

University Senate Meeting Minutes

March 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 February 7, 2022 carried.

Greetings from Richard Larson, University Senate President

- Senate Constitution Committee and Bylaws Committee are trying to work up some graphical elements to be able to better represent some of the plans for the Senate new structure. This semester we just plan to get the general framework before you. We will discuss, amend, and vote on new proposals in Fall.

Report from President Maurie McInnis

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- President was not available to report.

Report from Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Monica Bugallo

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Congratulated faculty who received awards, scholarships, and fellowships.
- Then next cycle of the budget process is launched.
- Working on recruiting a consulting firm for a space quality survey.
- The Office of the Provost has continued to work in collaboration with OVPR on four initiatives: Tiger Teams, Biomedical Tiger Teams, the new ProFund Seed Grant, and Creative Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities support.
- The office of the provost has also developed a website with a repository of documents and forms for the entire campus Community.
- Has launched the search for the next Dean of libraries.
- The Provost Office and the Senate are working together on forming a working group to plan the future of graduate school / graduate education.
- SBU initiated a spring pilot with D2L/Brightspace under the guidance of SUNY. Faculty volunteers from across campus began working with DoIT and CELT on December 2021 to offer 25 courses in an SBU Brightspace pilot instance in Spring 2022.
- SBU plans to keep blackboard functioning through May 2023.
- Celebrated Women's History month.

Report from Director of CELT, Rose Tirotta-Esposito

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- Mentioned the time line when faculty will gain access to D2L/Brightspace and use it for instruction, as well as when course materials will be exported from Blackboard.

Question – R. Larson – How would be the migration of some online courses that are developed and have hooks into Blackboard? Also, can faculty get any help from DoIT?

Answer – The migration has been fairly smooth so far. Yes, they can get help from DoIT and SUNY.

Question – D. Colosi – Do you have any plan to replace whole or parts of C-Base with Brightspace?

Answer – We will work with east campus schools to decide what's best for them after Brightspace is up and running in west campus.

Report from SCEDIT, Kerri Hollander, Scott Campbell

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- We are a combined committee of educational services and information technology approved by the Senate Executive Committee in 2019.
- The benefits of working as a joint committee were most apparent in 2020 when COVID forced the campus to work and teach remotely.
- Explained the charge of the committee.
- Introduced the committee members.
- Anyone interested in joining the committee can contact Kerri or Scott.

Report on Middle States Accreditation, Braden Hosch, AVP for Institutional Research, Planning, and Effectiveness

- Full written report can be viewed [here](#).
- The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is one of the seven regional accrediting agencies in the United States and being accredited is a requirement of title for funding.
- The Middle States expects you to evaluate how well is your mission working.
- Pulled together a steering committee preparing self-study design document and identifying how we meet the standards.
- Will update Senate either in Fall or next Spring about our progress.

Question – A. De Laurentiis – University has two missions, one teaching and education, and the other research. Does the Middle States have any criteria for research?

Answer – It doesn't say anything about research. We will assess how well our mission is working and research will be a part of it. We would not put our accreditation in jeopardy because of elements in the research mission.

Reports from UUP:

- B. Kube - East campus President
 - We're still busy advocating for SUNY and the hospitals.
 - The negotiations processes are starting up.
 - Individual Awards applications are being evaluated. The award is eligible for up to \$2,000 for up to two projects.
- A. Solar-Greco – West Campus President:
 - Acknowledged women's history month and mentioned that UUP's most active members who make this chapter run are women.

- Reached 95% membership rate.
- UUP had a joint rally with the CUNY faculty-staff union yesterday crossing the Brooklyn Bridge.
- Join UUP to become department representative.
- We recently learned about the ongoing issue with student evaluations that was posted on reddit and we brought it to management's attention.
- UUP has been meeting with members discussing their concerns about rapid changes with minimal transparency, communication, or discussion as to the impacts it has on our Collective Bargaining agreement and working conditions, most notably the Division of Enrollment Management and the Graduate School, and raised these issues to management last month.
- UUP is finalizing analysis, prioritization, and preparing to bargain.
- Membership meeting will be held on this coming Wednesday at 12 PM in Frey 104. Zoom will be available for those who cannot attend in-person.

Old Business

- No old business.

New Business:

- Course Evaluations & Electronic Accessibility (Classie): A qualitative comment was taken from behind the password protected stony brook course evaluation system and put on internet visible to public. There's really a concern about how these sorts of comments should be used, particularly when it has a chance of circulating beyond the campus community.
- E. Newman: I look forward to partnering with the Senate and figuring out how to take care of this issue in a really productive and healthy way.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.