl Lejuez

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

## EVP HSC, William Wertheim report delivered [electronically](#)

## Reports from UUP

- B. Kube - East campus President
  - o No presentation.
- L. Melious – West Campus UUP President
  - o Full written report can be viewed [here](#).

## Old Business:

- No old Business.

## New Business:

- New Economic Framework, Provost Carl Lejuez
  - o Explained the shift from a historical/incremental budget model to a new model aimed at giving more financial agency to schools and colleges, while still supporting university initiatives.
  - o The implementation of this new model is ongoing, with plans to have it in place for the next academic year.

- Annual Report from the General Education Advisory Committee, Hanna Nekvasil
  - [General Education Advisory Committee \(GEAC\) Introduction](#)

**Meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM.**

**Senate President:** Brenda Anderson

**Senate Secretary:** Richard Stein