

# **Resolution 2025-01 in Support of the Establishment an Academic Senate at Stony Brook University<sup>1</sup>**

October 3, 2024

WHEREAS, Stony Brook University (SBU) is dedicated to providing an inclusive and collaborative academic environment that fosters shared governance and empowers faculty and students to engage meaningfully in decision-making processes; and

WHEREAS, the current structure of individual college senates may limit opportunities for collaboration, communication, and shared decision-making across the various colleges and schools within the university; and

WHEREAS, a consolidated Academic Senate would enhance the representation of faculty, staff, and students by providing a unified voice in matters concerning academic policies, curriculum development, and institutional governance; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a single Academic Senate would facilitate the sharing of best practices, resources, and ideas among diverse academic disciplines, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation; and

WHEREAS, a unified Academic Senate would promote greater transparency, accountability, and engagement in governance processes by streamlining communication and decision-making across the university; and

WHEREAS, many peer institutions have successfully implemented a consolidated senate structure, resulting in increased faculty engagement, enhanced academic programs, and improved institutional effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, consolidating individual college senates into a single Academic Senate aligns with SBU's commitment to continuous improvement, excellence in education, and the enhancement of the student experience;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arts & Sciences Senate supports the establishment and consolidation of individual college senates into a single Academic Senate at Stony Brook University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the consolidated Academic Senate shall have representation from all colleges and schools within the university, ensuring that diverse perspectives and interests are considered in academic governance; and

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<sup>1</sup> ChatGPT, response to “Draft a resolution in support of the establishment an Academic Senate at Stony Brook University” OpenAI, October 3, 2024, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all campus administrators are encouraged to actively involve faculty, staff, and student stakeholders in the planning and implementation of the consolidation process, ensuring a collaborative and transparent approach; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be conveyed to the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, the University Senate Executive Committee, and the Deans of the various colleges, schools, and divisions for their consideration, support and action.

Adopted by the Arts & Sciences Senate on February 10, 2025.

[80%agree/20%abstain/0%reject]