

**University Faculty Senate
Graduate Academic Programs and Research Committee
Martin Kaczocha
184th Winter Plenary at University at Albany
January 16-18, 2020**

Committee Charge

The Committee serves as a source of professional advice and guidance to the Senate on matters relating to the quality, operation, and encouragement of graduate programs and research. To these ends, the committee may be concerned with the procedures, criteria, and support of existing and new graduate programs within the University. The Committee may review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and graduate studies and other matters involving support and furtherance of research and graduate studies within the University.

Committee Members 2019-2020

Member	Campus	Email
Martin Kaczocha (Chair)	Stony Brook	martin.kaczocha@stonybrook.edu
M. Scott Goodman	Buffalo State	goodmams@buffalostate.edu
Asif Ahmed	SUNY Polytechnic	asif.ahmed@sunypoly.edu
Eric Eisenbraun	SUNY Polytechnic	eeisenbraun@sunypoly.edu
Elizabeth Bradley	Empire State College	elizabeth.bradley@esc.edu
Michael Figuccio	Farmingdale	figuccm@farmingdale.edu
Lee Graham	Oneonta	grahamml@oneonta.edu
Jennifer Rosseland-Bates	University at Buffalo	jmr1@buffalo.edu
Katherine Thweatt	Oswego	katherine.thweatt@oswego.edu
Laura Martello-Rooney	Downstate Health Sciences	laura.martello-rooney@downstate.edu
Samir Haj-Dahmane	University at Buffalo	sh38@buffalo.edu
Sergios-Orestis Kolokotronis	Downstate Health Sciences	sok@downstate.edu

Research Foundation Liaison

Kathleen Caggiano-Siino	Research Foundation	kathleen.caggiano-siino@rfsuny.org
-------------------------	---------------------	------------------------------------

SUNY Staff Liaisons

Ann Hawkins	SUNY Admin	ann.hawkins@suny.edu
-------------	------------	----------------------

Student Liaison

James Vassallo	Stony Brook	james.vassallo@stonybrook.edu
----------------	-------------	-------------------------------

Summary of Committee Actions since Fall Plenary

- Graduate Student Showcase at the Legislative Office Building.
 - The graduate student showcase will be held on February 7th 2020. The topic for the upcoming showcase is “Artificial Intelligence, Data Misuse, and Deepfakes”. The committee has identified four graduate students who have agreed to present their research to legislative aides. The students are: Yuezun Li from the University at Albany who will present on “Detecting AI-Synthesized Fake Faces”, Charuta Pethe from Stony Brook University who

will present on “Identifying a subject's most characteristic tweets”, Ehab AlBadawy from University at Albany who will present on “Detecting AI-Synthesized Speech In Real-World Scenarios”, and Shirin Feiz Disfani from Stony Brook University who will present on “Empowering Blind People to Independently Fill-out Paper Forms”. The students will also undergo training at the Alda Center for Communicating Science in Stony Brook University.

- Chancellor’s Graduate Research Scholarship.
 - The SUNY Chancellor’s Graduate Research Scholarship was launched last year with the intended goal of rewarding graduate students who successfully compete for national fellowships and continue their graduate studies within SUNY. The committee has noted that the Scholarship has not been widely advertised and is working on identifying mechanisms to more effectively disseminate such information to graduate program directors and graduate students. The committee is also soliciting input from Susan Brennan (Stony Brook University) about the possibility of developing and deploying SUNY-wide grant writing seminars to aid students in submitting competitive proposals.
- Intellectual Property and Tenure/Promotion Decisions.
 - Tenure and promotion decisions rely heavily on scholarship activities, which typically refers to publications in peer-reviewed journals. It has been brought to the committee’s attention that in contrast to journal publications, less weight may be placed on patent-generating scholarly activities in tenure and promotion decisions within the SUNY system. The committee is currently assessing the role of intellectual property in promotion decisions and which research fields may be most affected.
- Increasing Collaborations Within SUNY.
 - The committee has initiated productive discussions with Grace Wang about developing mechanisms to enhance research collaborations between institutions within the SUNY system. Follow-up conversations with Grace will take place in January.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee: