

Report to the University Senate
February 7, 2022
University Faculty Senate - Winter 2022 Plenary

Statewide Senators: Brooke Ellison, Donna Ferrara, Nichole Gladky and Ed Quinn

- **Budget:**

127M increase In the Governor' s Executive Budget which includes funding for new faculty lines, TAP Gap funding increase to 4 yr. campuses, increase funding to SUNY Wide Programs funding (i.e., Student Aid, COP, EOP) and Childcare, and fully funded Benefits
- **Interim Chancellor**

Deborah Stanley, Interim Chancellor, provided some opening statements then discussed concerns from each of the sectors. Her statements underscore the positive position SUNY and the State are in this year in terms of the budget and the governor's commitment to investing in SUNY.
- **New Chancellor Search**

It will start soon and there are several SUNY leadership searches currently going on. Chance to build a good team. Merryl Tisch describe a different model for Chancellor Search to include sub committees of students/alumni, community, administrators all with Chairs that report to the Board of Trustees
- **D2L** - 1st cohort is about ½ of SUNY campuses is underway (Stony Brook is part of the 1st group)
- **UUP**

Expressed the need to invest money in hospitals, budget does not include this. As the Governor announced in her State of State SUNY Faculty and Staff must be vaccinated. UUP will be negotiating how fully vaccinated is defined and the logistics and penalties.
- **Student Assembly President**

Working towards free tuition. Propose a plan to phase in a free system over a number of years - it is an investment. This money will go back into the state's economy, houses, property taxes, and enrollment will skyrocket. Mental health trainings: VART: Validate, appreciate, refer, training
- **Facilities – SUNY Sustainability Initiatives:**

Survey shows that students care about schools commitment to the environment, new buildings and renovations follow LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environment Design) roadmap, and utility costs have been on a downward trend since 2006-2007.
- **Ethics:**

Be mindful of gifts over \$15, no selling free/sample books, careful about requiring your own text for a class. Read [A Plain Language Guide to State Ethics Laws](#) and [A Plain Language Guide to Public Officers Law and Other Related Ethics Laws](#)
- **Provost**

New Curriculum Framework: www.suny.edu/GE, resources built in and training will be available Fall 2022, include a PD certificate. Enrollment is down, several marking strategies are currently in place and being developed
- **First Virtual SUNY-wide Graduate Research Conference.** February 25th 2022: suny.edu/gradcon
11 Stony Brook students presenting
- **Senate needs to take action:**
 - **EID & OP:** ["190-01-1 Advancement of Historically Underrepresented Faculty"](#)
To raise awareness of, and make recommendations for, specific inequities in hiring, mentoring, and evaluating historically underrepresented faculty.
 - **EID:** ["190-02-1 Successful Implementation of the SUNY General Education Category, 'Diversity: Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice'"](#)
To ensure appropriate support and professional development is available for instructors who will be teaching courses in this category as well as to ensure that institutions that need to hire faculty to do so will be able to.
 - **Senate need to take note:** The UFS also endorsed the FCCC Statement entitled, "[SUNY Chancellor and Executive Leadership Searches.](#)" (Handbook for searches for chancellor)
- **UFS Connects:** articles of note: <http://www.sunyufs.us/suny-connects.html>

Highlights

- **Budget** - discussion with Gov. Hochul is favorable to include:
 - We are starting with **No Reductions** in funds, Megna: - Budget: "By any standard, this year is a good budget,"
 - Overall increase 127 million (all of SUNY) 70 million for state-wide programs, 9 million for community colleges (60% of the increase)
 - There are new faculty lines
 - Tap - Expanded. (Tap Gap)
 - Expand part time TAP
 - Reinstated TAP for incarcerated individuals
 - Excelsior Tuition Rate was re-set from 2016/2017 levels to 2022/2023 levels
 - Ceasing practice of withholding transcripts on outstanding student bills
 - Streamline State Education Dept Program Review. - Provides temporary approval of any curriculum or program of study under certain conditions.
 - Gov significantly added to programs, Student Aid programs COP, EOP
 - Full support for employee benefits
 - Child care funding
- **Interim Chancellor** -
Deborah Stanley is favorable for interim and is not looking at a long term commitment. SUNY has been a model in how to handle COVID and serve students.
- **New Chancellor Search** -
Search for Chancellor will start shortly. Noted last Chancellor's lack of credentials. After hearing the concerns from the Senate Merryl Tisch is proposing a different model for searches that include sub groups (students and alumni, community, administrators) each would have a chair and the chair would report up to trustees as part of the Chancellor Search process. The new Chancellor whomever that will be will have the opportunity to weigh in a team of people due to several leadership searches currently going on.
- **D2L** - 1st cohort is about ½ of SUNY campuses is underway
 - Four cohorts of migrating campuses have been identified and will complete migration to Brightspace by December 2023.
 - Two work groups are generating templates and training resources for campus teams to use when migrating.
 - See more in the Provost's report to the Senate [Microsoft PowerPoint - UFS-Provost-January2022-v9 \(sunyuufs.us\)](#)
- **UUP** -
 - We need money for operating funds and hospitals. Hospitals are prepared to increase staff and just need the money.
 - Contract negotiations are rolling forward. UUP had breakout sessions where members could express their concerns. There was a survey, respondents doubled from the past. Members are engaged.
 - **All SUNY faculty will have to be vaccinated.** This was announced in the State of the State.
 - Kowel supports this mandate, however it must be negotiated to include how it will roll out and what the penalties will be
 - We are **97% vaccinated** but need to define what vaccination means. Does that include boosted? Definition is expanded in the fall.
 - Change in the NY State tax structure, UUP's position on new revenues - UUP supports legislators taxes. Tax those with the ability to pay.
- **Student assembly President**
 - 1.5 billion from Governor
 - 150 million over all for tap and will include to allow incarcerated students

- Working towards free tuition like CUNY had (free for parents). Propose a plan to phase in a free system over a number of years - it is an investment. This money will go back into the state's economy, houses, property taxes, enrollment will skyrocket
- Mental health trainings: VART: Validate, appreciate, refer, training
- If students must vaccinate, so should everyone else.
- **Facilities:** Students care about sustainability and the schools commitment to the environment. Cost of keeping buildings running shrunk. New buildings and renovations follow LEED as a roadmap.
- **Ethics:**
 - Be mindful of gifts. Nominal gift amount \$15 are ok, anything over must be reported. Make sure it doesn't have an obligation attached. Adopt a zero gift policy.
 - Book royalties - you'll have to disclose but not included as part of your state salaries.
 - Free books - and then selling it (as an adjunct) is a violation. NO profiting off of sample books
 - Be careful on utilizing your own text book and work with bookstore. It is allowable.
 - Conflict of interest form. DFS form <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/human-resources/ethics-jcope/index.php>
- **Provost:** Enrollment and Marketing
 - **DEI** (and social justice) curriculum framework,
 - www.suny.edu/GE
 - Campuses will need to review current framework and see how theirs fit. There will be tools and resources to help campuses assess the whole framework.
 - Contains a Diversity requirement
 - Also included are pedagogy workshops for inclusive teaching and will be leveraging existing expertise with current faculty and Chief Diversity Officers. There is support for this curriculum change. **Training will be available by Fall 2022 that includes a professional development certificate.**
 - **Enrollment** is down and has been declining over the last 10 years. SUNY Totals
 - Fall 2011: 468,006
 - Fall 2022: 370114, this year there is a 6% decrease
 - **Marketing Message:** SUNY brand is "Opportunity and Access" (Budget is 10M.; Private 20-30M)
 - Reputation and cost are the deciding factors for students applying.
 - Trying multiple strategies to raise enrollment: Micro credentials, Equity, Community College, Workforce Development programs, EOP
 - Search Engine Optimization for SUNY.edu
 - Improve SUNY Rankings
 - Prioritize Financial Aid support.
- **First Virtual SUNY-wide Graduate Research Conference.** February 25th 2022: suny.edu/gradcon
 - 11 Stony Brook students presenting

Senate needs to take action:

- **EID & OP:** ["190-01-1 Advancement of Historically Underrepresented Faculty"](#)
 - To raise awareness of, and make recommendations for, specific inequities in hiring, mentoring, and evaluating historically underrepresented faculty.
- **EID:** ["190-02-1 Successful Implementation of the SUNY General Education Category, 'Diversity: Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice'"](#)
 - To ensure appropriate support and professional development is available for instructors who will be teaching courses in this category as well as to ensure that institutions that need to hire faculty to do so will be able to.

Senate need to take note: The UFS also endorsed the FCCC Statement entitled, "[SUNY Chancellor and Executive Leadership Searches.](#)" (Handbook for searches for chancellor)

UFS Connects: articles of note: <http://www.sunyufs.us/suny-connects.html>

Post Plenary Report

Available on the USF website: [Winter 2022 Post-Plenary Report - SUNY University Faculty Senate \(sunyufs.us\)](#)