



Stony Brook University

Arts & Sciences Senate Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2025
12:00PM - 1:30PM
Virtual Meeting

- Call To Order at 12:00am.
- Acceptance of the Agenda
The motion to accept the agenda is carried.
- Approval of September 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes
The approval of the minutes is carried.
- Opening Remarks & Welcome (J. Torre):
 - Welcomed everyone to the A&S Senate meeting.
 - Acknowledged the success of the recent Libraries food drive and encouraged ongoing support for both campus and community food pantries.
 - In the Spring 2026 meeting time notification, professional staff supervisors will be reminded that Senate participation is not to be considered a lunch period and should make appropriate time adjustments for participating employees.
 - Mentioned Arts and Sciences Executive Committee will engage with administration regarding smoking policy and related student conduct issues near the library.
- Report from Provost, C. Lejuez
 - Discussed enrollment strategies, noting Stony Brook's current size of 18,000-19,000 undergraduates and plans to grow by about 200 students annually.
 - Emphasized the importance of thoughtful growth and maintaining a mix of 15-30% out-of-state students to generate additional funding.
 - Highlighted recent state funding of \$300 million for a quantum information science hub, which will support research and infrastructure development.
 - Outlined SUNY initiatives including the Academic Momentum Campaign, which aims to improve retention and graduation rates, and discussed the importance of maintaining Stony Brook's autonomy while participating in system-wide efforts.

- Emphasized the importance of coordinating curricular and extracurricular support systems and mentioned that the Student Support Office has been valuable for students but could be better integrated into faculty and staff awareness.
- Explained the evolution of campus space allocation, noting that recent funds have primarily gone to critical maintenance rather than renovation due to the Facilities Master Plan's ongoing development.
- Emphasized that space matters will become more important as the university moves toward a new budget model.
- Discussed the General Education Advisory Committee (GIAC) which is working to integrate civic discourse into general education requirements. H. Nekvasil is set to present the civic discourse statement to the Undergraduate Council.
- Will discuss how interested faculty can get involved in the GIAC committee work on civic discourse.
- Will invite International Student Success Office representatives to present to the Senate about their services.
- Will ensure Space Planning Committee becomes more active in spring as budget model work progresses and Facilities Master Plan moves forward.
- Will work to fully understand Google AI partnership resources and ensure university agency is maintained.

Q&A/Comments:

- Senator: Raised concerns about SUNY's one-size-fits-all funding approach.
- Senator: Discussed the need for a more embedded global strategy within the classroom.
 - Answer: Agreed to think about ways to build it out
- Senator: Inquired about the Quantum Center building plan and suggested to involve the Environment Committee in the planning process to ensure environmentally responsible development.
 - Answer: Explained that it is still in the early stages, with plans to form a committee involving faculty and staff to guide the project. Also agreed with the suggestion to involve the Environment Committee in the planning process to ensure environmentally responsible development.

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● Old Business:

- [Resolution 2025-06 Resolution Supporting Diverse Forms of Scholarship for Tenure and Promotion](#) (3rd Reading & Vote)
 - Vote: Passed by 94% of the votes.
- [2025 PTC Guidelines Revision Review - Expedited Review](#) (2nd Reading & Vote)
 - Vote: Passed by 88% of the votes.
- [2025 Arts & Sciences Senate Bylaws Amendment](#) (2nd Reading & Vote)
 - Vote: Passed by 91% of the votes.

● New Business:

- Spring 2026 Meeting Time Change Proposal (Discussion and Voting):

- The Senate discussed changing its meeting time for Spring 2026 to 12:30-1:50 PM.
Vote: Passed by 97% of the votes.
- Open Discussion: How can we strengthen shared governance and better support participation?
 - Strengthening shared governance and improving communication between faculty and administration was discussed.
 - Several senators expressed concerns about transparency and engagement in decision-making processes:
 - Senator: Mentioned decision making about students in violation of the non-smoking campus policy.
 - Senator: Discussed the response to suggestions for how we could make this campus safer for those who felt under attack with the incursion of ICE. Also, strongly discouraged to have town halls with prepackaged bullet points, where we're a passive audience.
 - Senator: Asked about better communication and transparency from the administration side.
 - Senator: Asked, now that faculty senates are more important than ever, what can be done to dramatize to our colleagues how important this work is, and how important it is to sustain an institution that has meant a faculty voice for the entire existence of SUNY.
 - Senator: We need to find ways to organize and relay what needs to be fixed, which in my mind is the role of shared governance, and put our hand out to engage and lift some of the load.
- Adjournment at 1:33pm.