

Call to order 3:04 p.m. by Chair D. Licata.

Agenda change requested by presenters (Prov. Zukoski, and L. Hubbard) to place program at the front of the agenda.

Properly moved to accept agenda with the proposed change – Moved by Chris Keough, *Second* (from Kat). Passed unanimously without discussion.

Presentation:

Provost Zukoski presented on the University's strategic plan, including:

- 1) The updated budget model: Strategic, predictable, flexible, integrated, & Stewardship oriented
- 2) Lessons learned from 16/17 ARPP

Laura Hubbard presented on the Financial Capacity of the University

- 1) Factors Affecting Financial Capacity, including rebalancing of operating fund commitments, departments w/o planned enrollment goals, uncertainty in tuition rate hikes, uncertainty on funding for salary increases, risks of state tax support cuts, limited investment funding.
- 2) Financial Capacity was shown to increase rapidly (non-linearly) with time during the SUNY2020, however, increases have slowed in recent years (approaching V_{max})
 - a. Operating expenses, including salaries due to projected negotiated salary increases continue to rise and will overcome the growth rate of the financial capacity – NOT good.
- 3) Factors affecting the plan include: shortfalls in enrollment, classroom areas/capital investment.
 - a. Efforts have paid off WRT utilities savings (~\$18 M).
- 4) Additional factors not included in model
 - a. Salary increases
 - b. GUSF removal for student fees (\$8 M hit if removed!)
 - c. State Cuts
 - d. UB Curriculum "Hold Harmless" (see below)
 - e. Merit Scholarship Increases
 - f. Blind Vending/MWBE Impact (~\$1.5 M in revenue)
 - g. Downtown Campus – Operations
- 5) Central Reserve increase (approx. \$10 M to \$40 M)
- 6) Projected Balances – State Fiscal Operating (State Funds)
 - a. Central balances going up, Projected Unit state temporary balance decreasing.
 - b. Unit values decreasing because units have been self-funding increases in salary.

Provost Zukoski continued presenting on Resource Planning Strategy.

- 1) Presented guidelines for unit budgetary needs
 - a. Expecting growth in tuition revenue due to enrollment growth.
 - b. Units must continue to assume that they will fund salary increases
- 2) UB Curriculum changes
 - a. Funds changes adjusted based on general education needs (and new money into the UB curriculum)
 - b. Update curriculum to account for enrollment changes.
- 3) Advocacy
 - a. Working toward a predictable tuition policy
 - b. Flexibility in broad based fees
 - c. Maintenance of Effort/negotiated Salary Increases
 - d. Retain Procurement flexibility
 - e. Capital Funding Increases

VP Hubbard Continued to speak about Operational Excellence

- 1) Align resources with academic priorities
- 2) Facilitate innovation
- 3) Effective use of resources
- 4) Efficient use of resources
- 5) Flexible resources to fill needs
- 6) Sustainable funding levels to continue improvement.

Provost Zukoski continued by emphasizing the role of philanthropy in UB's financial plan.

- 1) Use in leverage
- 2) help in achieving aspirational goals
- 3) Developing alternative revenue streams

Assured PSS Senators and members that UB remains committed to our goals and excellence, in addition to the strategies to achieve these goals.

****The University at Buffalo is financially strong! ****

Stressed importance of strategy in future investments to spread funds out among units.

Partnerships are critical and highly valued.

Provost Zukoski concluded his presentation by answering questions from PSS members.

Regular business resumed at 4:12 pm.

Approval of the Minutes from 11-17-2016:

1. Kat moved to amend the minutes accepting Matt's comment on the importance of the release time policy for PSS meetings, and that the PS Senators take the section on the release time policy (exempting PS and allowing PSS participation).
2. Kat moved to amend the minutes to add her request that any reorganization of senatorial area be brought to the PS body and senate BEFORE any changes are made, not just the Executive Committee. Second. Passed w/o discussion.
3. Kat moved to accept the minutes as amended. Second. Accepted.

Chairman Licata commented on the reorganization proposal and requested that all members participate in the discussion.

Discussed special committee on Senator Engagement (chaired by Tim T.) to examine need for change, any options WRT to possible changes and ways of improving senator participation through other means.

Tim chair – email Tim T. (tat@buffalo.edu) to volunteer to be on the committee.

Chairman Licata gave the Chair's report

- 1) Recapped presentation by Mark Coldren re: Exempt rules, UB EDGE, and changes in usefulness, etc. of performance things.
- 2) Senator recognition program
- 3) Tools of Engagement Project
- 4) Informed PS that a Faculty and UUP salary inquest study upcoming
- 5) Modified duties after FMLA
- 6) Divestment from Fossil Fuels

7) UB Sanctuary Campus Initiative

Nora Moved to extend to 4:40. Second. Passed with no discussion.

- 8) UB Sanctuary Campus Initiative
- 9) Resolution on Tree and Landscape Planning
- 10) Provost Cartwright Campus visit 12/9
- 11) UB Emergency Preparedness
- 12) Closed with upcoming events.

Don Erb. Moved to accept the Chair's report. Second. Passed.

Vice Chair's Report:

Vice Chair Love reported that nominations are on the website for the PSS awards (all in the awards ceremony).

Voting going on for SUNY senate seat.

Currently a call for nominations for officers of the PSS.

Kat moved to accept Vice Chair's report. Second. Passed without Discussion

PSS Staff Recognition: Kesha Lanier (nominated by Fran Fiscus).

Fran spoke to Kesha's nomination and presented the award.

Tom moved to adjourn. Second. Passed without discussion.