



UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 15, 2016

The Council Room, 505 Capen Hall

MINUTES

Members Present

Jeremy M. Jacobs, Chair
Michael Cropp
Mark J. Czarnecki, Vice Chair
Jonathan A. Dandes
Pamela Heilman (by phone)
June W. Hoefflich
Melissa Kathan

Other Participants

Charles F. Zukoski, Provost and Executive Vice President
Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President
Dr. Jean Wactawski-Wende, Dean of the School of Public Health and Health Professions
Dr. Jonathan Lovell, Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering

Attending

Dennis Black, Vice President for University Life and Services
Michael Cain, Vice President for Health Sciences & Dean of the School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
Philip Glick, Faculty Senate Chair
Robert Granfield, Vice Provost for Faculty Development
Allen Greene, Director of Athletics
Connie Holoman, Deputy to the President
Laura Hubbard, Vice President for Finance and Administration
James Jarvis, SUNY Counsel
Dan LaDelfa, Communications & Media Associate, Office of the President
Domenic Licata, Professional Staff Senate Chair
Teresa Miller, Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion
Laura Palka, Secretary, Office of the President
Nancy Paton, Vice President for University Communications
Even Schneider, *The Spectrum*
David Shurtleff, Instructional Support Specialist, UB IT
Nancy Wells, Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement
Sue Wuetcher, Editor, *UB Reporter*

OPENING BUSINESS

Call to Order

Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Chairman Jacobs began the meeting by asking those present to observe a moment of silence in memory of President Tripathi's father. He extended his deepest condolences to the Tripathi family on behalf of the Council and all university friends.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 30, 2015. The motion was made by Ms. Hoeflich and the minutes were approved without correction.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Jacobs began his report by congratulating Mr. Brady on his reappointment to the UB Council.

He proceeded by noting that the target date for placing the last steel beam on the new medical school building is late March. He looks forward to the topping out ceremony and hopes that Council members will join the university community for that exciting event.

The chairman reported that UB's second annual volunteer summit set will be held May 5 and 6. Commencement ceremonies begin in late April through mid-May. He encouraged Council members to participate in these events.

Chairman Jacobs continued by mentioning that this is a critical year for SUNY and UB, particularly with regard to the extension of NYSUNY 2020. He stressed the importance of having Council members support UB's advocacy agenda with the New York State Legislature.

Report on SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees annual meeting and executive committee meeting

The chairman proceeded to congratulate Ms. Heilman who was elected as a vice president for SUNY's Association of Council Members and College Trustees. Ms. Heilman offered a brief report by phone on the annual ACT meeting in October 2015. She explained that other SUNY campuses look to UB for leadership. She is hopeful there will be good UB representation at the next ACT meeting to be held in Rochester from September 30-October 2, 2016.

Consideration of resolution confirming Council approval of changes to campus parking rules and regulations

Chairman Jacobs asked SUNY Counsel James Jarvis to offer a brief explanation for this action. Mr. Jarvis explained the resolution can be approved now that a period for public comment has taken place (in the fall). Mr. Dandes moved to approve the resolution and it was passed unanimously.

Report of the Student Representative

Ms. Kathan informed the Council she has been accepted into the SUNY Buffalo Law School through its early acceptance program. Ms. Kathan updated the Council on her work with COAL (the Council of Advocacy and Leadership) which is comprised of seven student government presidents at UB. Ms. Kathan has been working with the University Faculty Senate and other legislative bodies to approve a resolution declaring Shared Governance Month at UB for March. In her role as vice president of the SUNY Student Assembly, Ms. Kathan testified earlier this month at the Joint Legislative Budget Committee Hearing to express her support for a rational tuition plan. Ms. Kathan stated she has a busy travel schedule for the spring semester and will be attending conferences in Albany and Washington, DC for her SUNY Student Assembly position.

Report of the Provost and University Briefings

Provost Zukoski welcomed and introduced Allen Greene, UB's new Director of Athletics.

He gave a brief update on the UB Curriculum, UB's new general education program, which will be in place beginning Fall semester 2016. Provost Zukoski updated the Council on UB projects that have been funded

through SUNY Excels grants—the system-wide effort to increase student completion to graduation and improve on key performance areas, UB’s Educational Opportunity Program, UB’s Winter Session, and the appointment of Venu Govindaraju as the Vice President for Research and Economic Development. Provost Zukoski then asked Dr. Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President, to provide an update on UB’s state advocacy agenda.

On behalf of President Tripathi, Dr. Del Genio updated the Council on UB’s state advocacy agenda, Dr. Del Genio stated UB’s top priority is the extension of NYSUNY 2020, which has enabled progress and initiatives at UB such as Finish in 4, the Communities of Excellence, the UB Curriculum, faculty hires in hire demand areas, and funding of need-based financial aid. Dr. Del Genio also provided updates on other areas of UB’s legislative agenda including the SUNY budget, collective bargaining increases, and funding for UB’s Centers of Excellence, capital investment in critical maintenance and strategic priority projects, and advocacy efforts moving forward.

Faculty Presentations: Cancer Research at UB

Provost Zukoski introduced Dr. Jean Wactawski-Wende, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Dean of the School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP), as well as Dr. Jonathan Lovell, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, who both gave presentations on cancer research at UB. The slide sets for these presentations are available to view at [this link](#).

Dr. Wactawski-Wende presented her research involving the Women’s Health Initiative including a seminal study on the impact of hormone therapy on women’s health, as well as her recent work on oral microbiome and periodontitis in postmenopausal women.

Dr. Cropp described this research as amazing, and inquired about the extent to which the SPHHP taps into HEALTHeLINK to mine patient information. Dr. Wactawski-Wende stated there have been discussions, however no studies to date. In responding to an inquiry by Ms. Hoeflich, Dr. Wactawski-Wende stated the SPHHP has collaborations in many areas with Roswell Park.

Dr. Lovell presented his research on devising innovative and more effective forms of treatment options for cancer therapy. Dr. Lovell has pioneered a new delivery for treating cancer using ‘nano-balloons’ that allow doctors to specifically target, diagnose, and treat disease in the body.

Dr. Cropp inquired about the timeline for translating Dr. Lovell’s research into clinical practice. Dr. Lovell stated there have been provisional patents filed by STOR and the process is underway to formulate a plan for funding and clinical trials. Chairman Jacobs added that it is very exciting to see this type of research being done at UB, and that interested Council members should assist as they are able in facilitating the commercialization of research such as this.

The Council thanked Dr. Wactawski-Wende and Dr. Lovell for their presentations.

Dr. Cropp asked Provost Zukoski about UB’s process for staying in touch with students after graduation, tracking their success, and potentially engaging them in UB’s advocacy efforts, influencing state legislators in their home districts in all corners of the state. Provost Zukoski replied that UB does stay in touch with alumni and is constantly making improvements in this area.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Dandes and seconded by Mr. Czarnecki. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

For additional detail on any of the meeting topics in these minutes, please refer to the archived webcast of the meeting at <https://ubstream.buffalo.edu/Player/1518>. The meeting begins at the time stamp of 1:25 in the video.