

Report to the University Senate at Stony Brook

UFS 2023 Winter Plenary 1/19/23 – 1/21/23

Senators: Ed Quinn, Nichole Gladky and Brooke Ellison in attendance

Thursday January 19, 2023

Executive Committee Meeting

1. President's Report
 - a. Summarize his report for the Plenary. Mention the search for the chancellor and has met with him. Chancellor focused on four areas: Student Success, DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion), Research and Scholarship, Economic Development and Upward Mobility.
2. VP/Secretary Report
 - a. Reviewed the proposed resolutions and the introduction of a resolution from the floor.
3. Review of Plenary Agenda
 - a. Reviewed the agenda and discussed procedures for bring resolution not submitted ahead of time to the floor for a vote.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Committees reported out on items of note. Program and Awards Committee provided background on the proposed resolution they were bringing forth. Voted on an award for outgoing interim chancellor.
5. Spring Elections
 - a. Election for Senate President at the Spring Plenary. The formation of the nomination committee and a call for nominations. Patrick Doyle from Binghamton will be chairing the committee.

University Center Sector Meeting

1. Discussion of issues to present to the Chancellor
 - a. Share Governance, Structural Changes in Higher Education, Demographic Cliff, The Value of SUNY and AI (Artificial Intelligence) were discussed to present to the chancellor for his perspective.
2. Discussion about Sector description
 - a. Developed a description of the sector to introduce to the chancellor.
3. Discussion about University Centers (Stony Brook and Buffalo) and HSC representation
 - a. Discussed the current representation of senator for the HSCs at Buffalo and Stony Brook. Both the campus and the HSC at each institution should have the same representation as other campuses. HSCs considered as separate campuses.

Friday January 20, 2023

Plenary Meeting

1. President's Report
 - a. Current status of SUNY appointments and searches
 - i. Chancellor appointed
 - ii. Chief Diversity Officer Search completed
 - iii. Search for a new SUNY Provost will start up
 - b. Current Status of Campus Presidential searches
 - i. Buffalo State – President stepping down search in planning stage and choosing a firm
 - ii. Delhi – Discussions underway
 - iii. Oswego – Recruitment underway
 - iv. Poly – Planning stages underway
 - v. Potsdam – Final Candidate to be recommended to the Board of Trustees
 - c. Budget Update
 - i. Slight increase in funding and investment if facilities (Capital Budget) and IT
 - ii. SUNY requested for increase in operating funds, renewal of the \$60 million investment, and significant capital requests
 - iii. UFS requested to fully fund the union contract, robust MOE (maintenance of effort), undo the cuts from the recession, capital funding
 - d. Updates on the projects and initiatives at SUNY which include DEISJ, Prior Learning Assessment, Seamless transfer, Enrollment, Workforce
2. VP/Secretary Report and Resolutions introduced
 - a. Introduced the two resolution to be considered by the senate body on Saturday and reported on an internal resolution from a committee
 - i. http://www.sunyufs.us/uploads/1/1/6/9/116933050/awards_-_resolution_on_conversations_in_the_discipline.pdf
 - ii. Best Practices for Administrative Searches at the Assistant Dean Level and Above
 - iii. "A Resolution Honoring Norm Goodman" It was announced that the Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee passed an internal resolution in honor of Norm Goodman. As an internal committee resolution, no vote was required by the UFS. [Undergrad - Resolution Honoring Norm Goodman \(sunyufs.us\)](#)
3. Reports from SUNY – Budget and Provost *
 - a. Budget Presentation by Josh Sager and Bob Megna – see link below
 - b. Provost in Charge presentation – see link below
4. Chair of BOT (Board of Trustees) comments
 - a. Merryl Tish – introduced the new Chancellor – John King
5. Chancellor's comments and Discussion with Sectors and their issues
 - a. Chancellor had five major points he is working on
 - i. Student Success – Access and retention, preparing students as citizens
 - ii. Diversity Equity and Inclusion – more diversity in students and faculty
 - iii. Research and Scholarship – research in each discipline
 - iv. Economic and Development – upward mobility, prepare workforce and Healthcare sector

- v. Talk with faculty during campus visits
- b. Monthly meetings with UFS President
- c. Faculty to be include in SUNY wide committees/task forces and remind campus President of the importance of shared governance
- d. More resources needed from the Legislature for the campuses
- e. More advertising about what SUNY has to offer
- f. University Sector Meeting Issues (see Sector Report below)
 - i. Share Governance
 - ii. Structural changes
 - iii. Demographic Cliff
- 6. Comments from UUP and other SUNY Governance Bodies
 - a. UUP – Talked about Budget, good relationship with Governor, Legislature, and Chancellor
 - b. Student Assembly – Talked about their structure and Advocacy work
 - c. FCCC – Talked about Merger/Integration and Share governance issue at the SUNY Community Colleges
 - d. CUNY Faculty Senate – Talked about Transfer of credits, Budget, Drop in enrollment, Investments needed and hiring more faculty
- 7. Call for nominees for UFS President – Nomination Committee announce the call for nominees for UFS President
- 8. Presentation from the Ethics Committee – Establishment of a meditation panel

Saturday January 21, 2023

Plenary Meeting (cont.)

- 1) Resolution discussions and voting
 - a) "193-01-1 Restoration of Conversations in the Disciplines Grant Program"
 - i) To request SUNY to reinstate the funding for the Conversations in the Disciplines and the Office of the Provost meet with the UFS Programs and Awards Committee to define the direction of the program.
 - ii) For: 46 / Against: 0
 - b) "193-02-1 Best Practices for Administrative Searches at the Assistant Dean Level and Above"
 - i) This resolution arrived late and required a vote to bring to floor for consideration; The vote for consideration passed
 - ii) To request the SUNY Chancellor to direct and encourage campus presidents to publish guidelines, include governance representation on search committees, and for SUNY to archive guidelines for best practice referral.
 - iii) A vote was held and passed to move this resolution back to the UFS Operations committee.
- 2) Election Committee with another call for nominations and deadlines for submissions
 - a) Nominations due by March 8, 2023 to the Nominations Committee Chair, Patrick Doyle (pdoyle@binghamton.edu).

*Budget Presentation Link: http://www.sunyufs.us/uploads/1/1/6/9/116933050/193_budget_update.pdf

*Provost Presentation Link: http://www.sunyufs.us/uploads/1/1/6/9/116933050/193_provost_report.pdf

University Sector Report – 2023 Winter Plenary

Thursday, January 19, 2023

In our sector the discussions focused on three main topics.

1. Description of the Sector for the new Chancellor
2. Ongoing Issues to present to the Chancellor and get his thoughts on them
3. Representation from University at Buffalo and Stony Brook University and the HSCs

University Centers Sector Description

This sector consists of the Senators from the four University Centers in SUNY, University at Albany, Binghamton University, University at Buffalo, and Stony Brook University. Each Senator is elected by their respective campus. The Senators discuss current issues/concerns that the campus' may be facing, as well public higher education. These issues are typically presented at each plenary to the SUNY Chancellor and result in a question-and-answer segment leading to a discussion of the issues/concerns. The Senators can also present the issues/concerns in the form of a resolution to the entire University Faculty Senate. The Senators meet a minimum three times a year at each Plenary and communicate by email between the Plenaries.

Ongoing Issues for the Chancellor

1. **Shared Governance** -This is an issue that we have raised both here at the UFS Plenary and at individual campus on how to make it work. We would like to know your perspective on shared governance and how as chancellor would promote it.
 - **Chancellor's Response**
 - It's important in decision making to include faculty
 - He will be meeting monthly with the President of UFS
 - Faculty to be included in statewide committees and task forces
 - As Chancellor he will remind campus presidents of the importance of shared governance
2. **Structural Changes in Higher Education** – the COVID pandemic has had a major impact on higher education. It exposed many of the inequalities that existed such as: differential treatment of students based on their background, closed access to knowledge and research results, and lack of access to the basic requirements of digitalized higher education such as devices, internet access, and electricity. What changes/strategies do believe need to done to address these and other inequalities?
 - **Chancellor's Response**
 - SUNY needs to advertise to students what services are available to them, using the EOP program as a model
 - SUNY needs to convince legislators to invest in SUNY to improve access and resources for students

- More resources are need for off campus transportation for students
3. **Demographic Cliff** – You read about this term in reference to higher education. What’s your perspective on this prediction? And how, if at all, will it affect public higher education in New York?
 - **Chancellor’s Response**
 - Yes, there is that demographic cliff due to less 18-24-year old and the impact of COVID where they pursued other options
 - To help mitigate this impact SUNY will need to recruit from out of state, advertise more about SUNY and what’s available and retain the student once recruited
 4. **The Value of SUNY** – What do you see the value of SUNY for New Yorkers? And how can we work together to promote public Higher Education in New York?
 5. **AI** – How do see this changing SUNY and it mission through the machine interaction and large amounts of research funding?

We were able to ask the chancellor’s perspective on the first three items during the time allotted for our sector

Additional Discussion during the sector meeting

Representation from University at Buffalo and Stony Brook University and the HSCs

Our discussion centered around the two HSCs at Buffalo and Stony Brook should be consider as separate campuses and as such should have representation as describe in the by-laws. Currently each of these two HSCs have 1 senator even though they have enough faculty and staff to have more than 1 senator to represent them. Physically they are separate campus and the BOT (Board of Trustees) Policies consider them separate unit operating under the administrations of the academic campuses. It was decided to contact the HSC Sector Rep to discuss this topic before the Spring Plenary.