

Meeting called to order by Senate President Nancy Tomes at 3:30 PM.

[Livestream coverage](#)

I. Revisions to the draft agenda approved: [Draft Agenda](#)

II. Welcome from **Nancy Tomes, President of the University Senate**

- Earlier in the semester, the University Senate began recognizing faculty and emeritus who have passed away by taking a moment of silence. N. Tomes shared the news of the passing of Dr. Lina Obeid, Professor of Medicine and Dean for Research at the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University, and Distinguished SUNY Professor.

III. Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 4th meeting was made and carried.

IV. Election of New President of the University Senate

- Nancy Tomes is stepping down as University Senate President to go on sabbatical. Richard Larson, Professor of Linguistics, is running unopposed. Ballots to qualified Senate members distributed as required by the constitution.
- Tracey Iorio read statement from Richard Larson, as he is teaching during this time. Nancy Squires, an internal hire, is noted to have served her term as Dean in an admirable and exemplary manner. He says that the recent external hire was less successful in securing a Dean who was good for the University's interests. He will work to promote a broader Senate mission which introduces creative, new structures and ideas. He believes there are concrete governance issues, and that the senate bodies can work more effectively together. Richard Larson's full statement:
[Richard Larsen statement](#)
- The voting offers two choices - for the candidate or to abstain.
- Voting results: **41- yes 10 - abstain**. Richard Larson is elected and will take over in August 2020.

V. Discussion with **Interim President Michael Bernstein**

[Interim President Bernstein report](#)).

- A new Interim Chief CIO, Charles McMahon, has been appointed.
- SBU will receive over \$950,000 in funding from SUNY over a three-year period to support six faculty members as part of SUNY's new PRODiG Faculty Diversity Initiative.
- Search Firm for the University President is working on the following:
 - To develop a pool of qualified applicants.
 - To send names to the SUNY Chancellor early to mid February.
 - The Board of Trustees will vote on the new SBU President early March to mid April or 2020.
- Upcoming Events
 - "Light the Brook", the lighting of trees down academic mall to celebrate the holiday season, will be held on December 5th at 4:30 p.m. and followed by hot chocolate in the Admin lobby, courtesy of Interim President Bernstein.
 - December 20th, 11am, is the commencement for Summer and Fall 2019 graduates.

Q: J. Sanders - How are we protecting for our international Faculty members intellectual property?

A: Leadership in SUNY is assessing risks and making sure we have safeguards to protect faculty, scholars, students, while maintaining openness. Rich Reader is active in this arena, learning from reports, protecting intellectual property and investments, being mindful of morale and the peace of mind of overseas scholars, scientists and students.

VI. Discussion with **Interim Provost Minghua Zhang**

[Interim Provost Minghua Zhang report](#))

- The Provost called for nominations for the Stony Brook Foundation Trustees Faculty Fellowships - read more [here](#).
- Center for Digital Humanities opened on Nov. 7th by University Libraries - space for research, teaching, and learning in all disciplines related to the practice of the digital humanities. [Center for Digital Humanities](#)
- Stony Brook University celebrated the opening of its new SMART Cluster (Strategic MachineLearning Acceleration and Ray Tracing Cluster), a dual use GPU Cluster for both machine learning and visualization, in a ribbon cutting ceremony on campus on November 4th. [SMART Cluster SBU](#)
- No questions asked.

VII. Discussion with **Senior Vice President for the Health Sciences Ken Kaushansky**

- 120 patients were moved from the current cancer center to the new children's cancer center, as well as the clinical cancer center.
- School of medicine has launched a self-study, ahead of department reviews. SOM will be the to go first and will share the data shortly.
- Dr. Kaushansky participated in a SUNY Central Global Healthcare meeting.
 - A meeting was held on Nov. 18th in NYC to brainstorm how to work together to offer educational opportunities to students across the entire system..
 - Reps from most of SUNY campuses asked for SUNY money to fuel these programs.
- Upcoming ribbon cutting in the School of Dental Medicine Digital Dentistry Program.

Q: What is the function of the Digital Dentistry Program?

A: To study the effects of new materials, launching clinical and research methods.

VIII. Discussion and vote on UFS Resolution 182-03.01, on the expectation of Non-Academic Professional Staff to Participate in Shared Governance, passed by the SUNY UFS in Spring Plenary, led by PEG Board co-chairs K. MacDowell and T. Iorio.

Tracy Iorio read the following resolution: [UFS Resolution 182-03.01](#)

- P. Wolfskill rose to support the resolution stating it came to the statewide University Faculty Senate as a result of a number of professionals being denied the option to serve on their senate. It was presented to the Chancellor who supported the resolution and was then voted and approved by the UFS.
- N. Goodman stated the resolution was long overdue, professionals should have this support.
- Motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.

IX. Update from **Associate Dean of Libraries Heath Martin** and **Chair of U. Senate Library Services Committee Jason Torre** on SUNY negotiations with Elsevier and campus planning relative to them.

[SUNY Contract with Elsevier Resolution](#) presented by Heath Martin

- SUNY Library and Elsevier are nearing the end of 5-year SUNY level contract.
- SUNY is in continued negotiations with Elsevier.
- An aggressive counter-offer was sent and a virtual meeting has been set up.

- An in-person meeting in Albany will be set for the following week.
- The negotiations team has been working on a FAQ document circulated across the system and will become available soon.

Q: What is the content being negotiated?

A: the content being negotiated is the science-direct package. Some additional content will be available through Open Access.

Q: r What is the meaning of an “aggressive counter-offer”?

A: Heath says Stony Brook is determined to accept fair and reasonable pricing and will stick to their guns regarding this decision, by not accepting the status quo.

Q: Josh Dubnau - What would happen to our ability to publish in those journals? The California system asked faculty to refuse to review articles in those journals and would that be considered here at SBU?

A: Subscription status has no impact on faculty submissions. Informal discussions have been ongoing, but SB would never mandate anyone to refuse to review articles. We have over 50 editors of Elsevier journals here at SB.

- A Town Hall is scheduled for December 10th to answer questions, Heath and Shafeek (Dean of Libraries) will be there.
- Information is being compiled to establish a plan B scenario, or the possibility of a “no deal” scenario, to provide access to content.

Q: Is Elsevier interested in a larger/merger deal?

A: Elsevier not open to merging systems. They don't want to negotiate with someone who has more leverage. SB is open to that discussion.

Q: Are all those in negotiations keeping each other informed and continuing to be transparent with individual negotiations?

A: Yes, we are doing that within confidentiality restrictions. Getting input from California system, European institutions, and those who have walked away from Elsevier and those who have come to an agreement.

Q: How much of an increase is Elsevier looking for?

A: 9.4 million dollars.

Q: Are governing boards involved?

A: AAU met with Elsevier and had conversation. Assoc. Of Research Libraries active and vocal.

Q: Should we encourage university systems to get involved in negotiations?

A: Some organizations have become involved and made their concerns known regarding the state of scholarly publishing. Organizations we are already working with are a strong support.

- The University Senate was asked to support the Elsevier resolution.
 - The resolution passed unanimously.

X. UUP Report (C. Kube and E. Quinn)

Carolyn Kube, SB HSC Chapter President

- Higher Education NYS Senate hearings held November 1st with both Ed and Carolyn testifying to the Higher Ed Committee.
- NYSUT Higher Ed Day scheduled for February 3 and 4th.
- Upcoming Higher Education Lobbying Day scheduled for February 27th in Albany

Ed Quinn, SB West Campus Chapter

- UUP/SUNY comes to an agreement on salary compression formula, and distributed it to campuses in mid-November.
- The contract states that the distribution will happen at the end of December, allowing extensions for campuses if needed. Increases will be retroactive back to July calendar year for professionals, Sept. for academic year employees.
- SUNY Higher Ed Rally was held at 12:30pm, 12/9, Admin Fountain, urging SUNY Chancellor Johnson to advocate for increased state funding.
- Holiday Breakfast held at 8am, 12/10, in the Zodiac Lounge in Wang Center.

Josh Dubnau and Dominique Barone - UUP Grievance Officers:

Dominique Barone, Professional Grievance Officer

- She has been in this role for a few months and on campus for over 18 years.
- Workload Creep cases include:
 - Additional duties without additional compensation or time
 - Inconsistency in reviews, the proper parties not involved
 - Inequity, morale low, and little incentive to perform at a high level
 - Compensation inequities

Josh Dubnau, Academic Grievance Officer

- Since the summer, 14 cases from faculty have been handled with the following themes emerging
 - Work load creep: bigger classes, more teaching, less support, and issues related to denial of sabbaticals.
 - Contingent faculty are under-paid and often not treated with respect.
 - Administration has tied promotion to continuing appointment to permanent residence status.

- Use of IDC funds from external research grants is not transparent. Faculty has noticed that facilities are not being maintained, and that direct funds are sometimes needed to support what arguably should be supported by IDC.
- Monthly labor management meetings are being re-instituted to bring these issues to management.
- Notes are being published from both formal LM meetings with a link in happy pay day and on the UUP website.
- Resolution: Fund Suny Now as a late addition to the agenda
[Fund SUNY Now resolution](#)
- Resolution passes with no discussion requested.

XI. Old Business- None

XII. New Business-None

Motion to adjourn carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wolfskill

University Senate Secretary/Treasurer