

## Minutes of the Senate and General Meeting – APPROVED December 13, 2018

**Convener:** Dom Licata

**Officers Present:** Dom Licata, Tim Tryjankowski, Hugh Jarvis

**Senators Present:** Ashley Allen (alt. for McGowan), Susan Bagdasarian, Jason Bachert (alt. for Pano), Kevin Baron, Kurt Baumgaertner, Charles Baxter, Kim Behun, Rachel Blane, Karlen Chase, Christopher Cheung, Harrison Cheung, Jessica Coram, Fred Covelli, Russell Crispell, Kelly Cruttenden, Matt Deck, Kalpesh Desai, Tom Dzimira, Don Erb, Mary Clare Fahey, Frances Fiscus, James Gordon, Anne-Marie Hantman, William (Reed) Jones, Daniel Kelly, Christopher Keough, Geraldine Kremer, Theresa Kruse, Jessica Labela, Carl Lam, Jenna Lenz, Sherene Milizia, RJ Multari, Joy Piper, Benjamin Poremski, Kathleen Roach, Debra Stamm, Pamela Stephens-Jackson, Daniel Vargas

**Senators Absent:** Karen Anderson, Cheryl Bailey, Thomas Dzimira, Lynn Emminger, Jonathan Freifeld, Janiece Jankowski, Julie Kim-Proehl, Douglas Levere, Kira Love, Lauren McGowan (sent alt.), Lisa Pano (sent alt.), Arvind Ramaswamy, Matt Reitmeier, Eileen Sirianni, Cassandra Walker-Whiteside, Kevin Westling, Michael Yates

**Members/Guests:** Becky Bourke, Ed Brodka, Christa Greenberg, Heather Hagenbuch, Sevie Kandefer, Junting Liu, Darla Maffei, Leslie McCain, Dylana Thompson

**Parliamentarian:** ~~Joshua Wallace~~ (absent)

**Staff:** Lindsay Allen

**Recorder:** Hugh Jarvis

**Meeting called to order** by Dom Licata at 3:05 p.m.

**Quorum reached:** 27 senators and 3 officers present.

Supporting documents on Box:

<https://buffalo.box.com/s/a9ulbjzmm7i7g5vewb8q6auc3r64awq>

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA – Dom Licata

- Last minute amendments due to cancellations.
- **Motion to adopt revised Agenda: Chris Cheung (Ben Poremski). Passed.**

REVIEW OF PAST MINUTES – Dom Licata

- **Motion to approve Minutes from November 15, 2018: Don Erb (Dan Kelly). Passed.**

## CHAIR'S REPORT – Dom Licata

- LGBTQFSA Brownbag Conversation on Strategies for Being an Ally (December 17, noon)
- Fourth Annual Day of University Shared Governance, Tue. Mar. 5, UB
- Brice Bible's presentation on new UB IT Security Standards at Faculty Senate Dec 5, slides in Box
  - Increasingly limited personal access to workstations and networks
  - additional security measures
  - federal funding regulations
  - increasing privacy rights regulations (e.g. Calif. "right to be forgotten" law)
  - basic steps to compliance: don't run using admin accounts, set auto-updates, use tough passwords, use anti-virus software, encrypt hard-drives
- TA Living Stipend Campaign
  - 80 members attended last UB Council meeting, were allowed access but not heard
  - average UB stipend is in middle of our AAU peers (ca. \$18K) but once fees are considered (\$15.5K) UB is at bottom of our peers and well below WNY cost of living
- Faculty Senate Shared Governance Fund: established by Phil Glick to support activities that fall outside funded budget, verbal agreement from provost that will not compete with our budget funding, but rest of details still being worked out
- Adopt a Family: more gifts sought before COB Friday Dec 14
- Upcoming Events:
  - Dec 18, Inclusion & Diversity Potluck
  - Feb 7, EC Meeting
  - Feb 21, next joint senate-general meeting
- **Motion to receive: Mary Clare Fahey (seconder unknown). Passed.**

## VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – Tim Tryjankowski

- Awards Committee – SUNY award nominations due soon (Jan 9, then March 15)
- Budget Cmt: 3-yr draft plan submitted to Provost; encouragement any additional budget requests
- Recreation & Wellness Cmt: road trip to SUNY Cortland funded (Jan 24); corn hole gear purchased
- Elections Cmt: revamping online platform; officer elections begin end of December nominations
- **also Exec Cmt is considering alternates to our current Five Areas representation, ideas welcomed**
- Inclusion & Diversity Cmt: annual potluck luncheon will be Dec 18
- Marketing & Communications Cmt: latest newsletter was successful, looking for future ideas
- Sustainable Futures Cmt: tree inventory progressing (representatives from Facilities, Geography, SEAS, PSS, CURCA), Facilities planning to buy a drone-mounted infrared sensor, students will do leg work and crunch the data
- **Motion to receive: Fran Fiscus (Chris Cheung). Passed.**

NB. The tree inventory project began from one senator's concerns, through a resolution into a cross campus task group.

NB. Rachael's in Commons has stopped using Styrofoam.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT – (Dom Licata)

- None, but reminder to let us know if you cannot attend and send an alternate from your area to stand in your place. This supports quorum and broadens our impact.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### SUNY Resolution – Test-Optional Campus

- UB Faculty Senate has chosen not to endorse this resolution.
- **Motion to postpone indefinitely: Tom Dzimira (Jim Gordon). Passed.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### SUNY Board of Trustees Proposed Policy on Consensual Relationships – Sharon Nolan-Weiss

SUNY BoT has passed a proposal that each campus establish a policy on consensual relationships, prohibiting employees having ANY relationship with undergraduate students regardless of supervisory relationship or business / academic affiliation.

- Requests feedback from the campus and campus governance.
- We already have discrimination/harassment and nepotism policies.
- Feedback sought thru end of Dec 21 at EDI [diversity@buffalo.edu](mailto:diversity@buffalo.edu) and will submit to SUNY
- Discussion:
  - Would it include graduate students who are employees? Not clear.
  - Would it take into account non-traditional (older) students? Not clear.
  - How is 'undergraduate student' defined?
  - How is 'employee' defined?
  - Would it include undergraduate students who are employees? Not clear.
  - How about pre-existing relationships? Probably grand-fathered but would need disclosure.
  - What is the foundation/rationale for this policy? Has there been a rise in complaints or statistics to support it? If anything, has been rise in complaints by graduate students.
  - Implicit threat of harassment due to employee-employer relationships.
  - What would penalties be? How would it be enforced? Not clear.
  - As drafted, inappropriate behavior might include ANY accolades, high-fives, back slaps, innocent toughing or hugging.

### Proposed Mental Health and Sexual Violence Syllabi Statements – Dom Licata

#### **Student proponent could not attend (Gunnar Haberl, SA President).**

- Was endorsed by Executive Cmt meeting Dec 6.
- Proposal for mandatory statements in all course syllabi.



- Statement about sexual violence similar to those adopted by other universities, and written in conjunction with EDI:
  - ***UB is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and stalking. If you have experienced gender-based violence (intimate partner violence, attempted or completed sexual assault, harassment, coercion, stalking, etc.), UB has resources to help. This includes academic accommodations, health and counseling services, housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and assistance with reporting the incident to police or other UB officials if you so choose. Please contact UB's Title IX Coordinator at 716-645-2266 for more information. For confidential assistance, you may also contact a Crisis Services Campus Advocate at 716-796-4399***
  - (Optional additional text) ***Please be aware UB faculty are mandated to report violence or harassment on the basis of sex or gender. This means that if you tell me about a situation, I will need to report it to the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. You will still have options about how the situation will be handled, including whether or not you wish to pursue a formal complaint. Please know that if you do not wish to have UB proceed with an investigation, your request will be honored unless UB's failure to act does not adequately mitigate the risk of harm to you or other members of the University community. You also have the option of speaking with trained counselors who can maintain complete confidentiality. UB's Options for Confidentially Disclosing Sexual Violence provides a full explanation of the resources available, as well as contact information. You may call UB's Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at 716-645-2266 for more information, and you have the option of calling that office anonymously if you would prefer not to disclose your identity.***
- Statement about mental health written in conjunction with Student Health & Wellness:
  - ***As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. These might include strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, health concerns, or unwanted sexual experiences. Counseling, Health Services, and Health Promotion are here to help with these or other issues you may experience. You learn can [sic] more about these programs and services by contacting:***
    - ***Counseling Services:  
120 Richmond Quad (N Campus), phone 716-645-2720  
202 Michael Hall (S Campus), phone: 716-829-5800***
    - ***Health Services: Michael Hall (S Campus), phone: 716-829-3316***
    - ***Health Promotion: 114 Student Union (N Campus), phone: 716-645-2837***
  - Is being considered by Faculty Senate, still in committee.
- **Motion to endorse: Russ Crispell (seconder unknown).**
  - Discussion:
    - Are staff considered mandatory reporters? Yes.
    - Shouldn't we wait until it comes out of Faculty Senate Cmt?
    - Language is incomplete, doesn't follow mandatory training (e.g. contact police).
    - Why doesn't the president announce this at beginning of each semester.



- Why on syllabus vs other places e.g. student handbook? One more place, often read by students repeatedly thru semester.
- UB has a student bill of rights, not every student wants to speak to police, was a student-led effort, students are requesting this so worth paying attention.
- This will be in syllabus, but will there be faculty/TA involvement in presenting it?
- We should definitely be sensitive to this student association led initiative.
- **Motion passed unanimously.**

## COAL NFTA Pass Resolution – Dom Licata

### Student proponent could not attend (Mike Brown, COAL Chair, ex-officio EC member)

- Core of resolution:
  - ***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all seven student governments that comprise the Council of Advocacy and Leadership (COAL) call upon UB and the NFTA to reach a deal to expand the current Downtown Campus pilot so that more students throughout the university may receive CRAM passes; and be it further***
  - ***RESOLVED that UB and the NFTA should collaborate with student leaders on COAL to determine specific policy details such as how many CRAM passes would be desired, how students receive a pass, what eligibility criteria if any would be established, whether there would be changes in fees, whether there may be an opt-in or opt-out model, and other similar questions that may arise; and be it further***
  - ***RESOLVED that COAL will forward copies of this resolution to the University at Buffalo Council, UB President Satish Tripathi, UB's Office of Shared Governance, the NFTA Board of Directors, and other stakeholders; and be it further***
  - ***RESOLVED that UB should support the NFTA in its requests to state legislators that state aid be based on passenger miles served, as increased state aid based on filling empty seats can help to underwrite the costs of a permanent transit pass program.***
- **Motion to endorse: Don Erb (seconder unknown).**
  - Was discussed and endorsed by Executive Cmt (to pass on to full senate):
    - **Dec. 6 EC motion was to endorse the resolution with two amendments: Charlie Baxter (Ben Poremski). Main motion was passed as amended.**
      - **Amendment: that special attention be paid to accessibility around South Campus if the Blue Line is eliminated: Ben Poremski (Lisa Pano). Passed.**
      - **Amendment: to carry the state aid language from the Whereas down to the Resolved for more clarity: Don Erb (Ben Poremski). Passed.**
  - Discussion:
    - Can we postpone until COAL representative can agree to include our requested changes. No need, we can proceed with our endorsement with requested amendments, without those changes our endorsement would be withdrawn.
    - What will happen to Blue Line?
  - **Point of Clarification: Are clarifications part of the motion?**



University at Buffalo

## Professional Staff Senate

University Shared Governance

- **Motion is to endorse the original COAL resolution with incorporation of our two amendments. If they do not incorporate our amendments, our endorsement will lapse.**
- More discussion:
  - Where will this go next? Faculty Senate, then administration.
  - Do they have endorsement from student assemblies? Not clear.
  - Are the Blue Line bus drivers employees? No, First Transit, but the resolution does not advocate termination of that line.
- **Motion with two Executive Cmt amendments passed (3 opposed).**

### PROGRAM – Round Robin Discussions with PSS Committee Representatives

(broke into groups)

**Motion to Adjourn:** Jim Gordon.4:30 p.m.

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

*Meeting audio recording available in the PSS office.*