

Student Life Committee 10/9- Present

Richard Gatteau, Xian Bak, Amy Prokop, Deb Klein, Debbie Dejong, Ehab Al Bizri
[SBM]

Hedieh Yazdanseta, Lisa-Beth Platania, Robin DeLuca-Acconi

- Opening of student affairs in HSC-
 - Grand opening- November 17
 - Student life suite- 2 staff members-
 - understand needs in area clubs and organizations
 - career center hours
 - SASC testing resources- SASC person there
 - CAPS by appointment
 - Create possible lounge in Red Shop West
- Will have search for student life person for Grad students
- Hiring- Student engagement and strategist - connect to resources from Pulse survey
- Southampton advisory council- connect campus experiences- elevating their experience there
- Seawolf Surge- "Spirit group" building student excitement throughout campus
- Lower level the union- next to interfaith center- Karaoke room-disco lights and TV and sound system- complement to game room - student art gallery, student pantry-
- SUNY goal- system wide to improve retention and graduation rate- SBU has hit an all time high at 66 percent within 4 years

- 90 percent at 1st year to sophomore rate- HS GPA below 90- lowest retain group- men drop out at higher rate- out of state- not strong in math more likely
- What can we do to help improve student life? Find community and friends?
- College of Engineering- expand weeks of welcome Areas of Interest groups-
 - (for SB) able to connect with staff and faculty -
- Look at AOI as a way to create community
- Pulse survey- highest level of satisfaction since began 3 years ago- qualitative comments are positive- more responsive

Student Life November 13

Riccardo McClendon, Xian Bak, Debbie Dejong, Amy Prokop, Ehab Al Bizri [SBM], Hedieh Yazdanseta
 Lisa-Beth Platania, Robin DeLuca-Acconi Yifan Zhou

Seawolf Pantry Support During Government Shutdown

- Discussion about campus response to support the Seawolf Pantry when SNAP benefits were temporarily affected by the government shutdown
- The Seawolf Pantry received increased support and donations during the government shutdown, with multiple food drives organized across campus

HSC Student Affairs and Student Space

- Student Affairs will have a grand opening at HSC on November 17th
- Plans are underway to transform the former ShopRed East space into a student social space at HSC

Student Retention and Graduation Rates

- Athletics has a 92% graduation success rate and 991/1000 academic progress rate

Pulse Survey Discussion

- The Pulse Survey only receives about 4% student response rate

Fun and Community!

- The karaoke room in the Stony Brook Union is now ready for use

Meeting Date: December 18, 2025

Richard Gatteau, Xian Bak, Amy Prokop, David Ecker, Ehab Al Bizri [SBM]
Robin DeLuca-Acconi

Housing & Infrastructure Updates

- Residential Projects: The committee received updates on Seawolves Village, noting that completion is delayed and will not be ready for the Fall 2026 term.
- Long-Term Expansion: Groundbreaking has occurred at Tabler for a new facility expected in Spring 2028. Additionally, plans are being developed for a Public-Private Partnership (P3) project to add 1,000 beds by Fall 2029.
- Housing Policy: Current housing availability remains tied to enrollment trends. While the university retains the right to implement a residency radius for first-year students if necessary, the current goal is to offer housing to as many first-year students as possible without implementing such restrictions.
- Graduate Housing: Chapin Apartments continues to serve as a resource for elevating specific housing issues.

Academic & Global Initiatives

- Online Learning: Discussion focused on the President's interest in reintegrating fully online majors into the university's long-term strategic planning.
- Student Connection: A key priority is balancing online academic growth with maintaining a strong sense of community and connection to Stony Brook for all students.
- Experiential & International Growth: The committee is exploring the return of robust study abroad programs, the integration of experiential learning into the curriculum, and potential collaborations with international universities.

Campus Improvements & Impact Funding

- Fast Impact Fund: The President has announced a one-time fund for equipment, renovations, and technology projects (up to \$300,000 each) that provide immediate positive campus impact.
- Student Affairs Proposals: The department is brainstorming proposals for this fund, including mobile equipment for outdoor events and enhancements to student social spaces.
- East Campus Enhancements: Updates were provided on the "Show Red East" initiative, which includes the development of a Student Life office and social spaces within the Health Sciences Center (HSC).

Student Engagement & Safety

- **Athletics & Involvement:** Efforts are underway to better connect student organizations with Athletics to increase student presence and performance opportunities at university games.
- **Campus Access:** Discussions are ongoing regarding streamlining access protocols for students and employees between West Campus and the HSC.
- **Campus Safety:** The University Police Department (UPD) continues to offer "Run, Hide, Fight" training. The committee discussed the importance of these protocols in light of recent incidents at other institutions.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2026, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM (SAC 223)