



Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting  
October 28, 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:** The agenda was accepted unanimously.

**Secretary's report:**

The Secretary reminded everyone that there was the Chair election in progress. The nomination phase of the election was currently in progress. Nominations had to be submitted by November 6<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Each nomination needed 5 nominators and a candidate statement.

Fred Stoss suggested that an open forum/friendly chat be scheduled where the candidates could talk to the faculty and answer any questions or concerns.

After discussion, it was decided that there would be an open forum/friendly discussion once the nominations were in.

Minutes of October 14, 2020 meeting was approved.

**President's report:** None

**Provost report:**

*Awards:*

*Paul DesJardin & team:* The US Department of Energy to a UB team awarded a grant of 8.5 million in order to establish the 'Center for Hybrid Rocket Excess Scale Simulation Technology'. Paul DesJardin, Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, heads the team and the grant builds on UBs strength and history of excellence in AI and machine learning as well as aerospace research & development.

*University at Buffalo Center for Diversity:*

*Patricia A. Matthew.* Patricia A. Matthew is an Associate professor of English who specializes in 19th-century British literature and culture and teaches courses in British Romanticism, the history of the novel, and British abolitionist literature at Montclair State. She is currently at UB as one of nine scholars chosen to participate in the University at Buffalo Center for Diversity Innovation's new Distinguished Visiting Scholar program Scholar. She will hold a session on Institutional leadership and faculty equity for Deans, Associate Deans, Chairs, Unit Diversity Officers on how personnel processes can affect faculty diversity & retention. The Provost once again reiterated his commitment to increase/double the underrepresented minority faculty in UB.

*Decanal transitions:*

*Dean James M. O'Donnell,* the eleventh Dean of the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences & Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and of Pharmacology and Toxicology will be stepping down at end of the current academic year to resume a full faculty role as Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacology and Toxicology. During his seven years of leadership at UB, the school's US News and World Report ranking has significantly improved, up from 22 to 14, and the school's enrollment has remained strong despite increasing competition in New York State. Jim will leave the school well poised to build on this success for years to come.

*Dean Nancy J. Smyth* will step down as Dean of the School of Social Work effective at the end of the current academic year after 16 years of leadership, and return to a faculty role as a Professor of social work. Her leadership has truly transformed the School of Social Work. Nancy led the school in creating and implementing a strategic plan that aligns its vision and goals with UB's institutional priorities and focuses on preparing students for success in the 21st century, and enhancing faculty productivity and impact through the creation of the Buffalo Center for Social Research to support faculty research.

Both Professors have been excellent Deans and University leaders. They have significantly advanced each of UB's educational, research, and engagement missions, leaving the respective schools well positioned to build on their success for years to come. The search for the new Deans for both

the above-mentioned Schools will begin later this semester and UB hopes to have new leadership determined by the end of Spring 2021.

*Student recognition:*

*Raven Baxter:* Fortune magazine has named UB graduate student Raven Baxter to its exclusive “40 Under 40” list of emerging leaders in the field of health care. Baxter is a science communicator who educate and inspire young, underrepresented students to pursue careers in science by intercalating science with hip hop music. Baxter is pursuing a doctoral degree from the Graduate School of Education through a 2019-20 Arthur A. Schomburg Fellowship. Her dissertation focuses on culturally responsive teaching strategies in STEM education, particularly through hip hop music, and the effects of media representation on Black women in science.

*Camy Koon:* Camy, a UB theater and dance major made her debut and did very well on NBCs the “Voice” and will be competing in the team of the critically acclaimed, multiplatinum singer-songwriter, John Legends team.

*COVID19:* On and off campus gatherings have declined and the number of +ve cases remain at 17. With the flu season on us, UB has opened influenza vaccine clinics on all three campuses for the UB family.

**Presentations:**

*Despina Stratigakos:* Architecture Professor and Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence, Despina Stratigakos gave an insight into the function and the goals of her office – the resources they have and the opportunities and challenges they face to increase equity, diversity and inclusion among the faculty. While EDI maintains the compliance side, the VPIE’s office maintains the aspirational side of equity, diversity and inclusion to provide the diversity and inclusion culture which is critical for the learning and working environment to achieve excellence in this highly globalized and changing world. She presented UB’s efforts to create a culture of inclusive excellence and enhance diversity, equity and inclusion across the campus community.

*Scholarly Discourse:* James Campbell, UB Distinguished Professor of Political Science, delivered the inaugural ‘scholarly discourse’. It was very timely in this climate of elections and political polarization. He spoke of his research on the impact of swing votes, popular votes and base votes on the Presidential election.

**Chairs report:** None

**Parliamentarian Report:** None

**Unfinished Business:**

*Academic Spring calendar.* In order to safeguard the health of the UB community and to deter students from travelling away from Buffalo and returning to the area during the semester, the academic calendar was adjusted. The semester beginning would be delayed and scheduled for Feb 1<sup>st</sup> and the semester would end in May with no Spring recess in between. The resolution with the proposed adjustments to the Spring 2021 Academic Calendar was presented. The motion to accept was called and seconded. The resolution passed 17-0-2 on 10/28/2020 by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

*Establishing a Safety and Health Committee at UB:* Due to time constraints, Resolution for FS to Support Establishing an Article 43 Safety and Health Committee at UB was tabled and discussions postponed to the next FSEC meeting in the first week of November.

**New Business:**

**Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 4.30 pm.

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

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 28, 2020**  
**3:00-4:30 p.m.**

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

**PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:**

Satish Tripathi -

**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:**

James Campbell - X

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica Naish – X

Eileen Sherman – X

Robert Granfield – X

Graham Hammill - X

**PHONE ATTENDEES:**
