



Stony Brook University

Arts & Sciences Senate Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2021
3:30PM - 5:00PM
Virtual Meeting

1. Called to Order 3:30PM.
2. Acceptance of the [Agenda](#):
The motion to accept the agenda is carried.
3. Approval of February 8th Meeting [Minutes](#):
The approval of the February 8, 2021 minutes is carried.
4. President's Updates:
 - Meeting with Deans in EC meeting to discuss returning to the traditional casting reports in each meeting.
 - Welcome to J. Sanders as he fills out Faculty Member-at-Large seat in A&S EC.
 - A&S Senate monthly meeting will be recorded only for the purpose of preparing the minutes.
 - We have been updating the A&S Senate website to reflect the huge amount of previous committee reports, back to 1999, that are restored from Library archive.
 - We plan to explore the full inventory of the paper holdings of the Senate offices to digitize them and centralize all documents to the university repository.
 - We plan to create a form on the Senate website for Senators so they can ask questions from various officers/administration/members of campus leadership/ Senate as needed.
5. Spring 2021 Senate Elections:
 - [Open positions](#) are available on the website.
 - Each department chair to provide us with the name of their elected senator.
 - We will be collaborating with the University Senate for a streamlined election process.
6. Course submissions for review and discussion (Gabrielle Russo, Curriculum Committee Chair):
 - This Committee is charged with reviewing proposals that introduce, revise or terminate undergraduate courses majors or minors in the Arts and Sciences Senate constituencies.
 - Poll result for changing the submission of any syllabus for non-English language courses to the committee for review in English
Passed by 88% Yes

7. Graduate Student Representative regarding students being prioritized for vaccinations (William Thomas – Third year PhD student in Department of Ecology and Evolution):
 - Proposed plan is to identify students, who will teach in the Fall, by April 1st so they would be able to get vaccinated before the start of the semester.
8. [Presenting](#) Institutional purchasing issues affecting teaching and research (Trevor Sears):
 - Faculty discovered they no longer had access to SciFinder database. - A change in vendor for University and Hospital compressed gases happened.
 - Possible loss of MathLab, changing from Blackboard, and recently possible change from Google Apps to Microsoft will impact operation of teaching and research.
 - Comment – S. Fazal – The statewide procurement process has changed this fiscal year and has become much lengthier. Our vendors are aware of that and grant extensions and wait for the payment. In the Library we lost access to SciFinder last week, but a couple of days later got back the access. We will make sure that this won't happen again and get done timely in future.
9. Open Discussion: 1 Year Anniversary of Responding to COVID-19.
10. Old Business: No old business
11. New Business: No new business
12. Adjournment: 4:40 PM