



199th Winter Plenary

Online

January 16-19, 2025

Stony Brook Senators in Attendance: Pamela Wolfskill, Glenn Itzkowitz, Donna Ferrara, Sylvia Wood and Brenda Anderson

Theme: SUNY UFS – 70 Years of Service

Highlights

- **Agenda.**
 - **Committee Reports:**
 - [Communications](#)
 - [Equity, Inclusion and Diversity](#)
 - [Ethics and Institutional Integrity](#)
 - [Governance](#)
 - [Graduate Academic Programs and Research](#)
 - [Operations; Programs and Awards](#)
 - [Student Life](#)
 - [Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies](#)
 - **Presentations:**
 - [President's Report](#) (Landa)
 - [Chancellor's Report](#) (King)
 - [Budget Update](#) (Sager)
 - [Academic Affairs & Research Update](#) (Ramasubramanian, Cantaffa)
 - [Additional Updates from Digital Innovation and Academic Services](#) (Scalzo)
 - [Enrollment and Student Success Update](#) (Linderman)
 - [UFS President Election Procedures](#) (Stapleton)
 - **Supplemental materials:** Gallup, Lumina Foundation. [The State of Higher Education 2024](#).
1. Sector Meetings:
 - HSC: Infrastructure and Maintenance Priorities**
 - What steps can be taken to address deferred maintenance issues, particularly at Stony Brook?
 - What is your plan for SUNY Health Sciences to improve facilities infrastructure overall and parking infrastructure in specific, which has become a bigger and bigger issue of safe access for patients, employees, and students to our facilities and becomes a competitive disadvantage when compared with other institutions.
 2. **Support and Sustainability for SUNY Hospitals**
 - This coming week, it will be one year since it was announced that University Hospital Downstate(UHD) would close. What is your plan to secure a sustainable future for Downstate Medical Center, including inpatient services, core hospital functions, and adequate funding moving beyond the transformation? We now have barely 3 months to offer a final proposal – the concern is that in such a short time window, either hasty decisions will be made or a preset plan pushed through without adequate opportunity afforded for concerned parties on all sides to make their case and to have it receive due process. In specific, you've received the plan from the Chairs of the College of Medicine. What is your opinion of this specific plan and do you support it? Are there other plans you've seen that are as viable

or more viable to you. And how do you anticipate any plan will actively focus on improving faculty and staff morale for both UHD and all 5 schools. Also, are there other individuals who are or will be named to the community board beyond who has been named?

- On a broader level, and deeply impactful over time is the question of how the Health Science Centers are positioned for budgeting through the state. What should you do and what can we partner with you in doing to once and for all establish separate line-item funding for hospitals and resolve DISH reimbursement challenges for all health science centers? Our goal is to have more timely DISH reimbursements so our Finance teams don't have to constantly juggle funds around, delay payments for services, and create unnecessary, awkward situations for each of the HSC's with our partners, vendors, etc.
- As for the separate line-item funding for hospitals, the hospitals specifically, even separately from the educational arm, need to be included in the appropriate budget categorization with other hospitals, separate from the academic institutions, so that we can be viewed for the entities we are rather than being miscategorized and misappropriated.

3. **Protest Policies and Student Access**

- How will the Chancellor help campuses enforce policies to ensure both safety during student protests and unrestricted access to facilities like libraries, especially during critical times such as finals week?
- With MLK day right around the corner, it seems poignant to consider the positive impact of nonviolent civil disobedience and discourse. Do you have a specific plan to implement consistent system-wide policies and designated spaces for demonstrations to balance protest rights and free speech protection with operational and material safety on campus?

Campus Governance Leaders

- **DEISJ:** How does SUNY plan to sustain and advance support for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (DEISJ) initiatives in light of potential counter-DEI measures from the incoming federal administration?

What specific strategies or resources is SUNY allocating to support both ongoing and previously established DEI efforts at individual campuses, such as academic disciplines (Sociology, Gender Studies) and student support programs (EOP, TRIO), and in the Gen Ed program?

Is SUNY Administration collaborating with other state university systems to strategize ways to support and protect DEI initiatives?

What key insights or best practices have been learned from other states as they prepare for changes under the new federal administration? (These questions will be amended depending on the Chancellor's remarks.)

Follow up: How will SUNY administration communicate their strategies with the campuses? What strategies can campus governance bodies use to protect and support efforts on their campuses?

- **Sustaining Shared Governance with New Campus Leaders:** With a number of new campus presidents in the SUNY system, how can we build more effective and sustained shared governance practices with faculty and professional staff? What are the expectations or benchmarks that you share with the incoming Presidents regarding shared governance and in your formal review? How do you measure president accountability for effective and sustained shared governance?

