

Executive Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2014

Recorder: Kathleen M. Kielar

AGENDA

1. Approval of the February 6th and March 6th meeting minutes
2. Guest speaker: Alexander Cartwright, Vice President for Research and Economic Development.
3. Chair Report
 - a. Senator Nominations
 - b. Status of the Continuous Learning Resolution
 - c. ByLaws change to allow for proxy voting by Senators
 - d. UUP/Faculty Senate CGL meeting in Cooperstown
 - i. Cooperation and interaction/encourage participation
 - ii. EdTPA
 - iii. Open SUNY
 - e. President's Signature Series
 - f. Meeting with Terry Miller, Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion
 - g. HR Website testing
4. Vice Chair Report
 - a. PSS Diversity and Inclusion Committee – Education and Advocacy Series
 - b. Professional Staff Development Conference
 - c. Continuous Improvement Committee presenting at supervisors forum
5. Old/New Business
 - a. Next General Membership Meeting
 - b. Kickboxing fund raiser with Robbie Raugh
6. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES

1. The minutes for March 6, February 25, and February 6th were approved.
2. Guest Speaker – Alexander Cartwright, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Alex gave a quick overview of what his office does. His office is for economic development and they have just added an office of research advancement. This office helps faculty write grants and proposals and assists faculty and is now directed by Jean Makowski. The Center for Computational Research and the Research Institute on Addictions now reports through Alex. They are trying to align all the areas that are research intensive as there are many overlapping issues. As you want research reporting through the same process as there are similar concerns.

We recently announced a Research Compliance Office. Compliance is an integral part of research. It ensures UB research is conducted without bias, and with the highest scientific and ethical standards.

His office is also thinking about the future and how do we build. We have been doing this through Realizing UB2020. How do we become even more competitive when funding continues to decrease? Our country continues to decrease the amount of funding for new ideas, while our competitors are seeing increased support (See more about the Innovation deficit at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZS0Gcsi5820>).

One of our recommendations is to create an office that recognizes faculty achievements through honorific awards. The Provost will actually be putting this office under him.

We have announced the Communities of Excellence. The Provost has invited faculty to submit concept papers proposing “bold and creative” ideas for Communities of Excellence. The Communities of Excellence have evolved from the university’s rigorous Realizing UB 2020 discussions of “How to invest our resources, increase our impact and distinctiveness, and meet our UB 2020 aspirations. The Communities of Excellence will bring together scholars from across the disciplines to address these challenges through transformative research, creative activities and engagement. Importantly, we will actively engage our students in the processes as part of their educational experience.”

We’ve had success in the last year. In November we received a \$25 million Science and Technology Center grant from the National Science Foundation to transform the field of structural biology, including drug development, using X-ray lasers. The center will be called The BioXFEL research center. There were only 3 of these types of grants given out of which the other two were given to Harvard and MIT.

We received \$50 million to partner with the recently opened New York Genome Center in Manhattan to accelerate recent advances in genomic medicine directly into clinical care.

UB announced that it will partner with EWI to accelerate the development of advanced manufacturing technologies in Western New York by lending expertise and resources. This project was given \$8 million by the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and a further invest of \$45 million from the New York State initiative “Buffalo Billion”.

He took questions from the executive senators that included:

- 1) How can the Professional Staff Senate become a part of the StartUp NY initiative? A proposal came out that allowed a professional staff senate member on the selection committee. We are receptive of that and it makes sense. There will be a process that will allow this to happen. We don’t want any of this to be viewed as a “secret society”. We are, however, reviewing applications from companies that may require confidentiality.
- 2) Could you name 3 or 4 projects that are really cool or are proud that you got them financed?

We are working with Buffalo Public Schools on Science week. We received a \$10 million dollar grant to get students excited about STEM fields. We need to work on innovation deficit.

The Science Technology Center is incredibly interesting to me because what we are looking at protein crystals. If you understand enough about proteins, you can design drugs that will interact with these proteins....and eventually cure diseases.

StartUp NY is a different thing and it's exciting. This is going to play out in the next year or so. It's a different view of how we interact with the private sector and how this relationship can be mutually beneficial.

- 3) How has the addition of Tim Killean helped or changed research here at UB?

Tim Killean is the President of the Research Foundation and SUNY Vice Chancellor for research. He has been working on cleaning up the reporting of the Research Foundation through its practices and how it interacts with campuses for the positive. He has been trying to establish Networks of Excellence, which bring together SUNY's top scholars and industry experts to spur research and commercialization in high demand areas. These networks position SUNY as a national and international thought leader that competes aggressively for research grants, and educates our workforce for tomorrow.

- 4) What type of outreach are you doing for faculty? Many do not know your office exists.

We are doing a lot of grant writing workshops. It is a challenge. It is difficult to get our message out there. Some schools do it through mentorship, but not every school does that.

Are you looking at development of the senior faculty, as well? Yes. It was suggested that it was easier to work in-house. We are trying to figure out how to connect teams together. More than likely it is going to be around a project. We are goal oriented.

- 5) How do you see our role as librarians? Libraries are changing. We are looking at a project through the Association of Research Libraries called SHARE (Shared Access Research Ecosystem). This is a higher education and research community initiative to ensure the preservation of, access to, and reuse of research outputs. SHARE will develop solutions that capitalize on the compelling interest shared by researchers, libraries, universities, funding agencies, and other key stakeholders to maximize research impact, today and in the future. SHARE aims to make the inventory of research assets more discoverable and more accessible, and to enable the research community to build upon these assets in creative and productive ways.

- 6) A discussion on onboarding new faculty members occurred.

- 7) We see the least participation from our research place. How can we improve this? Governance is important and I encourage it. We should also keep in mind though that many of these folks are on grants and that 100% of their time is dedicated to work on that grant. They can not do anything else. That's the challenge. The rules around the federal funded grants are very strict. Professional development is an area that can bring these folks out, but you have to be careful on how this is setup. Employees and faculty need better training and we have to get them to realize the benefits of professional development.

- 8) A discussion occurred on retaining faculty researchers. This is difficult because there are times that we just simply can not compete with other offers. We need to keep them happy while they are here, before they start looking.

3. Chair Report

- a. Middle States was this week and is now over. We anticipate a few recommendations, but overall we feel that we will receive our accreditation status. If you are interested in seeing our self-study you can view it at: http://www.provost.buffalo.edu/Accreditation-and-Assessment/UB_selfStudy_published_20140201.pdf
- b. Call for Senators will be sent out via email. The following areas are seeking the following senators:

Area	Seeking This Many Senators
1	12
2	22
3	7
4	6
5	8

Prior to submitting a nomination, please make sure the person you are nominating is aware of the nomination and will accept it. The term for these senators will be from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2016. Nominations are due April 18th, 2014. Contact the co-chairs if you have any questions.

- c. The Continuous Learning Resolution was read at the last General Membership meeting. A special meeting will be set up in the near future for Senators to vote on.
- d. We had a request that the bylaws allow for proxy voting for senators. Ann Marie had sent the request to the Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian responded as follows:

Given the *PSS Bylaws* provide that each Senator may designate an alternate and each of the 5 areas an alternate Executive Committee member, there appears to be no basis nor need for proxy voting by Senators. It is neither needed nor justified for any Senate action submitted to mail or electronic ballot. *Robert's Rules* considers this inappropriate in most organizations; proxies are appropriate only if the meeting at which voting will take place is one for which eligible voters would incur significant cost and inconvenience to attend, *e.g.*, a meeting of the stockholders of a corporation.

Absent excellent grounds for it, proxy voting does not merit consideration. That a Senator requests it does not constitute grounds for it.

The *PSS Charter* and *Bylaws* do not specify a Bylaws Committee nor require one to consider amendments. The Policy and Governance Committee, consequently, may be assigned the task of reviewing the *Bylaws* and recommending changes to the Executive Committee; the Executive Committee may propose amendments to the general membership. In effect any proposal to amend the *Bylaws* has to be considered by the Executive Committee since that Committee sets the agenda for Senate and general membership meetings. Proposed

amendments have to be presented to the general membership, then submitted to mail ballot.

Kathleen Kielar questioned the method of voting by a senator, not that the senator is going to give up their vote. Ann Marie stated that voting responsibilities were also tied to senator discussion of a given topic. It was pointed out on the floor that each meeting was an opportunity for senator discussion and that the vote was a separate function. The Parliamentarian stated that the options of voting were not considered a By-Law revision.

A motion on the floor was made to have this issue studied by the Policy and Governance Committee, who would make a recommendation for discussion and vote from the Executive Senate. The motion was seconded and approved by the Executive Senate. Issues of concern include conference call participation and discussion and voting electronically.

e. UUP/CGL meeting in Cooperstown Report

Ann Marie attended a joint meeting between UUP leadership and campus governance leaders hosted by UUP in Cooperstown. Fred Kowal said we are facing the worst budget that we have faced in a decade. He wanted the groups to collaborate on issues of common concern. Issues include edTPA which is a teacher certification requirement enacted within NYS. It is designed to a predictor of effective teaching and student learning. The issue is that education students and teacher preparatory courses have not had enough time to adjust their curriculums to educate students about the tests. In addition, preparatory tests for student have not been released in a realistic time. It is anticipated that 40 percent of the graduating seniors will fail the edTPA and be denied a teaching certification. More information about NYS edTPA can be found at: http://www.nystce.nesinc.com/NY_annTPA.asp The UUP position statement on edTPA can be found at: <http://uupinfo.org/reports/guides/edTPAfactsheet140123.pdf>

Ezra Zubrow met with Philippe Abraham are drafting a resolution about UB Police presence on the south campus.

There are two huge financial issues affecting campuses. The first is the Union raises that each campus is responsible for paying. The second issue is the lack of capital budget the state is not budgeting for campuses that each campus will need to pay for. This is still a process that is still being worked out. There is some movement on the UUP raises at the state legislature through a deal with TAP monies, but the capital budget monies are not predicted to be resolved.

Anne Marie suggested that we invite Tom Tucker to the Executive meetings.

There is a joint campus grant for professional development. We are going to apply for monies to help with our professional staff development conference.

- f. The President sent out an email announcing the 2014 Signature Series. This is a series of events to promote and celebrate innovation and distinction in arts and letters. The events are:
- Wednesday, April 9, 4 p.m., Kaveeshwar Gallery, 5th floor of Capen Hall
Visual Signatures: Constructed Drawings: Exhibit opening featuring the work of Douglas Fitch, an acclaimed American visual artist, theatrical designer and director and puppeteer. Fitch is UB's inaugural College of Arts and Sciences WBFO Visiting Professor in the Arts and Humanities, and he will be in residence at the university in Fall 2014.
 - Thursday, April 10, 2 p.m., Black Box Theatre, Center for the Arts
Conversation in the Arts: A "fireside chat" between Douglas Fitch and Janne Sirén, a visionary art historian and Peggy Pierce Elfvin Director of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Fitch and Sirén will explore the role and impact of the visual arts both historically and in contemporary life.
 - Thursday, April 22, 2 p.m., Lockwood Library Quick Connect Corridor
Praxis—Lockwood Interfacing: A ribbon-cutting will unveil a dynamic new installation by UB visual studies students designed to engage viewers aesthetically and intellectually as they traverse this corridor, whether one time or 100 times.
- g. Anne Marie met with Terry Miller, the new Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion. She was very interested in hearing about the Professional Staff Senate. She would like to meet with PSS at a general membership meeting. She requested the breakdown of what employee groups constitute the Professional Staff Senate. We have 1709 UUP, 1007 RF, 198 UBF, FSA 60 staff. They talked about campus safety and was in support of UB Police presence on the downtown campus.
- h. We have a final Executive Committee Meeting May. She would like us to review the existing committees and their charges.
- i. HR Website testing. HR has just got started on creating their website. They are not ready for testing.
- j. Faculty Senate Resolution on the transparency of UBF and the President's response. The resolution called on the President to open the UBF books as if they were subject to Foil. See the attachment at the end of the minutes for the President's response to this resolution.

4. VICE CHAIR REPORT

- a. Diversity Committee has announced the first session of their Education and Advocacy Series which will be Wednesday, April 9th called "Breaking Misconceptions about Accessibility: How you can Become an Advocate". This will take place from noon until 1:00 PM in 338A Davis Hall, North Campus. This session will explore common misconceptions about accessibility, highlight resources available for students and professional staff, and provide advice on how you can become an advocate for access and success.

- b. Staff Development Committee will be holding it's Professional Staff Development Conference on May 21, 2014 at the Holiday Inn Amherst
- c. Continuous Improvement – This committee will be presenting at the Supervisor Forums where Dr. Kimberley Elsener will be discussing data-driven leadership in a course entitled “Using Data to Inform Decision-Making”. They need help setting up. So, if you're coming, help out.
- d. PSS Awards Ceremony will be June 5, 2014. We'd like to see the Executive Committee attend this event.

5. OLD/NEW Business

- a. We are looking to do a PSS survey where Joe Mantione is helping us developing this survey. There was a question what the focus of the survey to either be committee work or information from the 2007 survey sent out.
- b. The next general membership meeting will be held April 17th. Our speaker is Laura Hubbard, Vice President for Finance and Administration.
- c. This Friday – for fun, support Kickboxing a thon fund raiser for Sub Board 1. Join me on Friday April 4th for a Kickboxing class and fundraiser for the AED Society at UB! My daughter Shanelle Raugh is organizing this to raise money for the Pre Health Society and how can I refuse? Minimum donation is \$5.00 for the class (trying to keep it low for college students). Join us in the Student Union.

6. ADJOURMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE

University at Buffalo *The State University of New York*

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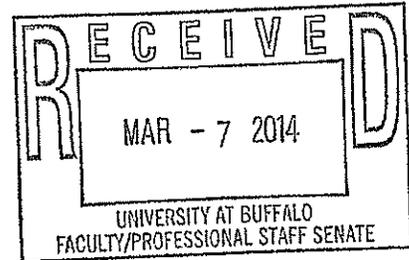
Executive	4/3/2014			Area
Jennifer	Berryman	Senator	A	1
Gerri	Kremer	Senator	A	1
Kimberly	Krzemien	Executive Senator	A	1
Candy	Morris	Executive Senator	A	1
Ilene	Fleischmann	Senator	A	2
William	McDonnell	Executive Senator	A	2
Stephen	Pusztay	Senator	A	2
Katherine	Trapanovski	Executive Senator	A	2
Arlene	Kaukus	Alternate	EXCUSED	3
Joshua	Kelley	Senator	A	3
Kathleen	Kielar	Officer	A	3
Eugene	Pohancsek	Executive Senator	A	3
James	Ramsey	Executive Senator	A	3
James	Gordon	Executive Senator	A	4
Janiece	Jankowski	Senator	A	4
Kathleen	O'Brien	Executive Senator	A	4
Cheryl	Bailey	Senator	A	5
Laura	Barnum	Officer	A	5
Ann Marie	Landel	Officer	A	5
Amy	Myszka	Executive Senator	ABSENT	5
Thomas	Okon	Senator	A	5
Susan	Steck	Executive Senator	A	5



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Office of the President

March 5, 2014



Professor Ezra Zubrow
Chair, Faculty Senate
University at Buffalo
543 Capen Hall
North Campus

Dear Professor Zubrow:

Thank you for your letter of February 5, 2014 regarding the Faculty Senate resolution concerning the University at Buffalo Foundation and the Freedom of Information Law.

As requested, I have considered this resolution carefully, and I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my thoughts regarding this matter.

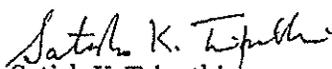
The resolution asks that "the President and administration of the University at Buffalo make available the budget of UBF and its associated foundations as if it were subject to FOIL." As a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, the University at Buffalo Foundation, Inc. is outside of my purview as University at Buffalo President. Neither I as President, nor the University at Buffalo as an institution, have the legal authority to make available any records held by the UB Foundation as a private corporation.

Please note, however, that acting of its own accord, the UB Foundation, Inc. has made public much of its financial information. All audited financial statements of the University at Buffalo Foundation, Inc. are published online by that corporation and can be readily accessed on the UBF website: www.ubfoundation.buffalo.edu/. It is also my understanding that the UB Foundation will be making available (via the UB Foundation website) its official IRS 990 tax forms.

Finally, I wish to address the resolution's comments regarding the Faculty Senate's interest in "the budget and recommendation of funding priorities" and the information it seeks from the University at Buffalo administration in this regard. If it is deemed helpful and appropriate, may I suggest that the Faculty Senate extend an invitation to Vice President Laura Hubbard to continue this discussion regarding university finance and budgetary matters.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my above suggestion. Please do not hesitate to let me know should the Faculty Senate seek clarification of any of my comments.

Sincerely,


Satish K. Tripathi
President

xc: Dr. Charles Zukoski, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs