

 <b>University at Buffalo</b> <small>OFFICE OF SHARED GOVERNANCE FACULTY SENATE</small> <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> Wednesday, April 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 3:00pm - 4:30pm, 567 Capen Hall	
<b>CHAIR:</b>	Philip Glick PRESENT
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Cynthia Tysick <i>present</i>
<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN:</b>	James Hassett <i>jm Hassett</i>
<b>ARCHITECTURE &amp; PLANNING:</b>	Beth Tauke <i>present</i>
<b>ARTS &amp; SCIENCES:</b>	Sampson Blair <i>present</i> Michael Cowen <i>K.B. Co</i> Kenneth Dauber <i>SK</i> Stephen Dyson <i>SK</i>
<b>DENTAL MEDICINE:</b>	Michael Hatton
<b>EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER:</b>	Nancy Lane
<b>ENGINEERING &amp; APPLIED SCIENCES:</b>	Dimitris Pados Marina Tsianou <i>Marina Tsianou</i>
<b>GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:</b>	Fenice Boyd <i>PRESENT</i>
<b>LAW:</b>	Matt Steilen <i>Matt Steilen</i>
<b>MANAGEMENT:</b>	Sudhir Suchak <i>SS</i>
<b>MEDICINE &amp; BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:</b>	Jessy Alexander <i>PRESENT</i> Peter Elkin Gabriela Popescu <i>PRESENT</i> Charles Wiles <i>present</i>
<b>NURSING:</b>	Laura Anderson <i>LA</i>
<b>PHARMACY:</b>	Fred Doloresco <i>FD</i>
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:</b>	Jim Lenker
<b>SOCIAL WORK:</b>	Charles Syms <i>CS</i>
<b>UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:</b>	Glendora Johnson-Cooper <i>GJC</i>
<b>SUNY SENATORS:</b>	Cemal Basaran <i>CB</i> Philip Glick PRESENT Michael Hatton (Alternate) Fred Stoss (Alternate) Timothy Cheval (Alternate)
<b>PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:</b>	Satish Tripathi <i>EXCLUDED</i>
<b>PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:</b>	Charles Zukoski <i>PRESENT</i>
<b>PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE:</b>	Domenic Licata
<b>COUNCIL OF ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP (COAL):</b>	James Corra
<b>INVITED GUESTS:</b>	Vanessa Dwyer, Fossil Free UB <i>PRESENT</i>
<b>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Lindsay Allen Caroline Lojaco <i>Sharon Nolan Weiss</i> SHARON NOLAN WEISS GRETCHEEN GROSS ALEXA PINGER JESSICA LANDRY

Minutes approved for 4/12/17

1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair is calling a special meeting of the FS on 5/9/17 right after the President's meeting of the voting faculty
- b. Provided information on the new Chancellor, Dr. Kristina Johnson
- c. Provided information on the new Dean of the Law School, Dr. Aviva Abramovsky
- d. Reminded members that the Provost is looking for nominations for the next Director of the Honor's College
- e. Gender Equity Salary Study report expect in June
- f. PSS will be hosting an Electronics and Clothing recycling event April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Center for Tomorrow from 7:30a-4p
- g. New SUNY Senate chair chosen, Dr. Gwen Kay (Oswego)
- h. Buffalo Science March pictures are now on the FS website
- i. Chair is meeting with faculty from the Law School soon to discuss whether or not the FS needs legal representation in light of the letter from SUNY Senior Managing Counsel, Robert E Ruggieri

2. Provost's Report

- a. Added some more information about new Chancellor
- b. Excelsior Scholarship update-policies are still being written
  - i. UB has calculated that less than 50% of our students would be eligible

- ii. Governor's office announced that if there is not enough money to fund every student who is eligible across NY state then they suggest conducting a lottery
  - iii. Right now each campus would set the GPA that a student must maintain to keep the scholarship; however, the 30 credits per year is still in place.
  - iv. All current UB students are eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship
  - v. Money will be given to the campuses at the END of the fiscal year rather than at the beginning
3. Research and Creative Activities Committee Report submitted by Dr. Burkhardt **accepted**
  4. Quorum called and quorum confirmed as 16 members present
  5. Resolution presented by Dr. Steilen, *SUNY University at Buffalo Endowment (UBF) Divestment from the Fossil Fuel Industry* **accepted by a vote of 14 yes 2 no**
  6. Calendar for 2017-2018 meeting schedule **postponed until 5/3/17**
  7. Executive session @ 3:55p
  8. Out of Executive session @ 4:30p

Meeting adjourned at 4:35p

Submitted by Cynthia Tysick, FS Secretary, 5/2/2017

DRAFT

## FACILITATING CROSS-UNIT AND MULTI-LEVEL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

### The Educational Collaborations Committee

#### CONTEXT

The reduction in the numbers of high-school graduates, a rising need for public higher education to deliver increased student success outcomes, and diminished state funding are driving the best public colleges and universities to bring new rigor to academic program planning. These processes are discovering increasing student demand for program pathways that blend multiple disciplines and offer multiple points of access for traditional and post-traditional students along a pathway of credentials.

UB realizes the need to strengthen mechanisms that facilitate cross-School and cross-level program development (from workshops and boot camps to certificate program to baccalaureate to post-baccalaureate degrees).

This document proposes the formation of an Educational Collaborations Committee as the facilitating agent, the principles guiding cross-School or cross-level program design, and the process that would shape cross-unit and multi-level educational initiatives in the future.

#### OBJECTIVE

Establish mechanisms that culminate in shared understanding about cross-school and/or cross-level program design before detailed program proposals are developed including:

- Reaching agreement on the purpose and impact of the program
- Reaching agreement about program contents and their relationship to other program offerings
- Reaching agreement about the roles of all involved units
- Resolving academic policy issues (e.g., credentialing strategy)
- Reaching agreement on pedagogical strategy and access to resources for pedagogical innovation
- Brokering a resource strategy
  - Revenue projections and sharing agreements
  - Cost projections (direct and indirect) and allocation to units
  - Staffing plan by unit (faculty and support staff)
  - Facilities need and plan

#### PRINCIPLES

- Ensuring consistency with university mission, strategic aspirations, academic plans and enrollment plans
- Adhering to highest quality standards for content and pedagogy
- Avoiding program duplication
- Having the flexibility to create multiple options/ tracks for all types of learner where appropriate through stacking and/or blending of content and/or experiential learning modules and/or fast-track options (e.g., 4+1, 3+2, 3+3, etc.)
- Ensuring the program exerts meaningful impact for students and the university as follows:

- Delivers foundational knowledge/skills/capacities in all degree program offerings- thinking, writing, communication, language, cultural awareness, etc.
- Delivers in-demand content knowledge and skills
- Responds to clear educational opportunity/need
- Results in clear student success outcomes
- Enhances UB's reputation for academic and educational innovation
- Ensuring sufficient infrastructures/support services to offer a high-quality learning experience
- Sharing understanding about roles for participating units
- Sharing understanding about the allocation of revenues and costs among participating units
- Sharing conceptual understanding before detailed design to avoid wasted effort

#### THE EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIONS COMMITTEE (ECC)

- **ROLE-** the ECC is a coordinating team appointed by the Provost to facilitate rapid cross-unit and cross-level educational program concept development. The group will respond to unit-proposed program ideas and may recommend new proposals for unit consideration responding to emerging educational needs. The ECC will invoke the authorities and resources that can mitigate areas of contention, help position the program effectively within the strategic aspirations and enrollment plans of the university and work with participating units to prepare the program concept description for institutional review and approval. The ECC will be the institution's advocate for streamlining program review processes inside and outside the university
- **MEMBERSHIP**
  - Sean Sullivan- Convener
  - Andy Stott
  - Graham Hammill
  - Elaine Cusker
  - Katie Darling

***NOTE: The group will reach out for needed expertise from key offices at key points in shaping initiatives (e.g., Enrollment Management, Institutional Analysis, Center for Educational innovation and Resource Planning as well as other offices as needed)***

#### PROCESS

- **Step 1-Form the Program Design Project Team**
  - **ROLE-**The Project Team assembles the expertise and perspectives to articulate the concept, curriculum, pedagogical approach, projected enrollment, resource strategy and other required elements of the emerging program
  - **MEMBERSHIP-**Dean-appointed members of each participating unit with the knowledge and backing of the dean to represent unit interests and work with other unit partners to reach shared agreement as needed for the effective and efficient design of the proposed program concept
- **Step 2-Reaching Consensus and Approval of a Letter of Intent-**This document articulates the essential elements of the program concept as agreed to by all involved program participants.

THIS IS NOT A FULL PROGRAM PROPOSAL BUT A SUMMARY OF THE KEY AGREEMENTS AND THE STRATEGIC CASE FOR ADVANCING THE PROGRAM CONCEPT TO IMPLEMENTATION. The letter of intent requires approval of the lead deans of each participating unit and the Provost or his designee and contains:

- Program Purpose and Projected Student Success Outcomes
- Curriculum Plan-Content, Pedagogy, Credentials
- Projected Enrollment
- Resource Strategy-Allocation of Revenues/Costs (Direct and Indirect)
- **Step 3-Submit Approved Concept to Established Program Approval Processes**-Upon approval of the letter of intent by the Provost or designee, the project team will participate in the detailed program review processes run by the Undergraduate Education division and/or the Graduate School

#### EVALUATION

- **A Project Tracking Dashboard**-The dashboard will help the ECC track initiatives from the point of origin to program implementation and will be published throughout the university so everyone understands where all projects are at all times. The ECC will intervene to address situations where program approval is not proceeding consistent with expected timeframes both inside and outside the university (e.g., SUNY and SED). The ECC will develop a persuasive advocacy strategy with external reviewers to streamline program approval
  - **6 Month Reviews of the ECC**-At the first deans' meeting of each semester, the ECC will give a report of its activities and be subject to decanal review and comment about strengths and weaknesses of the entity and this process in follow-up to that deans' meeting
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#### APPENDIX: EXAMPLES OF EMERGING UB CROSS-SCHOOL/LEVEL PROGRAM INITIATIVES

- Undergraduate Law (relationship to CAS)
- Undergraduate Education (relationship to CAS)
- Undergraduate Public Health (relationship to CAS)
- Undergraduate Social Work (relationship to CAS)
- Undergraduate Health Informatics (relationship to CAS and all health science units)
- Undergraduate Information Technology and Management
- Diversity Pathway-from workshop to master's (CAS and all other university units)
- Sustainability Pathway (CAS, Management, Architecture and Planning, Engineering and others to be defined)
- Addictions Master's Degree (CAS, Education, Health science units)
- Data Science, Analytics and Computational Science Pathway (CAS, Management, Engineering)
- Erie County Government Leadership and Organizational development for Local Government (CAS, Engineering, Management, Social Work)
- Genetic Counseling Master's Degree (CAS, Public Health)
- Advanced Manufacturing Pathway (Engineering, Management, Architecture and Planning)
- Other (Graham/Andy?)



University at Buffalo Faculty Senate  
543 Capen Hall  
Buffalo, New York 14260-1601

**RESOLUTION**

**TO: Members of the UB Faculty Senate**

**FROM: Fossil Free UB**

**DATE: 12 April 2017**

**SUBJECT: SUNY University at Buffalo Endowment (UBF) Divestment from the Fossil Fuel Industry**

**First reading to Faculty Senate on:**

**Second reading to Faculty Senate on:**

**Approved by the Faculty Senate on:**

**Effective date:**

**Action Requested**

The Faculty Senate of UB calls for the UB Foundation to immediately freeze any new investment in the fossil fuel industry, divest from direct ownership and any commingled funds that include fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within 5 years, and reinvest in clean energy and socially responsible alternatives. Furthermore we call on the UB Foundation to release further detailed financial statements on investments and the exact markets in which they reside, in order to confirm compliance with Divestment.

**Resolution**

**Whereas** the University at Buffalo (UB) Faculty Senate (FS) may enact resolutions concerning issues of importance to the voting faculty on educational policies, matters including budgets, councils, foundations, and administrator evaluations.<sup>1</sup>

**Whereas** for the purposes of this resolution, a “fossil fuel company” shall be defined as any of the two hundred publicly-traded companies with the largest coal, oil, and gas reserves as measured by the gigatons of carbon dioxide that would be emitted if those reserves were extracted and burned, as listed in the Carbon Tracker Initiative “Unburnable Carbon” report;<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.buffalo.edu/facultysenate.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/PB-unburnable-carbon-2013-wasted-capital-stranded-assets.pdf>

**Whereas** in its “Unburnable Carbon” report, the Carbon Tracker Initiative found that fossil fuel companies possess proven fossil fuel reserves that would release approximately 2,795 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> if burned, which is five times the amount that can be released without exceeding 2°C of global warming;<sup>3</sup>

**Whereas** global emissions of carbon dioxide have increased by 50% since 1990 because of manmade fossil fuel pollution;<sup>4</sup>

**Whereas** a portion of UB endowment is invested amongst the top 200 fossil fuel companies, the top 90 accounting for two thirds of global emissions;<sup>5</sup>

**Whereas** the investments managed by the UB Foundation have a market value of \$825.6 million as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015;<sup>6</sup>

**Whereas** the UB Foundation mission states that the foundation “plays a vital role in helping UB establish, enhance and expand its global reputation. We are proud to support and promote UB’s activities and programs by assisting in the acquisition of strategic assets, managing and providing resources, and providing an array of services for the UB community.”<sup>7</sup>

**Whereas** the UB mission states that the University is “dedicated to bringing the benefits of its research, scholarship and creative activity, and educational excellence to global and local communities in ways that impact and positively change the world”;<sup>8</sup>

**Whereas** investments in companies

- a) That are complicit in violence or violate human rights
- b) That violate workers’ rights and
- c) Threaten environmental sustainability,

do not constitute socially responsible investments and fail to promote UB’s values;<sup>9</sup>

**Whereas** since 2010, U.S. solar capacity increased 418 percent and the industry is projected to exponentially grow by 2040 to \$3.7 trillion in global investments;<sup>10</sup>

**Whereas** as of March 2017, a total of over 58,000 individuals and 705 institutions representing \$5.46 trillion in assets worldwide have divested from fossil fuels;<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-change-2/>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2013/nov/20/90-companies-man-made-global-warming-emissions-climate-change>.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.ubfoundation.buffalo.edu/investments>.

<sup>7</sup> <http://ub-foundation.org/what-we-do/our-mission/>.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.buffalo.edu/president/vision/mission-vision.html>.

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.ussif.org/sribasics>.

<sup>10</sup> <https://cleantechnica.com/2014/04/24/us-solar-energy-capacity-grew-an-astounding-418-from-2010-2014/>.

<sup>11</sup> <https://gofossilfree.org/commitments/>.



**Whereas** other universities in the north-east region of the U.S. such as Syracuse University,<sup>12</sup> UMass Amherst,<sup>13</sup> Yale University,<sup>14</sup> Unity College,<sup>15</sup> and Barnard College<sup>16</sup> have divested as an approach to addressing global climate change with systematic, comprehensive and scientifically informed policies;

**Whereas** SUNY universities such as Brockport,<sup>17</sup> Plattsburgh,<sup>18</sup> Environmental Science and Forestry,<sup>19</sup> and Geneseo<sup>20</sup> have divestment campaigns;

**Whereas** on April 15th, 2016, the SUNY Student Assembly passed a resolution (57-7-2) calling on SUNY to fully divest from companies and interests that manufacture fossil fuels;<sup>21</sup>

**Whereas** on April 15th, 2016 the SUNY Student Assembly passed a resolution that supports S.5873/A.8011A (“Fossil Fuel Divestment Act”) in relation to limitations on investments of public pension funds;<sup>22</sup>

**Whereas** on November 27th, 2016, the UB Undergraduate Student Association passed a resolution (20-1-3) calling on the UB Foundation to fully divest from the fossil fuel industry;

**Whereas** on April 4th, 2017, the Graduate Student Association passed a resolution (53-9) calling on the UBF to fully divest from the fossil fuel industry;

**Whereas** the University at Buffalo is a public institution, and the University at Buffalo Faculty Senate currently represents more than 1,700 full-time voting faculty;<sup>23</sup>

**Whereas** on November 15th, 2016 the Faculty Senate and Professional Staff Senate approved a resolution in support of NY Senate Bill S5797A calling for greater transparency of the UB Foundation;

**Whereas** the Faculty Senate believes that investments should support a future where all citizens can live healthy lives without the negative impacts of a warming climate;

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/apr/01/syracuse-university-to-divest-800m-endowment-from-fossil-fuels>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2016/05/25/umass-system-divest-endowment-from-direct-holdings-fossil-fuels/mS8IFOUz43HhF2HAD3IESM/story.html><https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/apr/01/syracuse-university-to-divest-800m-endowment-from-fossil-fuels>.

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-12/yale-s-big-endowment-sells-less-than-10-million-in-fossil-fuels>.

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.unity.edu/news/unity-college-reports-no-loss-fossil-fuel-divestment>.

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-03-04/barnard-college-endowment-to-divest-from-climate-change-deniers>.

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2015/11/15/suny-students-vote-no-divestment/75782888/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.thunderclap.it/en/projects/34144-divest-plattsburgh>.

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.esf.edu/communications/view.asp?newsID=3985>.

<sup>20</sup> <https://wiki.geneseo.edu/display/cultural/Divest+Geneseo+Action+Project>.

<sup>21</sup> <http://sunysa.org/sunysa-resolution-archive/>.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.buffalo.edu/facultysenate.html>



*Now be it further resolved that:*

- I. The Faculty Senate body calls for the UB Foundation to immediately freeze any new investments in the fossil fuel industry, divest from direct ownership and commingled funds that include fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within five years, and reinvest in clean energy and socially responsible alternatives;
- II. Faculty Senate urges UB to invest in socially responsible investments and divest from the fossil fuel industry to continue the precedent of being a national and global leader;
- III. The UB Foundation Board of Trustees will release quarterly updates, available to the public, detailing progress made towards full divestment.
- IV. In following its mission statement, UB should show leadership by investing in companies that will lead us to a clean energy future.

**Sent for promulgation on:**

**Decision:**