

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2025  
Center for Tomorrow

Attendance: see attached attendance.

### Call to Order

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

### Agenda Approved

- Motion to approve [FS 5-13-25 Agenda](#) was seconded and approved. FS voted to approve the agenda [41 Yea, 0 Nay, 1 Abstain].

### Actionable Items

- [FS 4-15-25 Meeting Minutes](#) was unanimously approved.
- [FS Chair Report 5-13-25](#) was accepted.
- [UFS Plenary Resolutions Spr 2025](#) presented to senators for endorsement.
  - Motion made and seconded to endorse each resolution independently rather than to endorse all with one senatorial vote.
  - Motion to endorse each resolution was approved [41 Yea, 1 Nay, 0 Abstain].
  - Motion made and seconded to provide resolutions via email using a survey to endorse.
  - Motion to provide resolutions via email using a survey to endorse was unanimously approved.
  - All resolutions were endorsed. Results: [SUNY FS Spring Plenary Resolutions Voting Results](#)
- [FSEC Amended APAC resolution re solidarity with UB Leadership](#) from Academic Planning and Assessment Committee [APAC] was presented.
  - Motion to skip second reading made, seconded, and unanimously approved.
  - Resolution was unanimously approved.
- [2025-2026 Proposed FS Calendar](#) was accepted.

### Other Items

#### I. PRESIDENT REPORT

- **Grants**
  - **NSF.** Effective May 5, 2025, all grant proposals must be submitted with indirect costs to not exceed 15%. National organizations (AAU, APLU, etc.) are legally challenging this requirement. Updates on outcomes of legal challenges will be announced as they become available.
  - **NIH.** Indicated that if an institution spends money awarded by NIH, the institute is certifying that they are following guidelines for DEI. No interpretation from the government on the specifics of those guidelines.
  - Bridge funding is available from the Spencer Foundation for faculty impacted by grant cancellations. These grants are for up to \$25,000 and intended to address immediate needs following a grant cancellation, such as data collection, data analysis and preparation of proposals to continue research.

- **SUNY Budget.**
  - SUNY received an increased investment of \$114 million in new direct state tax support for state-operated campuses. The SUNY Board of Trustees approved the SUNY allocation plan for these additional resources.
  - SUNY received \$550 million in critical maintenance, the same amount as last year and \$300 million for research facilities.
  - UB will receive \$16.8 million in operating expenses, an increase. The formula for these allocations is based on the negotiated 3% increases for the faculty and staff and the additional funds are appropriated for the 3% increase in faculty and staff salaries.
- Faculty Accomplishments. [Eight faculty joined the ranks of SUNY Distinguished Professors.](#)
- University Spaces Update.
  - [School of Nursing creating a \\$34 million Nursing Simulation Center](#)

### Questions and Comments:

Q: How are AAU institutions communicating with each other to address the impact of federal changes on university operations?

- Presidents and provosts communicate regularly via Zoom to discuss impact of federal changes on university operations and how to mitigate changes.
- AAU uses a two-prong approach to address changes that impact institutions—legally in the court systems and advocating to legislatures with lobbyists.

Q: Request for an update regarding immigration issues that were facing faculty and students over the past few months.

Student visas that were revoked were reinstated. Nationally, students are being advised to not travel and if they must travel, make certain to have all required immigration documentation to ensure there are no issues. There have been no incidents over the past few weeks.

### Notes:

- **Comments during open forum:**
  - **Indirect Costs & Funding Concerns** – Faculty expressed worry about potential cuts to indirect and direct research funding (especially NIH and NSF), emphasizing the risks these cuts pose to labs, graduate students, and overall research activity.
  - **Graduate Student & TA Support** – There is strong interest in increasing support for PhD students, graduate assistants, and teaching assistants, as raised during the Faculty Senate’s budget review process.
  - **Faculty Advancement & Promotion** – A need was identified to clarify promotion and progression pathways for clinical faculty tracks, with a new committee chaired by Rob Bies set to address this.
  - **Academic Initiatives & Resources** – Points were made regarding curricular reform (re-evaluating UB’s curriculum) and establishing transparent access to faculty seed grants to support research and program development.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:25 p.m.

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