



Senate letter

Michael Schwartz, President, University Senate to: Torre, F. Jason

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Please respond to University_Senate

To the University Community:

As the incoming president of the University Senate, I am hoping that the Senate can amplify its role as a constructive and pro-active force for meeting the many challenges Stony Brook faces in the immediate and not-very-distant future. These challenges not only include the pending transition to a new university president and the ongoing state fiscal crisis which will stay with us for at least two more years, but also considerable homegrown challenges that require sustained effort by the campus community.

These issues will be with us for quite a long time, and we are going to have to be patiently engaged before we can begin to see the positive results that we are all hoping and striving for. But I think we can accomplish something positive very quickly: a systematic catalogue of the major challenges that the University is currently confronting or will face in the immediate future. On that point, the Senate needs the immediate help of the entire campus community.

Most particularly, you can provide like three kinds of assistance:

Primarily, simply write back to me with your sense of what the pressing issues are, particularly those issues that you feel could substantially benefit from the active agency of the Senate. You can hit reply to this email to offer your opinions and suggestions.

Second, suggest people who you think can make a useful contribution to developing strategies for addressing these issues.

Third, attend the three remaining University Senate meetings this semester, which will be held March 2, April 13, and May 4. We will announce the locations of these meetings in the next few days.

I know that we are going to need to be both resourceful and patient in working on these many challenges, but I am hopeful that by harnessing the community's energy and creativity, we can help to set a positive trajectory for the university.

Best

Michael Schwartz
President, University Senate