



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

The Council

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 6, 2016

The Council Room, 505 Capen Hall

MINUTES

Members Present

Jeremy M. Jacobs, Chair
Robert T. Brady (by phone)
Michael Cropp
Mark J. Czarnecki, Vice Chair
Jonathan A. Dandes
Scott Friedman
Pamela Heilman
June W. Hoefflich (by phone)
Christopher Koch
Melissa Kathan

Other Participants

Satish Tripathi, President
Charles F. Zukoski, Provost and Executive Vice President

Attending

Brice Bible, Vice President and Chief Information Officer
James Corra, 2016-17 UB Council Student Representative
Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President
Venu Govindaraju, Vice President Research and Economic Development
Allen Greene, Director of Athletics
Connie Holoman, Deputy to the President
Dan LaDelfa, Communications & Media Associate, Office of the President
Felisha Legette-Jack, Head Coach, UB Women's Basketball
Domenic Licata, Chair, Professional Staff Senate
Teresa Miller, Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion
Nancy Paton, Vice President for University Communications
Eileen Sherman, Deputy to the Provost
David Shurtleff, Instructional Support Specialist, UB IT
Paul Tesluk, Dean, School of Management
Scott Weber, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Nancy Wells, Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement
Sue Wuetcher, Editor, *UB Reporter*
Joseph Zambon, Dean, School of Dental Medicine

OPENING BUSINESS

Call to Order

Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Jacobs began his report by welcoming Mr. Scott Friedman as a new member of the UB Council. Mr. Friedman is chairman and CEO of Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman, and is widely regarded as a business and volunteer leader in the community.

Mr. Jacobs reported the second annual volunteer summit held by UB was a big success. He thanked the Council members for their participation in university commencement ceremonies earlier this spring.

The Chairman and Council recognized the 2015-2016 Mid-American Conference Championships of both the UB men's and women's basketball teams, and approved a resolution in honor of the women's team. A reception was held following the Council meeting to present the women's team and head coach Felisha Legette-Jack with the resolution. The Council presented a commendation to Ms. Melissa Kathan, the student representative to the Council, to thank her for her service. The Chairman then recognized Ms. Connie Holoman, Deputy to the President, for her many years of service to UB and the UB Council, and the Council approved and presented a resolution to her.

Report of the Student Representative

Ms. Kathan reported that she has spent much of her time recently traveling across the state and to Washington, D.C., to advocate for student interests. Ms. Kathan participated in the SUNY Student Assembly meeting where several resolutions were passed, including a 'ban the box' proposal for admissions applications to SUNY institutions. Ms. Kathan attended SUNY day in Washington, D.C., where she met with fellow SUNY students, federal lawmakers and representatives from the White House. She also participated in SUNY day in Albany, meeting with state lawmakers to advocate on behalf of her student peers. Ms. Kathan noted that online instruction and equity, diversity and inclusion are areas of focus for SUNY students. She cited a desire among UB students to hold more open forums to give students an opportunity to voice their concerns.

Ms. Kathan then introduced Mr. James Corra, the incoming student representative to the UB Council. Mr. Corra is a senior majoring in economics and history and has served a Speaker of the Assembly for the Undergraduate Student Association. Ms. Heilman commended Ms. Kathan for her level of participation at UB as well as SUNY.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi updated the Council on recent progress at UB. Dr. Tripathi thanked the Council members for participating in commencement ceremonies and mentioned that there were two SUNY Honorary Degree recipients: Dr. Leslie Ford and Dr. Helene Gayle, as well as two President's Medal recipients: UB faculty members Dr. Claude E. Welch and Dr. Paras Prasad. President Tripathi reported that the major theme of his commencement remarks was the importance of valuing and engaging with a diverse range of viewpoints. Universities across the nation have struggled this year with issues around creating and sustaining an inclusive campus environment. UB has been a leader in this area, as the campus has worked together to forge constructive dialogue and develop effective programs and practices to effect an inclusive and welcoming community.

The president highlighted selected UB student achievements from the past academic year, including UB's first Truman Scholar, Madelaine Britt, as well as Marshall Scholar, Sean Kaczmarek. President Tripathi informed the Council that six faculty members were also honored this spring with the SUNY Distinguished rank.

Dr. Tripathi continued by reporting on university advocacy for support in Albany. The state budget did not include an extension of the NYSUNY 2020 program. Through this program, UB has been able to hire 291 faculty, launch the Finish in 4 program, and provide \$35.4 million in need-based financial aid to nearly 29,000 TAP-

eligible students. As a result, UB has seen significant improvements to its four-year and six-year graduation rates. UB will continue to advocate for NYSUNY 2020 to be reconsidered for next year's budget. President Tripathi advised the Council that SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher has announced her plans to step down in 2017. He thanked outgoing UB Council student representative, Melissa Kathan, for her work on the Council.

In terms of budget support, Dr. Tripathi reported that UB received \$22.4 million in total capital support, and \$1 million in operating support for each of UB's Centers of Excellence. UB is awaiting word on possible additional funding through the SUNY Performance Improvement Fund as well as the NYSUNY 2020 Round 6 Funding.

President Tripathi stated UB is exploring plans to grow enrollment by 2,000 students over a four year period. In terms of infrastructure, UB is making progress with projects including the South Campus Revitalization project, and the Heart of the Campus Project on the North Campus. UB also recently held a "topping out" celebration for the final beam of steel going into place on the new Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences building in downtown Buffalo as well as the renovation of Hayes Hall. UB also has capital projects underway across all three campuses this summer—from expanding lab spaces and upgrading E-tech classrooms to improving campus walkways.

University Briefings: Report of the Provost

Provost Zukoski further updated the Council on events and activities on campus. UB held 15 commencement ceremonies in April and May and conferred nearly 6,000 degrees (3,500 undergraduate, 2,000+ graduate). UB's Finish in 4 program graduated its first cohort with 63% of nearly 1,500 students graduating within four years. Finish in 4 has received widespread recognition nationally and within SUNY as a completion program. In May, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Joseph Zambon was appointed as Dean of the School of Dental Medicine and in April, Professor Paul Tesluk was appointed Dean of the School of Management. The search for a new College of Arts and Sciences dean is also nearing conclusion.

Provost Zukoski informed the Council about numerous recent UB faculty awards and honors: Andrew Talal (Medicine) received a \$7 million grant to explore the use of telemedicine to treat hepatitis C in opioid users; five engineering faculty were awarded National Science Foundation CAREER Awards in 2016; Robert Genco (Oral Biology) received the 2016 American Association for Dental Research Distinguished Scientist Award; Victoria Wolcott (History) was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship; and Nnedi Okofor (English) received the Nebula Award for Best Novella. Provost Zukoski also invited the Council to visit the Kaveeshwar Gallery to see the exhibit of the work of UB alumnus, Tom Toles, a Pulitzer Prize winning political cartoonist for the Washington Post. Toles was the featured guest for President Tripathi's Signature Series during the spring semester.

President Tripathi thanked Provost Zukoski for his report and also thanked the Council members for their support of UB.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to adjourn to executive session. The motion was made by Chairman Jacobs and seconded by Mr. Czarnecki. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 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/1599>.

Approved at the September 19, 2016 meeting of the UB Council