

Faculty Senate Budget Priorities Committee Resolution (1) to add UB Faculty Senate Chair as a member of the President's Cabinet

(with Grammar edits after FSEC vote)

To: Professor Suzanne Laychock, Chair, Faculty Senate

From: Faculty Senate Budget Priorities Committee (as endorsed on January 11, 2024, with a vote of 6-0-0)

Date Proposed to FSEC: 03/12/2024 (vote 14-0-2)

First Reading to the Faculty Senate: (03/26/24) (No vote requested at 1st reading)

Second Reading to the Faculty Senate: (04/16/24) (vote 39-0-2)

Approved by the Faculty Senate: Yes

Whereas UB's Mission is to be a diverse, inclusive scholarly community dedicated to bringing the benefits of our research, scholarship, creative activities and educational excellence to local and global communities in ways that impact and positively change the world, and

Whereas UB's Vision is to build on the existing solid foundation of academic excellence, knowledge and understanding, to advance the University at Buffalo into the nation's Top 25 public research universities, and thereby to expand the scope of our reach and to strengthen UB's world-wide impact, and

Whereas UB's Strategic Goals include:

- Enhancing faculty productivity and impact through increased research and scholarly funding and excellence,
- Encouraging collaborations across the disciplines to amplify faculty strengths, create synergies and pursue innovation,
- Providing state-of-the-art research environments,
- Enhancing research, teaching and mentoring support structures to ensure faculty success, and

Whereas UB, for its accomplishments, is formally designated a SUNY Flagship Campus by NYS Governor Hochul (2022) with all the prestige and responsibilities that accompany such a flagship designation including:

- Making major contributions to the SUNY system, to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the region, state and nation by, in part, enhancing our ability to attract even more federal research funding and recruit the absolute best faculty and students,
- Aspiring and becoming a top twenty-five public research university,
- Being eligible to receive special NYS budget lines specifically for SUNY Flagship and University Center campuses, and

Whereas the SUNY System (Chancellor), the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the Middle States Accreditation (Standard VII: Leadership and Governance) and UB Administration are committed to the values of Shared Governance which include that all 5 pillars of the academic community have a seat, a voice and a vote on significant matters to university governance, and

Whereas Governor Hochul also has designated Stony Brook University a SUNY Flagship University campus, and


Whereas Four SUNY designated University Centers include UB, Stony Brook, Binghamton and Albany and all four are in the US News and World Report Best University rankings, and

Whereas in the spirit of shared governance and to enhance their Mission, Vision and Goals, Stony Brook and Binghamton administrations include the Chair of their faculty senates and the Chair of their faculty senate executives committee (or their designee) to the campus' Presidential Cabinet.

Therefore be it resolved, that in the spirit of shared governance, to help UB better achieve its Mission, Vision and Goals and to stay competitive with other SUNY Flagship and University Centers, the UB Faculty Senate Budget Priorities Committee, the UB Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the UB Faculty Senate strongly urges the UB President to add the Chair of the UB Faculty Senate to the UB President's Cabinet with a seat at the table, a voice and a vote.

File: UB FS BPC Resolution 1 to add FS Chair to UB President's Cabinet v final to FS 03252024

Memorandum

To: Suzanne Laychock, Chair, Faculty Senate
From: Satish K. Tripathi, President 
Cc: A. Scott Weber, Provost
Date: June 14, 2024
RE: Faculty Senate Resolution: To add the UB Faculty Senate Chair as a Member of the President's Cabinet

I am in receipt of the Faculty Senate Resolution to add the UB Faculty Senate Chair as a Member of the President's Cabinet.

As you know, there are distinctions between functions and responsibilities of university management and Faculty Senate (governance). The meetings of the president, including the president's cabinet, are a function of the president's management responsibilities as senior executive of the university.

As appropriate, for many years, university administration has included the Faculty Senate Chair in Senior Leadership Retreats, which has served as a forum to gauge our institutional progress on achieving our institutional goals. We will continue to invite the Faculty Senate Chair to the Senior Leadership Retreat.

Thank you for forwarding your request and resolution.