

**University Faculty Senate
Student Life Committee
Amy Rosen-Brand
End of Year Report
June 4, 2020**

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 2019-2020

Member	Campus	Email
---------------	---------------	--------------

Efinmenko, Aron	Morrisville	efirrenaj@MORRISVILLE.EDU
Goodman, Norman	STONYBROOK	norman.goodman@STONYBROOK.EDU
Graham, John	SUNY ADM	john.graham@SU NY. EDU
Grau, Monica	CORTLAND	monica.grau@ONEONTA.EDU
Hoose, Margaret	Morrisville	hoosema@MORRISVILLE.EDU
Johnston, Wendy	FCCC	johnstonw@SUNYACC.EDU
Kay, Gwen	SUNY UFS	gwen.kay@SUNY.EDU
Landa, Keith	SUNY UFS	keith.landa@PUROHASE.EDU
Lesser, Mark	PLATTSBURGH	mless004@PLATTSBURGH.EDU
McGuire, Mary	CORTLAND	mary.mcguire@CORTLAND.EDU
Narula, Rajiv	CANTON	nairular@CANTON.EDU
Ostro, Austin	SUNYSA	austin.ostro@SUNYSA.ORG
Pagatpan, Vikram	DOWNSTATE	Vikram.Pagatpan@DOWNSTATE.EDU
Redinger, Jennifer	SUNY UFS	facultySenate@SUNY.EDU
Rosen-Brand, Amy	BUFFALO STATE	rosenba@BUFFALOSTATE.EDU
Trybula, Jan	POSTDAM	trybulj@POTSDAM.EDU
Wentworth, Leah	SUNY ADM	leah.wentworth@SUNY.EDU

The committee met one time in person at the fall planning meeting and then 3 times per semester virtually. The committee members were involved and committed to our charge.

Summary of Committee Actions for the Academic Year

There are three main areas where we have been focusing our energy.

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?

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 at a later time, post pandemic. After initial canvassing, many campuses have on site or nearby space available for students.

Post pandemic, 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. Post pandemic social distancing, mask wearing, and hand sanitizing protocols may be put in place. Some protocols taken during this time are also likely to carry on, for example, providing deep cleaning and cleaning supplies, tissues, waste cans, online registration only for room use and key card access only.

We have asked the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Committee to collaborate. We will share the survey data we obtain. A future resolution may be needed to move this issue forward.

2. SUNY Old Westbury's College Senate recently 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 want to have more input from the Student Assembly as to support. From our canvassing, we learned that most SUNY campuses use language "first year" versus freshman: The use of "First Year" student is predominantly used at the state operated institutions.

We anticipate a resolution on this issue for a future plenary.

3. We continue to consider development of a resolution to mirror an FCCC resolution on state funding of campus childcare centers. We are exploring bringing this forward as a fall resolution for consideration. The timing of the resolution should be made relative to the established state budget process.

Additionally, we anticipate participation in multi committee involvement relative to post COVID 19 impact assessment efforts.