



University at Buffalo Council

Meeting minutes

March 5, 2018, 8:00 a.m.

Council Room, 505 Capen Hall

Members present:

Jeremy M. Jacobs, Chairman

Mike Brown

Michael Cropp

Jonathan Dandes

Scott Friedman

Pamela Heilman (by phone)

June W. Hoeflich

Christopher Koch

Other participants:

Satish K. Tripathi, President

Charles F. Zukoski, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Rod Grabowski, Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement

Laura Hubbard, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Attendees:

Brice Bible, Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President

Robert Granfield, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Kathleen Heckman, Assoc. Vice President for Operations, Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement

Jocelyn Jakubus, Director of Presidential Events and Initiatives

Dan LaDelfa, Assistant Director of Presidential Communications

Domenic Licata, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

David Shurtleff, Instructional Support Specialist, UB IT

Eileen Sherman, Deputy to the Provost

Nancy Paton, Vice President for University Communications

Sue Wuetcher, News Content Manager, UBNOW

Opening business

Call to order

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

Approval of minutes

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2017 meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Dandes, seconded by Ms. Hoeflich, and the minutes were approved.

Topics for discussion or action

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Jacobs stated there were several naming resolutions to be considered by the UB Council.

Consideration of naming resolutions

The first resolution called for the Council's approval for the naming of the "Jerald and Ester Bovino Professor and Chair." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Dr. Cropp, seconded by Mr. Friedman, and was approved unanimously.

The second resolution called for the Council's approval of the naming of the "James and Judith Marks Family Scholarship Fund." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Friedman and seconded by Mr. Koch, and was approved unanimously.

A third resolution called for the Council's approval of the naming of the "Stephanie T. Niciszewska-Mucha and Joseph J. Mucha Patient Welcome Center." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Friedman and seconded by Mr. Koch, and was approved unanimously.

A fourth resolution called for the Council's approval of the naming of the "John J. and Janet H. Sung Medical School Scholarship Fund." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Dr. Cropp and seconded by Mr. Koch and was approved unanimously.

A fifth resolution called for the Council's approval of the naming of the "Louise Annie Gillespie Scholarship Endowment Fund." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Dandes and seconded by Dr. Cropp, and was approved unanimously.

A sixth resolution called for the Council's approval of the naming of the "E. Han Kim Finance Doctoral Student and Junior Faculty Development Fund." Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Friedman and seconded by Mr. Koch, and was approved unanimously.

Report of the Student Representative

Mr. Brown reported some UB students may participate in a national walkout demonstration on March 14 in honor of school shooting victims and to advocate for school safety. Mr. Brown added UB student leaders are encouraging all students to sign up for UB text alerts and plan to meet with the UB Police Department to discuss campus safety policies. UB students also discussed the use of student fees at a town hall meeting. Mr. Brown discussed the idea of participatory budgeting to give students a chance to engage in the process of how these fees are spent. Mr. Brown also discussed the UBreathe Free initiative for a smoke free campus and ways to enhance its implementation.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi began his report by asking Vice President Grabowski to provide more information on the six naming resolutions passed by the Council at this meeting.

President continued his report with several campus updates for the Council. The grand opening of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences building took place in December. The first classes were held for students in January. A search is also underway for a new Director of Athletics. Kathy Twist was appointed Interim AD to replace Allen Greene who took the AD position at Auburn University. Council Member Dandes and President Tripathi's Chief of Staff Beth Del Genio are chairing the search committee for a new AD. A search is also underway for a new Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence. Teri Miller stepped down to become the Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Chief of Staff to SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson. Despina Stratigakos, professor in the School of Architecture and Planning has been named Interim Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence.

President Tripathi also discussed the proposed New York State budget. UB would like to see an increase in its operating budget to cover the anticipated cost of salary increases as a result of the state's collective bargaining with unions. The last time a new CBA was approved with unions, the state did not include increased funding to SUNY to cover the cost. In terms of capital funding, the proposal calls for \$350 million to SUNY. SUNY received \$550 million in 2017. UB would receive \$18 million from those proposed funds. President Tripathi then asked Vice President Hubbard to present to the Council on the impact of state appropriations for the campus.

University Briefings: Presentation by Vice President of Finance and Administration

Ms. Hubbard updated the Council on UB's capital plan for its campuses including strategic initiatives, deferred maintenance, and ways UB has used efficiency to save money. UB's comprehensive physical plan includes creating a downtown campus (which includes the new Jacobs School building), revitalizing the South Campus as a professional education center, reorganizing the North Campus as an undergraduate and research center, improving the campus life experience on all three campuses, and reducing deferred maintenance and addressing priority infrastructure projects. Strategic initiatives include plans for \$277 million in renovations to the South Campus and \$80 million to the North Campus. Funding from the state is currently being used for critical maintenance projects. UB received \$55 million in capital funding for the current fiscal year. Ms. Hubbard then presented numerous projects under construction, or in the design and planning phase on each campus. Ms. Hubbard informed the Council that UB currently has an estimated \$500 million in deferred maintenance.

University Briefings: Report of the Provost

Provost Zukoski began his report by announcing recent faculty awards including Amit Goyal, Director of UB RENEW and an internationally recognized materials scientist, has been named a member of the National Academy of Engineering. Provost Zukoski continued by highlighting several faculty research examples including an interdisciplinary team of UB faculty – supported by the National Science Foundation – is working on the NAVIGATE Project, a novel education program designed to close the gender gap in the STEM workforce by providing women graduate students with the skills to recognize and overcome gender inequality. Provost Zukoski also informed the Council about how the Graduate School of Education taking a leading role in the transformation of the underperforming BUILD Academy on Buffalo’s East Side. This will provide GSE with a unique opportunity to apply their research and training programs to enhance teacher preparation and educational programs at all levels.

Provost Zukoski also noted that undergraduate applications to UB are up again this year – by approximately 13% ahead of last year, up more than 35% in three years. Graduate and professional applications are generally down. To better attract graduate students, UB has submitted more than 35 new dual degree programs to SUNY and New York State since the beginning of the fall 2017 semester, many of these programs create pathways from liberal arts majors to professional degrees.

Provost Zukoski also informed the Council of new leadership in Educational Affairs. In January, Ann Bisantz, professor and former chair of Industrial and Systems Engineering at UB, joined Educational Affairs as UB’s new Dean of Undergraduate Education. And last semester, UB welcomed History Professor Dalia Muller as the new Director of the Honor’s College and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi asked VP Grabowski to update the Council and invite the members to the upcoming university campaign kickoff on April 27.

Adjournment

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Koch and seconded by Mr. Friedman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Minutes to be approved at the June 11, 2018 meeting of the UB Council.