



Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting
November 11, 2020
Zoom Hall

Attendance: Attached

All proceedings of the meeting was recorded and uploaded on UB Box.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Dr Robert Miletich at 3.00pm

Agenda:

A resolution to be presented by Maureen Jameson was added to the agenda. With these changes the agenda was accepted unanimously.

Secretary's report:

The Secretary reminded everyone that as per the suggestion and decision taken at the previous FSEC meeting, an open forum was scheduled for Friday, November 13th by Zoom. Three candidates for the FS Chair are scheduled to speak at the forum and would answer questions.

Minutes of November 3, 2020 meeting was presented and approved unanimously.

President's report: The President informed the Senate that Erie county had moved to the yellow zone. This warranted weekly COVID19 testing which included all students and 20% of the in person employees. The rising cases indicate that it is a potential possibility that the county could move to orange or red zone. If that happens the University would have to go online. Albany and Syracuse were going online come Monday. However, the President mentioned that across the nation nowhere it was reported that there was an increase in COVID19 cases due to classroom settings.

Provost report: Continuing in the same vein as the President, the Provost informed the Senate that COVID19 cases in UB had increased from 1.3 to 7.6/day over the last 14 days and if it continues at this rate we would cross the 100 threshold for going completely online. The COVID19 situation is being monitored very closely. Thanksgiving testing for students on campus has begun already. The testing centers are running smoothly & efficiently, and are available on all campuses through November 18th. Classes will begin on February 1st with no spring break as per the SUNY guidance.

Students will have tested within a 72h window and quarantined themselves for 7 days before coming to campus. In case students feel it a challenge to get tested they will be tested on arrival on campus. The Provost thanked the Faculty for their service. A discussion on the NYS COVID19 alert smart phone app that allows contact tracing vs UB app through Dept of Computer Science and Engineering which will reduce the amount of information that will be required, ensued.

Parliamentarian report: None

Chairs report: Given on UB Box.

- 1) The Chair spoke of the UB COVID-19 dashboard; UB Surveillance and Screening Tests
- 2) UB will be following SUNY's reopening guidance for the spring semester.
- 3) The Chair gave a shout out to the veterans, for their service and the sacrifices they have made for the benefit of all US citizens.
- 4) In the future, the Chair would be sharing information on Faculty Awards. SUNY central has a number of awards for faculty for different activities, awards which may be helpful for promotion, tenure and faculty prestige.
- 5) Obituary: Stephen M. Roberts, retired UB Associate Vice President for University Libraries in 2010. He was credited with "bringing the UB Libraries in to the digital age and reimaging the libraries to meet the needs of a 21st century research university". Beginning in 1977, he had many years of service to UB. Few moments of silence was maintained remembering Dr. Roberts.

Presentation: Proposal for Department of Indigenous studies by Dr. T. McCarthy. It is nearly 50 years since Native American studies was started in UB as a part of American Studies. She gave an insight on the geography as to the location of UB with relation to the First nations, Seneca Nation and the Haudenosaunee tribes. They have procured a grant of 3.12 million from the Andrew Mellon Foundation for setting up a Department of Indigenous Studies. They are putting forward a proposal converting their location to action by putting forward Department of Indigenous Studies based on a home 'hub model'. 'The department will focus on humanities-centered research, educational programs, and community outreach aimed at

addressing issues central to Indigenous life in the region.’ Power point slides are uploaded onto UB Box.

New Business:

SUNY FS Resolutions:

1. Resolution regarding *‘racial equity and social justice curriculum’* suggesting the campuses to develop courses for racial equity and social justice in addition to other courses on diversity and inclusion. It also called on the campus governance bodies (Senate) to work with those developing and implementing programs, forums and workshops on equity, inclusion and diversity. It was also suggested that the undergraduates, graduates, faculty and staff should be educated on the impact on systemic racism. This SUNY resolution was taken at the 186th Plenary, October 15-17, 2020 with a vote of 45yay-4-1abstain. The motion to endorse was called, and the resolution was passed with 15yay-1nay-2 abstain votes – The resolution will be presented at the next faculty senate meeting.

2. Resolution was from the SUNY governance committee regarding the importance of *‘maintaining effective shared governance practices during times of crisis’*. Taken at the 186th Plenary, October 15-17, 2020 the resolution passed 46-4-0. This resolution stemmed from an incident in one of the campuses: On resignation of the Dean, a School was eliminated and folded into another School, without suggestions or discussions with the stakeholders in shared governance. The resolutions asks the administration review the 5 suggestions given in the resolution and work with the FS and adapt decisions appropriate for the campus. The suggestions include:

Work with local campus administration to establish faculty governance representation on local President’s Cabinets, Provosts Cabinets, budget committees, or other administrative decision-making bodies.

Work with local campus administration to establish expectations for faculty governance representation on committees or task forces that may be created for emergencies. Review bylaws to ensure that they allow for:

- Actions by executive committees on behalf of governance bodies between regularly scheduled meetings and during breaks in the academic calendar.
- Special meetings by governance bodies when necessary.

- Remote governance body meetings, when in-person meetings are not possible.
- Mechanisms for secure and accurate voting during remote governance body meetings. This would include elections of governance leaders
- Clearly defined terms of office for elected governance leaders.

The motion to endorse was called, and the resolution passed with 16 yay-0 nay-1 abstain votes.

3. FS agenda for the next week was approved unanimously.

4. *Prior scholarly discourses*: This agenda item was tabled to the following week.

Senator communication: Maureen Jameson put forward the suggestion that the FESC-L be open to all the Senators and the Chat function for Zoom meetings be turned on. The Chair was willing to do both on condition that the Chat function will be used only for discussions between senators looking for a point of view and will not be used as a parallel line of communication going against Roberts Rules.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 4.27 pm.

Submitted by Jessy Alexander, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, November, 2020.

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 11, 2020
3:00-4:30 p.m.

CHAIR: Bob Miletich - X
SECRETARY: Jessy Alexander - X
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Richard Gronostajski - X
ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING: Hiro Hata -
ARTS & SCIENCES: Michael Cowen - X Ken Dauber - X Barbara Prinari - X Maureen Jameson - X
DENTAL MEDICINE: Othman Shibly - X
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER: Michael Baugh - X
ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES: Paschalis Alexandridis - X Adly Fam - X
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION: Janina Brutt-Griffler - X
LAW: Matthew Dimick - X
MANAGEMENT: Michael Dambra - X
MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES: Anna Blumenal-Perry - Channa Kolb - X E. Brooke Lerner - X

NURSING:

Jennifer Livingston - X

PHARMACY:

Marilyn Morris - X

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Albert Vexler - X

SOCIAL WORK:

Laura Lewis - X

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

Alison Fraser - X

SUNY SENATORS:

Cemal Basaran - X

Philip Glick - X

Fred Stoss - X

R.J. Multari - X

PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

Satish Tripathi - X

PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

A. Scott Weber - X

PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE:

Tim Tryjankowski -

COUNCIL OF ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP (COAL):

Mike Montoro - X

INVITED GUESTS:

Theresa McCarthy - X

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessica Naish – X

Eileen Sherman – X

Robert Granfield – X

Graham Hammill -

PHONE ATTENDEES:
