

**UUP SBU Communication Committee  
University Senate Meeting Report  
Mon, Sept 9th, 3:30 PM.**

**Opening of Meeting/Nancy Tomes**

- I. Approval of [May 6, 2019 Minutes](#).
- II. Nancy Tomes reviewed existing senate committee structures, and promises improved communications.
- III. Announcement made that at the next Senate meeting (Oct 7th), a town hall will take place with Presidential Search Committee members; this meeting will be at the MART Building on East Campus.
- IV. The Nov. 4th Senate meeting will focus on infrastructure, parking, and the Campus Village Project, and be moderated by UUP Member Tom Wilson of the University Environment committee and Kathy Byington, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration.
- V. A moment of remembrance was held for longtime members of the SBU community who have died recently: William Arens, David Ferguson, and Mario Mignone.



**Interim President, Michael Bernstein - [Complete Report Here](#)**

- I. Budget has been “stabilized” due to efforts to slow down hiring, examining operational efficiencies, and fiscal funding from the state.
- II. ‘Hiring hold’ has somewhat lifted. Administrative and Academic areas with “balanced and approved” budgets can now go through normal process for hiring.
  - A. Hiring requests will go to the VPs, as they used to.
- III. States that it’s in “the best interest of our University to discontinue the search and recruitment process for our next University Provost at this time.”
- IV. Reports “COSA” - Council of Student Advisors will take on project to assess the impact of the Stony Brook Curriculum. Specifically, the student experience, the impact of class section size, and student learning outcomes.
- V. At the direction of Rick Gatteau, Student Affairs launching “CARE” initiative to address students in need (dealing with mental health issues, food/housing insecurity, etc.). Will provide support for all student groups on campus, and includes online support tool

called, “The Red Book” and an online portal to access student support team. This initiative will take the place of the previous Behavioral Assessment Committee (BAC).

VI. Reviews University accolades, accomplishments, and continued goals.



### Questions for Interim President Bernstein

- I. Jonathan asks about active shooter/lockdown training and educational resources on vaping
- II. Malcom B. asks about permanent legal protection for the Ashley Schiff preserve, and reminds everyone of upcoming Oct. 4 celebration.
- III. Hannah N. from Geosciences suggests improvements to SB website - reports students having trouble finding classes, don't know what the Registrar is or how to register for classes..
- IV. An East campus employee inquired as to how a department can determine whether or not they are under a hiring hold - asks Bernstein to expand on what it means to have a "balanced and approved budget."

- VII. Introduction of Surita R. Bhatia, new Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. Interim Provost Minghua Zhang is attending AAU Provost's meeting.

**Update on Presidential Search - [Full List of Faculty Members Elected to Committee](#)**

- I. Nancy T. and Pam W. explain presidential search committee nominee selection process. Report that over close to 1,000 names (which included alumni, professionals, deans, etc.) submitted for all positions of which 450 were full time faculty.
- II. 92 faculty submitted candidate statements thus agreeing to serve on the Presidential Search Committee. Of those 92, 7 were elected (see the image below).
- III. Nancy reports that while protocol was followed, many lessons have been learned through the process. Timing was not great (during the summer).
- IV. Judy G. reviews hierarchical nature of the search committee, role of council, search firm, SUNY chancellor. Kevin Law will be emailing search committee soon to set first meeting for end of Sept.



### **Questions re: Search Committee**

- I. Jonathan questions Judy re: community involvement in search process. Judy assures that she and her colleagues have consulted with the Three Village and Port Jefferson communities to solicit their input and feedback. She confirms:
  - A. No formal role for community on search committee
  - B. No formal role for UUP on search committee
- II. Meg Schedel comments on lack of diversity on search committee.
- III. Tom Wilson inquires about timeline of search. Judy assures that email will be sent with details. Chancellor would eventually like to bring search to her board.
- IV. Malcom B. emphasizes need to formalize community involvement - too informal in his opinion. "The University can be a bull in a china shop when it comes to the community." Suggests reinstating community council.

### **Paula Di-Pasquale Alvarez Reviews 2018 Senate Survey Results**

- I. Paula reviewed results, both positive and negative.
- II. Negative mainly surrounding infrastructure and maintenance
- III. Andrew F. comments on poor condition of HSC garage and walkways
- IV. Paula points out that HSC walkway was "fixed" soon after complaints were made
  - A. An East Campus Employee stated that walkway is still in poor condition with garbage.

### **UUP Update - Carolyn Kube (HSC Chapter) & Ed Quinn (Stony Brook Center Chapter)**

- I. Welcomed new leadership
- II. Reviewed upcoming UUP events - including Welcome Back BBQ, Town Hall, Member Meetups, Happy Hours, etc.
- III. Reported that UUP has been busy over the summer and several committees have been meeting.
- IV. First west campus E-Board meeting held last week.
- V. Hearings on the cost of Public Higher Education being conducted by State Senate chair of Higher Ed Committee. Long Island hearing at Nassau Community College on November 1, 2019