

**University Faculty Senate
Student Life Committee
Amy Rosen-Brand
186th Spring Plenary
October 15-17, 2020
Host: SUNY UFS VIRTUAL PLENARY
Meeting Location: ZOOM MEETING**

Committee Charge

The Committee will be concerned with significant educational, developmental, social, cultural and recreational policies, programs, issues and services that affect the quality of student life and the campus environment of the State University of New York.

Committee Members 2020-2021

ufsstl-l@ls.sysadm.suny.edu			
Last Name	First Name	Email	Title
Clark-Benavides	Evelyn	evelyn.benavides@oswego.edu	
Efimenko	Aron	efimenaj@morrisville.edu	
Grau	Monica	monica.grau@oneonta.edu	
Griffin-Jenkins	Candi	candi.griffin-jenkins@suny.edu	System Liaison
Hoose	Margaret	hoosema@morrisville.edu	System Liaison
Johnston	Wendy	johnstonw@sunyacc.edu	FCCC Liaison
Kurkjian	Nazely	nazely.kurkjian@suny.edu	System Liaison
Lima	Maria Helena	lima@geneseo.edu	
Maldonado	Heather	maldonhd@buffalostate.edu	
McGuire	Mary	mary.mcguire@cortland.edu	
Narula	Rajiv	narular@canton.edu	
Pagpatan	Vikram	vikram.pagpatan@downstate.edu	
Rosen-Brand	Amy	rosenba@buffalostate.edu	Chair

Summary of Committee Actions since the Spring 2020 Plenary

There are multiple areas where we are continuing to focus our energy. Much of our work is impacted by the pandemic. We extensively discussed our experiences and concerns relative to COVID impact during the fall planning meeting. We decided to move forward this academic year on the following areas:

1. We continue to explore the issue of religious/spiritual spaces on SUNY campuses. We are working with SUNY System Administration on gathering information about the current status all SUNY campuses. How many campuses already have dedicated space for religious/spiritual use? We have a dedicated subcommittee focusing on this issue and work on this will be ongoing.

From the campuses which have the space in place, we need to know the following:

- Size of the space
- Responsibility for cleaning of the space
- Security of the space
- Reservation system of the space
- Tracking of usage of the space
- Management of the space
- What challenges have developed from usage of the space

The data will be gathered from:

- University Centers
- University Colleges
- Technology Colleges
- Community Colleges

Based on the data we continue to obtain, we will explore the need to develop and administer a survey to all 64 campuses.

The Student Life committee supports consistency in the provision and availability of this type of space dedicated to the religious/spiritual use of SUNY students and the campus community. We envision non-denomination space which has storage space for religious texts/prayer

materials needed for religious observance, should that be the need of the person/group reserving the time/space. We envision space for quiet reflection and meditation. We think that students would greatly benefit from being able to incorporate religious/spiritual observance during the course of the academic day. Ultimately, the goal of the space is for student use, but anyone from the campus community could also enjoy the availability of the space.

We have a subcommittee focusing on moving this issue forward.

2. SUNY Old Westbury's College Senate passed a resolution to change campus use of the word "freshmen" and any related derivatives to "first year student" and other similar language to more accurately describe the diverse student body. Our committee is looking at this now and seems to support it. We are determining how many SUNY campuses have "first year student" wording currently. We also wish to have input from the Student Assembly as to support. SA participation is in flux currently due to pandemic and change in leadership. This matter remains pending.

3. We are considering development of a resolution to mirror an anticipated winter FCCC resolution on state funding of campus childcare centers. We are exploring bringing this forward as a spring 2021 resolution for consideration. The timing of the resolution should be made relative to the established state budget process. We have a subcommittee ready to work on this issue should more extensive examination be needed.

4. Additionally, we are participating in the following UFS subcommittees:

Pandemic Committee: This committee will examine impacts of the pandemic on campuses, from student life to course delivery, from shared governance to accessibility, from research to communication.

Black Lives Matter Committee:

This committee will consider the ethical, curricular, operational and student implications of Black Lives Matter.

University Police

This committee will review and suggest the appropriate role for University Police. In particular, questions of when the police versus other entities (student services, human resources) might be deployed.