

University Senate Student Life Committee

**2019 - 2020 Annual Report (as of May 30, 2020)**

**Membership:**

- Chair: Steven Adelson
- Humanities and Fine Arts: Benjamin Tausig
- Social and Behavioral Sciences: Norman Goodman
- Natural Sciences: N/A
- Library: Clara Tran
- College of Engineering: Peter Caprariello (Gary Sherman, Fall 2019)
- Health Sciences Center: Deborah Firestone
- Professional: Steven Adelson
- Ex Officio: Amanda Alicea, Justas Klimavicius (on behalf of Van Sullivan, Faculty Student Association)
- Graduate Students (3): Anand Aiyer, Ida Nikou, Jordan Young
- Undergraduate Students (5): Grisell Ovalles, Justin Ullman, Marcia-Ruth Ndege, Peony Tse, Syeda Hasan
- Cognate Administrators:
  - Richard Gatteau, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
  - Jeffrey Barnett, Interim Associate Dean of Students
- Executive Committee Liaison: Norman Goodman

**Meeting Summaries:**

August 27, 2019 - At the committee's first meeting of the academic year, the committee discussed some initial priorities for the semester, including campus dining, technology access in the residence halls and apartments, civic and voter engagement, senior administration transitions, student support beyond the first year, and campus signage and parking. The committee's first meeting included a large number of undergraduate and graduate students who contributed to the initial priorities discussion.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's August 27, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fwY9oWX0u9tHPgRTJPXt2TTgNE2tFAh0ugTzM3bwCcM/edit?usp=sharing>

September 3, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Richard Gatteau, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, about Student Affairs updates. Focused on the Division's strategic plan, this included highlights from four themes: student safety, health, and wellness; quality of student life; student experiential learning and development, and; student success. Committee members asked about strengthening students' sense of belonging on campus and for updates about the previously proposed Career and Alumni Fee.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's September 3, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HD8IPL1qZuHTcb7NPnsuEgilsK43vNSyaNF8T14BXw/edit?usp=sharing>

September 17, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Jeffrey Barnett, Interim Associate Dean of Students, about the Stony Brook Union renovation project. This included an overview of the project, campus units that will transition in and out of the Stony Brook Union, new opportunities the project offers to benefit students, and feedback and ideas for branding the facility. Committee members asked about parking near the Stony Brook Union (and parking in general) and the allocation of spaces vacated by campus units that will transition into the Stony Brook Union.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's September 17, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xBINec9S0wCu31-VFN9Ozi-3PY0MW75zroLKFArmsUM/edit?usp=sharing>

October 8, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Van Sullivan, Executive Director of the Faculty Student Association, about updates from campus dining and other auxiliary services. This included an overview of the association's branding approach, updates to the Shop Rest campus stores, updates to campus dining, and other programmatic initiatives. Committee members asked about discrepancies in meal plan pricing and value, the Amazon pick-up location, and a few ongoing campus dining projects happening throughout the campus community.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's October 8, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AI0pd9IeXspFW7At9dVa-dikIMsRptfwVhsMOPXefkk/edit?usp=sharing>

October 29, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Shafeek Fazal, Interim Dean of the University Libraries, about updates from University Libraries. This included an overview of library space and resource usage, programmatic initiatives with collaboration with campus partners, contract negotiations with Elsevier, and student professional development opportunities. Committee members asked about intra and inter-library loan systems, inability to access select digital materials, and expanding use of open access resources.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's October 29, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KqxiiNGAftipFbX6\\_gmp5TileEG312PCmQst5ALV4AY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KqxiiNGAftipFbX6_gmp5TileEG312PCmQst5ALV4AY/edit?usp=sharing)

November 19, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Kathleen Byington, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, about financial, administrative, and facilities operations updates. This included an overview of the institution's financial position, current five-year major facilities projects, the academic impact (specifically, logistics) of projects, and expanding residential housing capacity. Committee members asked about the P3 project and supply and demand for residential housing, consultant visit for parking and transportation needs, and institution sustainability initiatives.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's November 19, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ds2awzLIZuoifOcnKi7JvVODgvFu71mFnPZgE8HgUYo/edit?usp=sharing>

December 3, 2019 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Alan deVries, Director of Campus Residences for Housing Administration, about current and future Campus Residences projects, supply of and demand for residential housing, and changes to the room change and room swap processes for students. The committee will discuss the rent rate review process at a later date. Committee members asked about the residential housing waiting list process, cost difference for temporary triple occupancy rooms, and planning for the P3 project (referred to previous meeting notes).

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's December 3, 2019 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZdFCCTrnQQ45OMMoaul9nectOYZKqYyC1gw7175V0s/edit?usp=sharing>

February 4, 2020 - At the committee's first meeting of the semester, Richard Gatteau, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, led a discussion about Student Affairs updates. Discussion included: the Stony Brook Union renovation project, other major facilities projects, the Student Emergency Support Fund (SESF), and the Council for Campus Activities. The committee also discussed some initial priorities for the semester. Committee members asked about the SESF applying to graduate students and graduate lounge space as part of the reallocation of vacated spaces.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's February 4, 2020 meeting can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ts-kJlDwc1ORuEV8tNsMWN64Y7Ww-fPegYduAQcF9Aw/edit?usp=sharing>

February 18, 2020 - This meeting focused on discussion led by the Department of Student Engagement & Activities Team (SEA) about their operations and current and future opportunities. This included student services provided, student engagement online and at events, student clubs and organizations, fraternity and sorority life, programs and traditions, and new opportunities including Broadway show trips. Committee members asked about executive board student organization workshops, access to opportunities, and the growth and potential of SEA moving forward.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's February 18, 2020 meeting can be accessed here:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y\\_9rtfMhVCAJVbrR02CAQdhPQFbmYxz-XWlQI6ABFSA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y_9rtfMhVCAJVbrR02CAQdhPQFbmYxz-XWlQI6ABFSA/edit?usp=sharing)

March 3, 2020 - This meeting focused on discussion led by Melissa Hogarty, Assistant Director of Business, about broad based fees updates. This included an overview of the past academic year's broad based fees, the purposes of each fee, comparison of fees to peer institutions, the current fee review process, and updates for the Career and Alumni Fee. Committee members asked about consultation as part of the fee review process, student involvement in these review processes, concerns about services relying upon a fee-based model, and having discussions about the fees at the start of each year. The committee also discussed a recent concern about the possibility of more courses being scheduled during Campus Lifetime in recent years, and the committee agreed to look into this further.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's March 3, 2020 meeting can be accessed here:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EwoYtjUJB\\_GAhIboWaJQvPZngrF0DcyZlw8ama3e4fU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EwoYtjUJB_GAhIboWaJQvPZngrF0DcyZlw8ama3e4fU/edit?usp=sharing)

April 7, 2020 - This meeting focused on discussion about the current state of student life due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. This included an overview of the transition to a virtual model (offices, student programming and events), additional resources for student and student clubs and organizations, and updates about the response from each unit within Student Life. The committee also discussed student participation in the upcoming New York Primary Elections and campus support offered. Committee members asked about student concerns with attending synchronous classes, student financial crises, student technology issues, the GPNC option, and commencement ceremonies.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's April 7, 2020 meeting can be accessed here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mlb6WX9b-XnTTK6gZqWMtIUBFPT4djp2pg6Fx\\_TEt-0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mlb6WX9b-XnTTK6gZqWMtIUBFPT4djp2pg6Fx_TEt-0/edit?usp=sharing)

May 5, 2020 - This meeting focused on continued discussion about the current state of student life due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. This included the accessibility of student services and planning for the summer and fall semesters. The committee also reflected upon the committee's work throughout the 2019-2020 academic year. Committee members asked about student support for transitioning to remote instruction, assessing the technology needs of incoming students, different options for a fall semester opening, and access to summer experiential learning opportunities for students.

Complete agenda and minutes from committee's May 5, 2020 meeting can be accessed here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v9aKJYe8DdK9XkN2SQwd48t\\_RdTq2iCW5dgiDfZr-IA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v9aKJYe8DdK9XkN2SQwd48t_RdTq2iCW5dgiDfZr-IA/edit?usp=sharing)

The committee is prepared to meet during the upcoming summer months in order to discuss updates about the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on planning for the fall semester and student life. An initial meeting has been scheduled for July 7, 2020.

### **Meeting Agendas and Minutes:**

Meeting agendas and minutes for the 2019-2020 University Senate Student Life Committee can be accessed here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WpXPsfNfGI5qXrnlwzFP7TL8Pgdfng67?usp=sharing>