



Stony Brook University

Arts & Sciences Senate Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2022

11:30AM - 1:00PM

Virtual Meeting

- Call To Order at 11:30am.
- Acceptance of the Agenda
The motion to accept the agenda is carried.
- Approval of September 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes
The approval of the minutes is carried.
- Opening Remarks: K. Lindblom, A&S Senate President
 - Welcomed everyone to the A&S Senate meeting.
 - Introduced the executive committee members and thanked them for their service.
 - Announced University and A&S Senate open positions and encouraged the senate members to assist in drafting some of their colleagues into these important positions.
- Old Business
 - Call for nominations for Vice President of the A&S Senate:
Encouraged senate members to assist in filling this position.
- New Business
 - Response to request for hybrid meetings:
This semester we decided not to have hybrid meetings due to high meeting costs. We try to have next semester meetings in hybrid format if we can reserve a small room that can accommodate hybrid meetings and if members won't have COVID concerns.

Survey to be distributed for next semester A&S Senate meeting time:

We'll provide you a survey with a set of different time slots to vote for a fixed meeting time.

Response to President McInnis's State of the University Address:

Discussion - The President stated Stony Brook is a STEM institution. Does that mean other departments like humanity are not important or will not get attention because they are not making money?

Answers – Math dept. and Chemistry dept. senators mentioned that their departments don't get any special attention although Chemistry does produce a lot of grants and a lot of patents.

Discussion – We heard from President Kenny about the budget and financial situation with transparency in the past addresses.

Answers – Recent addresses seemed to be produced greatly for external audiences who want to support the University. We need to have financial data be available to us as individuals working at this institution. We need to mention to the president how things were done in the past and why is she changing it? We can ask the president to provide financial information in her monthly reports to the Senate.

Discussion – Graduate students brought their ongoing concerns about their stipends to the Senate. After the address we discussed it with the president. She was positive and mentioned their stipend has increased and they are working on increasing it more, but they are limited due to the budget situation.

Answers – A&S Senate motion to develop a resolution supporting the graduate students' requests for higher stipend passed by 94%.

Discussion - Concerns about level of preparation and the mental health of students were discussed.

- Announcements/Questions

N. Sampson, CAS Dean - We are in the process of moving the General Chemistry laboratory operation out of the Chemistry building to make swing space for the chemistry renovation. As we will have half of the lab space in the new place, we have to offer more sections to students which means some sections will be offered later in the evening.

- Adjournment at 1pm.