



Minutes of the Senate and General Meeting – APPROVED

November 15, 2018

Convener: Dom Licata

Officers Present: Dom Licata, Tim Tryjankowski

Senators Present: Karen Anderson, Susan Bagdasarian, Kevin Baron, Kurt Baumgaertner, Charles Baxter, Kim Behun, Rachel Blane, Karlen Chase, Harrison Cheung, Jessica Coram, Fred Covelli, Russell Crispell, Kelly Cruttenden, Kalpesh Desai, Don Erb, Frances Fiscus, Jonathan Freifeld, James Gordon, Janiece Jankowski, Daniel Kelly, Christopher Keough, Geraldine Kremer, Theresa Kruse, Jessica Labella, Jenna Lenz, Douglas Levere, Kira Love, Lauren McGowan, Sherene Milizia, Lisa Pano, Benjamin Poremski, Kathleen Roach, Eileen Sirianni, Debra Stamm, Pamela Stephens-Jackson, Daniel Vargas, Michael Yates

Senators Absent: Cheryl Bailey, Mike Brown (COAL), Chris Cheung, Matt Deck, Thomas Dzimira, Lynn Emminger, Mary Clare Fahey, Philip Glick (FSS), Anne-Marie Hantman, William (Reed) Jones, Julie Kim-Proehl, Carl Lam, RJ Multari, Joy Piper, Arvind Ramaswamy, Matt Reitmeier, Cassandra Walker-Whiteside, Kevin Westling

Members/Guests: Eugene Colucci, Sevie Kandefer

Parliamentarian: ~~Joshua Wallace~~ (absent)

Staff: Lindsay Allen

Recorder: Lindsay Allen

Meeting called to order by Dom Licata/Tim Tryjankowski at 3:03 p.m.

Quorum not reached: 19 senators and 2 officers present.

Supporting documents on Box:

<https://buffalo.box.com/s/levn0p5vbmewxe7xymzirxbvoz44flcz>

SPECIAL GUEST – PRESIDENT SATISH K. TRIPATHI

Remarks included:

- Student enrollment is up (1/3 more especially in-state) and quality improving every year (SAT/GPA). Also more awards than ever.
- Faculty and staff effort working with students provides extra edge to compete nationally.
- Capital Improvements to provide a better environment for students: new labs, offices, technology upgrades.
 - Murchie Field House will be completed in April of 2019. (North Campus off Millersport.)
 - One World Café ground-breaking soon. Target completion in 2020. 500-600 seat capacity.
- 32,000 students total. 30,000 in Buffalo alone. Others in satellite campuses like Singapore.

Office of University Shared Governance
Faculty Senate and Professional Staff Senate

543 Capen Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1601

Ph: (716) 645-2003; Fax: (716) 645-2717

pssenate@buffalo.edu

www.buffalo.edu/pss



- More than 75% graduate in 6 years. 4 year rate: 57%; 10 years ago it was in the 30%. Finish in 4 Program can be credited but also staff support in advising, etc. A lot of potential improvement here.
- Still in top 25 institutions for international students. 5,000 current students are international, as of last year. Staff are huge support to these students.
- SKT is happy to hear that community panel meeting was well received and relationships seem to be improving. Just a few years these same leaders were not happy with UB. Also very happy with PSS committee work and volunteering and all that has been accomplished.
- Social Work and GSE moves are on target, but slower than expected, will free more space on North Campus.
- Boldly Buffalo campaign \$650 million goal, 73% reached, on target for 2021. SKT believes \$1 billion is possible. Many endowed scholarships and chairs already funded. Improving athletics (mentioned our place in various conferences) which is exciting and opens doors, but stressed research accomplishments more important.
- Athletics is improving very well. 9-2 for football, 6-1 basketball. People in the community are paying attention to UB athletics. Exciting for entire campus.
- SKT doesn't believe in rankings but they are important to parents and students. The right things are ranked very well even if some things are not. 35 point improvement in ranking in 2 years is significant, and we are moving in the right direction and making a difference.
- Thanks staff for "everything they do". A lot of what goes on does not get the same recognition as for faculty. Much more is deserved!

Questions:

What is the cap on enrollment?

SKT: room to grow two more thousand, but no specific goal in mind right now. Can grow in margins but if the core body gets larger we cannot support it just from tuition. Will need more state support.

Budget issues, can he make a statement on that?

SKT: small tuition increase (\$200). Excelsior requires more per student, but TAP gap must be filled and is filled with Excelsior money. No new funding for "well deserved raises" in salaries but SKT hopes there will be. How can we sustain salary increases? Lots of "talk" but not a lot of money is surfacing. Hoping for more relief from the state but nothing concrete yet. Units can decide how money is distributed, but retention is important. Boldly Buffalo is raising money, can be used to build things like labs but cannot be used to pay salaries. Have to think about every possible way to raise money.

International enrollment and competition: how can we continue to attract more international students?

SKT answers that it is a national trend that numbers are down a little. Less Chinese but more Indians. Students with lots of money and want to get into top universities in their country, but cannot, so they look to the US. We want to attract them because they bring in more money through tuition and other funding. Staff is doing a great job with this. But there is a lot of legal uncertainty. International student enrollment is always going up and down.

TAP gap: can SUNY negotiate with the state for funding?

SKT: yes, always working every angle we can find.

Any strategies to support graduate enrollment?

SKT: Graham Hammill is working on this with graduate directors and associate deans. Certain programs are

Office of University Shared Governance
Faculty Senate and Professional Staff Senate

543 Capen Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1601

Ph: (716) 645-2003; Fax: (716) 645-2717

pssenate@buffalo.edu

www.buffalo.edu/pss



down but overall master's enrollments are up nationally and at UB. For PhD, they are choosing specific faculty. Marketing and Communications is working with graduate deans to help market UB. Many disciplines need a lot of work on this. We are working to maintain 2/3 undergrad to 1/3 graduate, which is better than many of our peers. Marketing and Communications is helping with this.

Question on validity on SATs ACTs and GREs. Is UB planning to remove them as a measure to accept students. SKT: small private schools are doing this but UB has no plans currently. These are still valid measures on students. Some programs are no longer requiring GRE or GMAT but need a replacement standard. GPA and class ranking are still good predictors, better than standard tests. Dom comments on SUNY UFS resolution for a test optional system.

Many years ago was a focus on making UB a great place to work. Will Rec & Wellness Center be open to faculty and staff as well as students? We would love to be involved.

SKT says to follow up with Scott. No state money to build rec center, so alternate funding is needed, such as student funds, or a membership model. SKT agrees wellness is part of a great place to work.

What are they doing near the flag pole?

SKT: jokes it is the president's job to discover this sort of thing. He asked the other day and Laura Hubbard explained there is a leak in chilled water line but SKT jokes they are actually digging for gold.

***** 3:46 quorum check: 32 senators and 2 officers. Quorum reached. *****

(Return to original agenda.)

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA – Dom Licata

- **Motion to adopt agenda: Jim Gordon (second unknown). Passed.**

REVIEW OF PAST MINUTE(S) – Dom Licata

- **Motion to approve minutes from October 25, 2018: Ben Poremski (second ??). Passed.**

CHAIR'S REPORT – Dom Licata

- SUNY Voices - should campuses allow controversial speakers? Mixed opinions - great conversation. Chancellor spoke: SUNY core mission is quality and access; student centered; diversity; community engagement; collaboration, etc.
 - PRODI-G: hire one thousand diversity employees over next ten years. SUNY will contribute on declining basis over first three years.
 - iEcosystem: every learner can place products of education in the cloud. Supports lifelong learning and allows university to update the information.
 - Provost Laursen - began one month ago, very knowledgeable. Champion of online learning. Give students what they need versus what we want to give them.
 - Bruce Johnstone – authority versus influence. Senate is the only way to influence.
- [Dom corrected the president: staff ARE recognized nationally and internationally.]
 - Dom presented on role of professional staff in shared governance (how can we participate, partner with students, lead in campus governance even in academic decisions, our rights).



- Alithia Alleyne audio clip, including “...team is only as strong as the weakest player - effects the entire system. Make joy out of the things you have to do, it’s motivating! Do things FOR THE TEAM - professional development, obtaining certificates (notary public), earn alphabet city after your name. Everyone is an asset! Staff has a lot of add.”
- Concern from a senator that EV charging spots are rare on campus and have become competitive (<https://www.buffalo.edu/parking/parking-places/special-purpose-parking-places/electric-vehicles.html>) Ryan McPherson is collecting usage data. He and Chris Austin will present to PSS this spring to help figure out a solution.
 - Don Erb requests people call him if they cannot get on the stations. He will keep track. Request to put Don Erb’s information into minutes: erb@buffalo.edu / 645-5619.
- UB applying for SUNY Shard Governance Award. Has been submitted for president’s signature.
- Adopt-A-Family (details at PSS office).
 - Lindsay will send family list to senators, or anyone can reach out to Lindsay/PSS.
- Next meetings
 - Dec 6: Exec Cmt
 - Dec 13: joint senate and general meeting (ERROR IN SLIDE: 330 SU, not 310)
- **Request to send meeting reminder on day of meeting -- Dom agreed.**
- **Motion to receive: Chris Keough (seconder unknown). Passed.**

VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT – Tim Tryjankowski

- Awards Cmt: chancellor’s deadline is 1/9. Encouraged to share this information including to faculty.
- Budget Advisory Cmt: request for funding form on web.
- Elections Cmt: working on better online voting system; many vacancies -- can be filled by Exec Cmt.
- Inclusion & Diversity Cmt: new chair; potluck dinner in December; education & advocacy series planned for January. Spring conference.
- Marketing & Communications Cmt: 2,300 newsletter viewership; contributions welcome, send to the committee for December 4th issue.
- Recreation & Wellness Cmt: survey being sent out to staff, please respond; asking HR & Campus Living to see what other campus facilities staff can use.
- Request for committee accomplishments for Dom’s biannual Report so more money can be obtained from Provost if possible. Committees have huge impact but we need to keep track of accomplishments. 1000s of lives have been touched through committee activity.
- Staff Development & Engagement Cmt:
 - Mentoring Sub-Cmt - looking to assign mentors to mentees
 - Social & Networking Sub-Cmt - Ally McCarthy now heads; corn hole league; PSS lunch club
 - Welcoming Sub-Cmt - April 12 welcome breakfast in SU; volunteers welcomed
- Sustainable Living Cmt: plant exchange; tree inventory/drones next meeting after Thanksgiving.
- Web Cmt: looking for action photos and updates; new members welcome
- **Motion to receive: Don Erb (seconder unknown). Passed.**

SECRETARY’S REPORT

(none)



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(none)

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Four SUNY UFS Resolutions – Dom Licata

- Shared with full senate at last joint meeting, Oct. 25, and endorsed by Exec Cmt, Nov. 1.
- If senate endorses, will be passed on to president as values that we share.
- **Motion to endorse each resolution individually: Janiece Jankowski (Don Erb). Passed.**
- 2. Gender-Neutral Language in All SUNY Correspondence
 - **Motion to endorse: Janiece Jankowski (seconder unknown). Passed.**
- 3. Support for Lactating Persons and Lactation Space(s) on All SUNY Campuses
 - **Motion to endorse: Don Erb (Eileen Sirianni). Passed.**
- 4. To Encourage SUNY to Become the First Test-Optional System of Higher Education in the Nation
 - **Motion to endorse: Teresa Kruse (seconder unknown).**
 - Discussion: more information needed; resources would be needed to change procedures; references to STK's comments.
 - Tim clarifies language of resolution supports our concerns. Just requests less reliance on tests and encourages campuses to be transparent about procedures.
 - **Motion to table discussion until next meeting: Jonathan Freifeld (seconder unknown). Passed.**
- 5. To Re-Institute the Graduate Fellowship Incentive Program
 - **Motion to endorse: Don Erb (seconder unknown). Passed.**

Meeting adjourned: 4:40 pm.

Attendance sign in sheet(s) housed in the PSS office.

Meeting audio recording available in the PSS office.