



Stony Brook University

Professional Employees
Governance Board

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
10:00–11:00 AM

Online, Zoom

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/98624199640?pwd=ywMawkOTItiaM58rhHpolySxX3NSLk.1>

Meeting ID: 986 2419 9640

Passcode: 620428

Professional Employees Governance Board Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order - Michael Boerner called the meeting to order.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda - Motion to accept the agenda (Tracy), seconded (David).
a. Please request any additions to New Business before this vote

3. Approval of Minutes - March 11, 2025 - Motion to approve the minutes (Sarah), seconded (David)

Michael welcomed and introduced Brenda Anderson, University Senate president who will speak about the recent University Senate plenary. Michael commented that as we transition to a professional staff senate we will need to meet more frequently (monthly). Meeting more frequently will allow us to becoming more involved in matters happening at the state level. Pam and Brenda were invited to report on recent resolutions as well as the chancellor's remarks.

4. Reports of Officers and Representatives

a. Co-Chairs

- i. Michael Boerner (West) expressed thanks to everyone in PEG for their hard work filling seats and stepping up to participate in shared governance this year.
- ii. Glen Itzkowitz (East) echoed Michaels thanks to the PEG members and also thanks to Michael for his leadership, diligence and hard work this year.

b. SUNY University Faculty Senate Plenary report - Pamela Wolfskill and Brenda Anderson to report on:

i. [Resolutions](#)

ii. Chancellor King's remarks

Pam:

- There were 9 resolutions (more than usual) at the plenary this year
- Many were related to how we are responding to the current presidential administration's actions that are impacting students
- One that came out of Binghamton, (of particular interest to PEG), was a request for increased professional involvement in presidential searches.
- One called for the creation of a SUNY-wide coalition to "defend, protect and advance the foundational principles of New York State and U.S. Higher Education, similarly to the litigating coalition created by Rutgers with the big ten universities.

Pam called on Brenda Anderson to weigh in:

- Brenda reported that the chancellor's strategy is "litigate, legislate, educate". The state attorney general Letitia James has already established a coalition of attorneys general that are litigating and through the budget process SUNY is legislating.

Pam shared her experience at the plenary:

- There were discussions in small groups regarding multiple messages coming from different stakeholders: SUNY Chancellor, University Presidents, UUP, etc., and the importance of a unified voice for SUNY.
- The chancellor expressed that the governor will not be providing state funding to offset federal cuts to programs like the student loan forgiveness program which is being dismantled. However, the SUNY budget is strong and salary increases are fully funded.

In response to a question posed in the chat, Pam and Brenda explained that the third part of the chancellor's strategy "educate" is related to impacting the public's perception of funding for research and higher education, citing examples of colleagues who have lost their funding for crucial long term research projects. The emphasized the role that PEG members can play by sharing this with people you know and communicating concerns to elected representatives about cuts to funding.

Dave Ecker asked if we could make a motion to approve the Binghamton resolution regarding presidential searches. A discussion followed in which it was determined that the language needed to be formalized and that people should be given the opportunity to read and review the formal resolution at the June or July meeting.

Pam shared final comments regarding the chancellor's remarks:

- Chancellor is closely monitoring the budget allocation that will cover salary increases
- UUP and the Senate can work together to support our new contract. UUP has asked for input via email.
- We (SUNY) are not going to preemptively do the work of the federal administration particularly as it relates to DIV initiatives.

Rosalia reported concerning cuts to parent grants that support programs within the CIE and concerns that the university will not be able to bridge the funding gap that these cuts present. A number of chat messages and a brief discussion followed with PEG board members sharing additional examples of cuts to funding, changes in language and titles, etc.,

Michael asked that folks please share these examples directly with the co-chairs who have a weekly audience with the executive committee and regular meetings with the provost and president. Michael reported that there is advocacy happening behind the scenes and Brenda reemphasized the chancellor's commitment to DIV as part of the mission of SUNY.

c. University Senate and A&S Senate standing committee reports

- Michael - CAPRA - Primary concern is the new budget model. Not a lot of updates. It's been pushed back another year.
- Tiffany - Environmental Committee is working on bringing awareness to tree removal on campus without approval/buy in, impact studies. There is a petition circulating requiring senate approval prior to tree removal. A discussion followed where Michael shared that the executive committee has had similar experiences with building on campus (lack of oversight/input from the U senate). Glen expressed concerns about the loss of trees and the impacts that can have on campus flooding, which has been a constant issue. A meeting with Bill Hermann is warranted and Glen would like to attend.
- Phil - Library Committee - most of our discussions are about the budget and how to address the shortfalls (potentially through additional fees). We are going to start seeing students and faculty having to go elsewhere for research materials. Provost offers additional funding but it's not enough. Cost of journal subscriptions has increased exponentially.

(In the interest of time Michael asks that we limit discussion and just allow for committee reports. Folks can reach out to the chairs via email comments or questions.)

- Mandy - Quality of Life Committee - There are 2 of us who were elected but we haven't met and haven't been tasked with anything. Have asked that our

terms be extended. If other folks are experiencing this with senate committee positions, reach out to PEG cochairs.

- ByLaws Committee - Michael asked Brenda if there was outreach to those folks about meeting/getting started. (No).

d. UUP reports

i. Stony Brook Center - Louise:

- Congratulated Michael (and others) on election as officers and delegates and expressed thanks to Michael, Glen, Brenda and Pam.
- UUP is soliciting contract ideas in the happy pay day email up until negotiations begin.
- There are IDA funds leftover from Spring that will rollover into Fall and expressed thanks to Jason Torre, the IDA committee, and labor relations for their work.
- UUP is now on Bluesky. Please follow and stay connected. There are a number of upcoming events and meetings for members to attend.

ii. Stony Brook HSC - Bruce

- UUP East campus is soliciting information from members regarding Pls, faculty, and staff that are impacted by NIH cuts to prepare for litigation.
- Congratulations to Louise and Glen and other newly elected UUP representatives.
- Executive board meeting is coming up as well as a few other events.

5. Special Orders (n/a)

6. Unfinished Business (n/a)

7. New Business

a. Federal funding and impact on SBU -

- Michael asked Bruce to please share the UUP call for information related to NIH cuts so he can share it out.

b. PEG East Campus Co-Chair Election -

- Michael: There have been no additional nominations for this position so Glen is the only candidate. He called for a motion to elect by unanimous consent. (Bruce - so moved, Dave, seconded). Glen is re-elected.

c. Review and discussion of draft Professional Staff Senate governance documents: Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Operating Procedures

- Michael: We will continue to hammer out the draft governance documents and have those out before our next meeting. We'll be in touch for that as well.

Meeting adjourned.

Helpful links:

PEG Bylaws: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/pegboard/bylaws.php>

PEG Constitution: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/pegboard/constitution.php>

PEG Membership: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/pegboard/Membership.php>

In Attendance

Theresa Spadola	Avrum Musetti
Wesam Hassanin	Amanda Flanagan
Michael Boerner	David Ecker
Keri Hollander	Philip Doesschate
Tracey Iorio	Tiffany Friedman
Chris Bill	Diane Bello
Sarah Battaglia	Louise Melious (guest)
Faith Matranga	Rosalia Davi
Richard Tomczak	Amy Prokop
Erica Hackley	Bruce Kube
Pamela Wolfskill	Odalys Hernandez
Anthony Italiano (guest)	Glen Itzkowitz
Dominique Barone	Catherine Gropper
Kaitlin Giglio	Sarah Battaglia
Brenda Anderson (guest)	Martha Zadok
Kimberly Bell	