



Professional Staff Senate  
Executive Committee Meeting  
June 9, 2016

Notes—before meeting:

Senatorial Process

Senator's web page has senator term limits: call for new Senators will be out this week. Emails will be sent out to the various PSS listserv requesting nominations. Nomination letters will be sent to new Senators.

PSS Member Database

Maribeth Tamsen, PSS Secretary has had to make phone calls to get updates on new members for our current PSS listserv.

**Meeting start: Luncheon 12:30pm; business at 1:01pm**

**1. Agenda**

\*Motion for Approval called by Domenic Licata, PSS Chair: First: Gerri Kramer, Second: Kathleen Kieler, Unanimously approved.

**2. Chair's Report: Domenic Licata**

\*PSS Annual Awards Luncheon, May 18, 2016 Overview

\*7 Chancellor's Awards, 1 service to the Professional Staff (President Cash Award-unknown amount), 1 service to the Professional Staff Senate (PSS Cash Award?)

\*Successful event; 148 staff attendees, Terri Miller Emcee

\*Senior Leadership Planning Retreat, May 23<sup>rd</sup> "Excellence and Impact"

\*Dom Licata attended this meeting in Hayes Hall to represent the PSS at this event at the invite of President Tripathi.

Presentation: IMPACT; A Conceptual Framework followed by discussion and planning.

Discussion: At UB research is our product. Ultimately, we are a research University. Students are a part of the research and not the research as a part of the student's development. We are here to support research ultimately. So many important inventions have come out of UB, example zip code systems used by the US Postal Service. Leaders were put into groups and discussed various topics that impact UB such as "how long it takes a website to be designed at UB" which currently is eight months. This time frame is too lengthy and unacceptable.

Future goal: PSS continues to share in the planning and sharing of important information that effect the larger University.

#### \*PSS Initiative for Bicycle Safety

Domenic Licata, PSS Chair and Jim Gordon, PSS EC Senator met with Parking & Transportation to discuss Bike safety on campus. Our goal is to advocate that this is a priority and see where staff can be of assistance in this initiative to enforce bicycle safety on campus. The current office does more to support vehicle parking and less focus is on bicycle parking. Question whether we have the staff to assist in supporting this initiative on campus within PSS when we do not have enough staff participating in our current PSS committees. Outcome; we will put the information forward to our staff and see if there may be interest. There are various ways in which PSS staff at UB could potentially support the bicycle safety initiatives. UUP: September picnic upcoming perhaps could be a collaborative partner for a campus bicycling event. There have been bicycle thefts on campus, some staff do not feel safe bringing their bikes to campus

Shared Governance within PSS and FS. Bruce Jackson spoke out against the local AAU paper initiating white papers. Another article was posted favoring the AAU. PSS wants to continue to be a part of the discussion.

Mark Coldren on new FSLA regs and "exempt" status. Recent email suggest changes will be underway, more details will be announced fall 2016. Will Professional staff be affected? Discussion: discrepancies exist between staff's performance programs and their "actual" duties and responsibilities, what they really do. Currently PSS members much be non-exempt only. Subject to change every three years. PSS may need to alter their definition of professional staff to accommodate members.

UB Branding and PSS. Banners, swag and both print and email templates. Revitalization of the way we communicate and present ourselves to the University at large.

### **3. Vice Chair Report, Committee Report; David Love**

PSS Diversity: Annual Conference

Mentoring: Ed Brodka took over lead of this committee. Session was presented at the Staff Development Conference last week.

Staff Development Conference: 130 attendees, next week evaluations will go out.

Ed Brodka will step down as Chair of this committee.

Sustainable Living: 40 people at their walking tour last week

Website Committee: thank you to Jason Parker of the web team in helping to migrate to the new PSS website

### **4. Unfinished Business: Domenic**

Budget Oversight Committee: EC Volunteer for budget committee. Postpone to the next meeting. Kat Kieler volunteer. Plans to be a Senator for next term. Co-Chair nominee. Motion to accept nomination; unanimously approved. First order of business will be to call a first meeting.

## 5. New Business

“SUNY’s Got Your Back” Kesha presented an overview of this initiative encouraging PSS support. Title IX coordinators provide SUNY care packages to women who have experienced sexual assault. UB’s goal is to fill 300 bags. Need: note pads, sweatshirts, t-shirts, pens, pencils, toiletries, socks. Bag filling event during domestic violence awareness month. Reserved flag room and SU lobby. Kesha will be meeting with UB Athletics, Wellness, UB Communications etc. to promote this initiative. Requesting that PSS serve as a donation sight, recruit members as volunteers, hold events to promote this initiative, solicit PSS members for donations. Idea, every PSS Senator serve as a drop off coordinator.

## 6. Program: Year in Review: Discussion

What we did well---what we didn’t do so well...

8/29/15 United Way Day of Caring

5/18/16 Awards Banquet

- \*Idea: call out to members to see who is serving on various SUNY committees
- \*Negotiated our first-ever transparent budget
- \*Constitution & Bylaws review and amendments
- \*Orientation and Planning—Brainstorming
- \*Seating Senators with Constituents and Gen Mem Meeting—Brainstorming
- \*Reviewed relationship with HR through Mark Coldren and begin dialog on Staff Development
- \*Engagement with University—submitted names for the search committee for the CAS dean, hosted campus governance leaders meetings, attendance at UB Council meetings, ongoing dialog with UB foundation, promoted the revival of Unviersity Club
- \*Engagement with SUNY; attendance at plenaries.
- \*Passed 4 resolutions:

**\*Motion to extend meeting to 2:15pm---Domenic called motion, Tim Matthews second the motion; all unanimously approved**

What we could do better:

- \*Current and accurate membership database
- \*Senator enagement with consituents
- \*Filling vacant seats; senators
- \*Follow through with resolutions: numebering system
- \*Financial tracking: needs a real time system
- \*Keep ahead of the schedule: we need to get information out in a timely manner and plan ahead better—minutes, agendas etc.
- \*More shared governance business and resolutions
- \*Communicating the value of participating in SG—will make it easier to get participation.
- \*STANDING ORDERS

Discussion: Separation and clarification of the role of the union and the professional staff senate. We need to better educate the campus community on our roles, programs, services and opportunities. PSS needs to better connect with Supervisors and clarify the importance of PSS in the professional development of their staff. Once the PSS areas are clarified and re-assigned, this could make it an easier task for PSS Officers to communicate and connect with the deans of the various campus schools. Including PSS on campus unit organizational charts. External learning can be added.

Discussion: South campus visit scheduling; Gerri Kramer. One will be in the Downtown campus. Planning one for June and one for July. Pizza lunch provided.

No date for the PSS tailgate. Perhaps September. Dom will talk with Athletics

### **Adjourned at 2:17pm**

Discussion after the meeting, informal---ask about updating the gm meetings to make them more lively and energetic. Suggest have different speakers, they are always the same people. Have the President and Provost on the same day to get them over with at once.