

Executive Senate Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2014

Recorder: Kathleen M. Kielar

AGENDA

1. Call the Meeting to Order
2. Approval of January 6, 2014 meeting minutes
3. Guest Speaker: Brice Bible
4. Chairs Report
5. Vice Chairs Report
6. Standing Item: Resolution of the Professional Staff Senate to address the Continuous Learning Culture at the University at Buffalo
7. Old/New Business
8. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES

1. Ann Marie Called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM
2. Meeting minutes were held off on approval as the group was not prepared to read them.
3. Guest Speaker: Brice Bible, CIO CIT

Brice wanted to give an update on what he has been up to and what he has observed. He then asked for feedback from the group on their thoughts on CIT. He gave his background ranging from working in the private sector as a Mechanical Education, he worked for the University at Tennessee, as well as worked for Ohio University.

Some of the observations that he has had since he started in October 2013. He has met with the deans, students, and other leadership folks across the university. The university at large is pleased with the service that they receive. That's a good thing. Overall he sees that the University has a good feeling about CIT. He sees CIT well managed and that the service is very reliable. There's pretty good interaction between all the players.

Overall he gives CIT a solid B. There are some areas of opportunities. There is really good leadership about the direction of the institution. Overall data management is an area where we can improve. There is a lot more data that we are interested for both reporting and analyzing data. This is an issue that is common among all universities. We have the tools and we need to set a path and direction.

There appears to be quite as beefy of a communication vehicle about technology plans and needs across the institution. There's communication issues between the central IT and distributed IT. There needs to be improvement between all the IT people. There is also an opportunity to communicate out.

There are opportunities for efficiency gains in non-labor related areas in IT. This includes what we buy, standardizing what we buy, and how we negotiate contracts.

I have also heard that there doesn't seem to be forward planning for classroom technology, nor out of classroom technology. We have some significant reports and plans, but these plans have not been operationalized.

Overall we need a cohesive strategic and IT practical plan. We have to do it, particularly since we're expanding our campus. How can our IT needs be met with the Realizing UB2020 expansion?

The good news is we have great people working here and we have the opportunity to make a plan work.

Questions from the group:

PSS would like to have professional staff representatives on the advisory committees. Brice said the groups would be Data advisory group, HUB advisory group, Business Systems group, Faculty IT Advisory Group, continuation of the node meetings, and the Digital Technology group.

Will student data and intelligence about our students be shared across the university perhaps with student affairs units? He can make sure that all sides are represented on the committee and will talk with Scott Weber about this representation.

We want to ask the campus community of what kinds of data do they need.

Can you talk about infrastructure and the ability to balance department's from going out on their own versus working with other areas at the University and developing university standards. In the past there have been conversations and reports on this specific topics. This is one of those things that there was no execution. There is definitely a need for this.

The data custodian role needs to be reevaluated so that they receive the proper training. Brice thinks that these roles should be defined and granular. There then needs to be data stewards that are aware of the roles.

Is there a component of CIT that will return to the "cutting edge" of computing that we used to have in the 1990's? Our students have surpassed our IT folks. We need to return to this. Yes, Satish has this interest and it's is part of Brice's performance program. We don't have a plan, but he's open to suggestions on this topic.

What kind of partnership do you see with CIT and the Libraries? This is a natural partnership that can create a much more innovative technology structure. Let's try a few things and start demonstrating some new technology.

How will CIT be involved with the support of Start UP NY? This is a conversation that is underway. This will be no different than any other business function at the university. How can we help these companies start up? How do we charge for the services? How to integrate our billing structure for these new companies?

Brice encouraged others to shoot him a note schedule a meeting with him if you have thoughts or concerns when it comes to CIT., He wants to hear what you have to say and feel free to share ideas with him.

4. Chair's report:

Diversity committee would like to change their committee name to the Inclusion and Diversity Committee. The charge of the committee is "Seek to build a culturally diverse and pluralistic University Community committed to cultivating, celebrating, respecting and educating the university community about our differences." The vote for the committee name change was brought up for vote for Executive Senators. There was a unanimous decision in favor of the change in committee name.

Ann Marie brought up the SUNY Shared Governance group that meets once a month. This group meets with the Union presidents, the police, the Faculty Senate and PSS Senate chairs. An issue we've been working on and are concerned about is the presence of UB police on the downtown campus. The SUNY Shared Governance committee is writing a resolution that would address this issue on the downtown campus. There is a concern from the group that no one is talking about utilizing the UB police downtown.

The President would like the Professional Staff Senate to submit a nomination for the SUNY Shared Governance Award. This is a topic that still needs to be worked on by all parties. The award is a system-level honor and recognition conferred on a campus for outstanding contributions to the advancement of shared governance. The award underscores SUNY's commitment to academic excellence and public good through collaborative models of governance. Shared Governance is defined as administration/faculty/staff/student cooperation that is mutually recognized as effective engagement of the local governance structures and elected representatives on issues and policies that impact SUNY. Whenever possible, this cooperation should include shared and timely decision making, shared accountability, collaborative dialogue, and open communication. It is something that we are not meeting right, but we are working on meeting the criteria. This includes communications with other governance leaders, student body, and the administration. Nominations are due in November.

The PSS Officers met with Lou Schmitt and Mike Walker regarding the cleaning of offices at UB. We would like them to come speak to the Executive Senate or to the general membership. They would be happy to talk about their service expectations, as well as listen to our service expectations.

5. Vice Chair Report

The Inclusion and Diversity committee is hosting a brown bag seminar on “Connecting Different Worlds” on March 19th from noon – 1:00 PM in 338 Davis Hall. The keynote speaker is Deborah Watkins, Deputy Superintendent of NYS Prisons.

6. Resolution of the Professional Staff Senate to address the Continuous Learning Culture at the University at Buffalo

Ann Marie gave some background on the resolution stating that the resolution came out of the Policy & Governance Committee and was forwarded to the Executive Senate for a vote.

She also told the group of what was approved in the last Special Meeting for Executive Senators and the suggestions that were made via the Executive Senate listserv.

The PSS Officers and some members of the Policy and Governance Committee met with Kelli Hennessey, Directory of Organizational Development & Training earlier in the week. Kelli wanted to let the officers know what HR’s plans were hear about why the Policy & Governance Committee is recommending the resolution. It became clear that there are communications gaps between HR and PSS and that the once regularly scheduled meeting held between the two groups years ago should be revived. A further idea was to create a training administrators group to form on campus to share, collaborate, and work with each other to share needs, training materials, and even courses. The PSS and HR will work on bridging these communication gaps.

The topic of career advancement paths was the discussion point on the resolution. This topic also came up from the Policy & Governance committee, who recommended that the topic be considered for a separate resolution. Kat suggested that if we wanted this topic on this specific resolution, suggesting the following language:

That the Professional Staff Senate create a task force comprised of Professional Staff Senate representatives, university administrators, and United University Profession (UUP) representatives to examine methods of creating a plan for professional employee promotion/advancement pathways to report back to the PSS executive committee by a certain date.

The Executive Senators felt that the current resolution should not have the suggested wording. The group motioned that the topic be assigned to the Staff Development Committee. The committee could contact Jim Jarvis to provide some background on the work that he did.

The full resolution went to a vote to the Executive Senate. We had 6 senators approve the vote, 3 senators opposed the resolutions, and no abstainers. The next course action will be sent to the general membership for approval. The next PSS General membership meeting there will be a reading of the document to introduce the document, and then the following meeting there will be a vote. It was suggested by the Parliamentarian that we have a discussion via email with the Senators to determine if there will be significant changes to the document to determine if the document should be approved as a whole, or have each individual paragraph approved.

7. Old/New Business

The next PSS General Membership meeting is on March 27th. Presentations will be made by Marnie Lavigne about StartUp NY, and Jim Simon will talk on sustainability programs going on at UB. The resolution will be presented to the General Membership senators at this time.

8. Meeting was adjourned.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE

University at Buffalo *The State University of New York*

E3614

Executive	3/6/2014			Area
Kimberly	Krzemien	Executive Senator	EXCUSED	1
James	Lichtenthal	Alternate	ABSENT	1
Candy	Morris	Executive Senator	A	1
Sara	Robinson	Senator	A	1
William	McDonnell	Executive Senator	A	2
Katherine	Trapanovski	Executive Senator	A	2
Arlene	Kaukus	Alternate	A	3
Kathleen	Kielar	Officer	A	3
Eugene	Pohancsek	Executive Senator	A	3
James	Ramsey	Executive Senator	ABSENT	3
James	Gordon	Executive Senator	A	4
Janiece	Jankowski	Senator	A	4
Kathleen	O'Brien	Executive Senator	A	4
Laura	Barnum	Officer	Excused	5
Lydia	Conroy	Senator	A	5
Ann Marie	Landel	Officer	A	5
Amy	Myszka	Executive Senator	A	5
Susan	Steck	Executive Senator	A	5