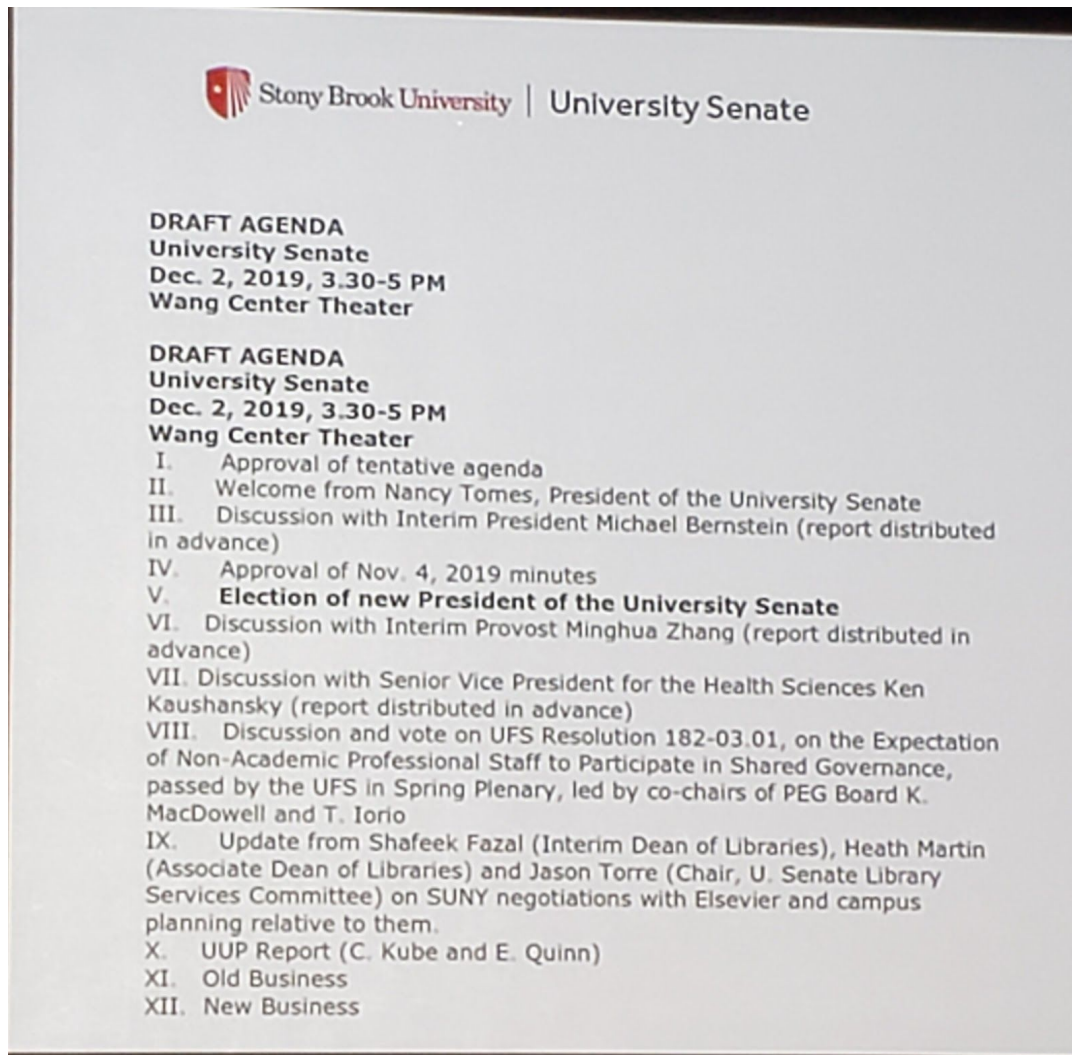


**UUP SBU Communication Committee
University Senate Meeting Report
Dec. 2, 2019, 3.30-5:00 PM
Wang Center Theater**

Meeting called to order by Senate President Nancy Tomes at 3:30 PM. Livestream coverage can be found [here](#).



I. Approval of tentative agenda.

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

- 1) Earlier in the semester, the University Senate began recognizing faculty and emeritus who have passed away by taking a moment of silence. 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 Profe



III. Discussion with Interim President Michael Bernstein (report distributed in advance, see [here](#)).



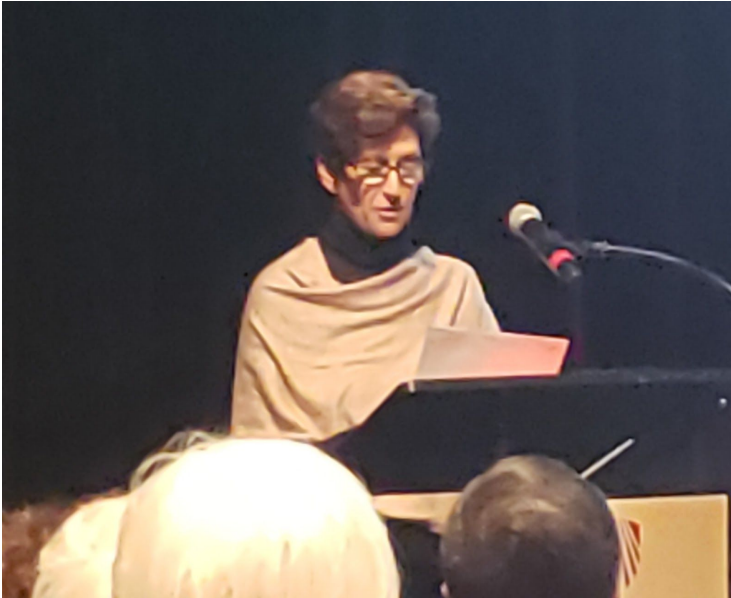
- 1) New Interim Chief CIO appointed, Charles McMahon.
- 2) SBU will receive over \$950,000 in funding from SUNY over a three-year period to support six faculty members as part of SUNY's new PRODiG Faculty Diversity Initiative.
- 3) Search Firm for the University President is working on the following:
 - a) Developing pool of qualified applicants.
 - b) Send names to Chancellor early to mid Feb.
 - c) Board of Trustees to vote early March to mid April
- 4) Upcoming Events
 - a) "Light the Brook", lighting of the trees down academic mall to celebrate the holiday season at 4:30 p.m. on December 5th followed by hot chocolate in the Admin lobby courtesy of IP Bernstein
 - b) Fri, Dec 20th - commencement 11am Summer and Fall 2019 graduates
- 5) Questions
 - a) Jonathan Sanders - How are we protecting for our international Faculty members intellectual property.
 - b) Answer:
 - i) 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 prop and investments. Mindful of morale and peace of mind of overseas scholars, students, etc.

IV. Approval of Nov. 4, 2019 minutes

V. Election of New President of the University Senate

- 1) Nancy Tomes is going on sabbatical, so stepping down as President. Richard Larson, Professor of Linguistics is running unopposed. Ballots required as per constitution.
- 2) Tracey Iorio reads statement from Richard Larson, as he is teaching during this time. Speaks about Nancy Squires term as Dean as admirable and exemplary Talks about broader mission of Senate, creative new structures and ideas.

Concrete governance issues, senate bodies can work together.



- 3) Secret ballot voting takes place in meeting. Two choices to vote: for candidate or abstain.
- 4) Voting results: **41- yes 10 - abstain**. Richard Larson elected. Larson to take over in August 2020.

VI. Discussion with Interim Provost Minghua Zhang (report distributed in advance, see [here](#))

- 1) Stony Brook Foundation Trustees Faculty Fellowships - read more [here](#).
- 2) SUNY PRODiG Faculty Diversity Initiative
 - a) Stony Brook University will receive over \$950,000 in funding from SUNY over a three-year period to support six faculty members as part of the new SUNY's new PRODiG (Promoting Recruitment, Opportunity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Growth) Faculty Diversity Initiative
- 3) 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.
- 4) 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 4.
- 5) Stony Brook University has officially launched the [Journal of Network Music and Arts](#) (JONMA), a collaborative effort between Music faculty and Stony Brook University Libraries.

- 6) The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is developing an interdisciplinary Hub for Migration and Mobilities
 - a) The Hub will serve as an umbrella organization for multiple Institutes and Centers within CAS, including the Center for Changing Systems of Power (previously the Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities). Dr. Charles Robbins, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Student Success and Dean of the Undergraduate Colleges, has been appointed Executive Director of the redefined Center.
- 7) No questions asked.

VII. Discussion with Senior Vice President for the Health Sciences Ken Kaushansky (report distributed in advance)



- 1) Moved 120 patients from the current cancer center to the new children's cancer center. Researchers have also moved into the clinical cancer center.
- 2) School of medicine launched a self-study, ahead of department reviews. SOM to go first. Data to be shared.
- 3) Ken participated in a SUNY Central Global Healthcare meeting.
 - a) Nov 18th met in NYC to brainstorm how to offer educational opportunities to students.
 - b) Reps from all SUNY campuses, asking for money to develop programs.
- 4) Upcoming ribbon cutting in Dental Medicine - digital dentistry program.
 - a) Questions: re: Digital dentistry purpose?

- i) Answer: 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 co-chairs of PEG Board K. MacDowell and T. Iorio

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT SUNY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION # 182-03-01 ON THE EXPECTATION OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

PRESENTED BY KEN MACDOWELL AND TRACY IORIO

UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING DECEMBER 2, 2019

RATIONALE:

WHEREAS the Stony Brook University Senate Constitution recognizes Professional Employees at "a number equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the total number of voting faculty members."

WHEREAS the Stony Brook University Human Resources policies pertaining to Permanent Appointment for Professional Employees, Supervisor's Appraisal, Item 2 seeks information related to "Significant contributions in University service" thereby establishing University service as significant evaluative criteria for Permanent Appointment

WHEREAS the SUNY University Faculty Senate, at the 182nd Plenary, April 11-13, 2019, approved Resolution # 182-03-01 on the Expectations of Professional Employees approved by a vote of For: 34; Against: 5; Abstain: 2

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate urges the Stony Brook University Administration to act in support of SUNY University Faculty Senate, Resolution # 182-03-01 on the Expectations of Professional Employees including implementing the development of campus policies supporting the participation of all professional employees in local and SUNY-sanctioned shared governance activity, such as release time or an option for inclusion of governance service as part of a performance program.



- 1) 4,700 professional staff on West and East campus.
- 2) Goal: to promote the continued involvement of professional staff in University shared governance via service opportunities for professional staff.
- 3) Seeking Administration support, including release time & incorporation of this service into professional performance programs.
- 4) Discussion:
 - a) N. Goodman: The resolution is long overdue, professionals should have this support.
 - b) P. Wolfskill: Noted this resolution was passed in the statewide senate due to some professionals being denied the ability to attend senate meetings.
- 5) Motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.

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



TO: SUNY University Faculty Senate
FROM: Operations Committee and Graduate Programs and Research Committee
RE: Resolution: Support for SUNY Negotiations for a fair and reasonable contract with Elsevier
DATE: 183rd Plenary, October 10-12, 2019
LOCATION: System Administration, Albany
RESOLUTION #: 183-04-01
VOTE TALLY: For: 47 / Against: 2 / Abstain: 2

RATIONALE:

WHEREAS SUNY has been a subscriber to Elsevier's Science Direct pursuant to a contract that expires on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS this contract has allowed the SUNY community to have access to a large array of high-quality materials that are indispensable to learning, teaching, and research; and

WHEREAS SUNY paid over \$9 million for access to Science Direct last year, with the total cost to the SUNY System over the life of the contract being nearly \$45 million, and payments to Elsevier make up 25% of SUNY's overall expenditures on journals; and

WHEREAS SUNY, through the SUNY Libraries Consortium (SLC), has been negotiating the terms of a new contract with Elsevier, but has been unsuccessful to date in negotiating a new contract; and

WHEREAS the University of California (UC) system sought to negotiate a contract with Elsevier for access to Science Direct offerings, such negotiations met an impasse, and the contract lapsed after UC had paid Elsevier more than \$11 million annually; and

WHEREAS universities across Europe, in countries such as Germany, Sweden, and Norway, have cancelled subscriptions with Elsevier after failed negotiations; and

WHEREAS Elsevier, in addition to deriving revenue from SUNY and other parties through subscriptions, also requires faculty authors to pay article publication charges (APCs) for publication in Elsevier journals; and

WHEREAS Elsevier has, in effect, gained a monopoly over the publication of and access to high-quality peer reviewed outlets; and

WHEREAS Elsevier has failed to expeditiously engage in the SUNY Science Direct contract negotiation process and, if the contract is not extended, the SUNY community will no longer have unlimited access to Elsevier's collection; and



- 1) Heath Martin presenting.
 - a) End of 5-year SUNY level contract with Elsevier.
 - i) SUNY negotiations going on, nearing the end.
 - ii) Offer sent and virtual meeting set up.
 - iii) In person meeting in Albany to be set soon.
 - iv) Negotiations team working on FAQ document circulated across the system, updates to be sent.
 - v) Content being negotiated is science-direct content.
 - (1) Some content available through Open Access.
- 2) Question re: an aggressive counter-offer. Heath says Stony Brook is determined to not be brought down to status quo - it is unsustainable.
- 3) Question: Josh Dubnau
 - a) What would happen to our ability to publish in those journals? The California system asked faculty to refuse to review articles in those journals.
 - i) Answer: Would not impact that at all. Subscription status has no impact on faculty submissions. Informal discussions have been ongoing, but SB would never mandate anyone to refuse to review articles. Happy to facilitate discussion further on this. Over 50 editors of Elsevier journals here at SB.
- 4) Town Hall scheduled Dec. 10th to answer questions, Heath and Shafeek (Dean of Libraries) will be there.
- 5) Entertaining “no deal” scenario, doing research and data on what we would have to pay for post-termination access.

- 6) Question: Is Elsevier interested in a larger/merger deal?
 - a) Answer: Elsevier not open to merging systems. They don't want to negotiate with someone who has more leverage. SB is open to that discussion.
- 7) Question: 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.
- 8) Question: How much of an increase is Elsevier looking for?
 - a) Answer: 9.4 million dollars.
- 9) Question: Are governing boards involved?
 - a) Answer: AAU met with Elsevier and had conversation. Assoc. Of Research Libraries active and vocal.
- 10) Question: Should we encourage university systems to get involved in negotiations?
 - a) Answer: 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.
- 11) University Senate has been asked to support the Elsevier resolution.
 - a) The resolution passes unanimously.

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

- 1) Carolyn Kube/SB HSC Chapter President.
 - a) UUP legislative agenda
 - i) Higher Education NYS Senate hearings held with UUP
 - (1) Both Ed and Carolyn testified to the Higher Ed Committee.
 - ii) Upcoming Higher Education Lobbying Day
 - (1) February 27th in Albany
- 2) Ed Quinn/SB West Campus Chapter
 - a) UUP/SUNY come to agreement on salary compression formula, and distributed to campuses in mid-November.
 - b) Distribution was agreed in the contract to be end of Dec., allowed extensions for campuses if needed. Retroactive back to July calendar year for professionals, Sept. for academic year employees.

- c) SUNY Higher Ed Rally @ 12:30pm, 12/9, Admin Fountain. Urging SUNY Chancellor Johnson to advocate for increased state funding.
- d) General Membership Mtg. Holiday Breakfast @ 8am, 12/10, Wang Center, Zodiac Lounge.

3) Josh Dubnau and Dominique Barone - UUP Grievance Officers



- A) Dominique Barone, Professional Grievance Officer
 - a) Been in role for a few months, been on campus over 18 years.
 - b) Workload Creep cases
 - 1) Additional duties w/o additional compensation/time
 - 2) Inconsistency in reviews, proper parties not involved.
 - 3) Inequity, morale low, little incentive to perform at a high level.
 - 4) Fair compensation
- B) Josh Dubanu, Academic Grievance Officer
 - a) Since summer, we have handled 14 cases from faculty.
 - b) Themes that have emerged:
 - i) Work load creep: bigger classes, more teaching, less support. Issues related to denial of sabbaticals
 - ii) Contingent faculty are under-paid and often not treated with respect
 - iii) Administration has tied promotion to continuing appointment to permanent residence status

- iv) Use of IDC funds from external research grants is not transparent. Faculty notice that facilities are not being maintained, that direct funds are sometimes needed to support what arguably should be supported by IDC.
- c) We are re-instituting MONTHLY labor management meetings to bring these issues to management.
- d) We are publishing our notes from both formal LM meetings.
- e) Look for link in happy pay day and on the UUP website.
- f) Resolution: Fund Suny Now (late addition to agenda). URL to resolution [here](#).

Resolution: Fund SUNY Now

Whereas, SUNY Stony Brook University and SUNY Stony Brook University Hospital & Health Science Center rely heavily on State Funding, and are meant to offer affordable and accessible higher education;

Whereas, since the 2008 financial crisis, state funding for SUNY first declined and has since remained flat;

Whereas, with declining state resources, students have been forced to increasingly carry the burden of funding our campuses;

Whereas, the rising cost of tuition, fees and room and board are putting the promise of higher education out of reach for many;

Whereas, increased workload and stress has been placed on Faculty and Staff who are forced to do more with less;

Whereas, programs have been cut, class sizes have grown, and hiring has not kept up with increased enrollment;

Whereas, SUNY Stony Brook University Hospital is state run, focused on public service of providing high quality of care for the uninsured and underinsured, rather than their bottom line, as well as providing quality education for the next generation of medical professionals;

Whereas United University Professions (UUP) is the #1 advocate for SUNY, and the sole bargaining unit for Faculty and Staff at SUNY Stony Brook University; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the SUNY Stony Brook University Senate:

1. Endorse the 'Rally for Public Higher Education' on 12/9 that UUP Stony Brook has organized.
2. Call upon SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson to demand a significant increase in state funding for SUNY in the upcoming FY2021 New York State Budget process.
3. Specifically, Chancellor Johnson should:
 - a. Draw attention to SUNY's fiscal troubles, and the undue burden that rising tuition and fees has placed on students, when making her budget request.
 - b. Make the most robust request possible for state assistance to SUNY when she responds to the New York State Division of Budget's call for budgetary

information.

- c. Support legislation to increase state aid to SUNY, including legislation that would increase the state's contribution to TAP awards (thus closing the "TAP Gap").
- d. Invest in our SUNY Hospitals by restoring the state subsidy of \$87 Million which was eliminated in 2019 budget.

- 1) Added to agenda late, Nancy T explains why not given ahead of time.
 - a) Resolution passes with no discussion requested.

XI. Old Business

- 1) No old business

XII. New Business

- 1) No new business

Meeting adjourned.