



Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting
December 02, 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:

It was brought to the notice of the FSEC that there had been a discussion at the previous FS meeting regarding the Spring semester initiated by the student representative. The Chair suggested it be moved to unfinished business.

The agenda was presented and passed unanimously.

Secretary's report:

The Secretary mentioned that an open forum for the position of the FS Chair was held successfully on Friday, November 13th by Zoom.

Subsequently, the voting ensued which was completed on December 1st and the counting was done in the presence of the election committee.

She thanked:

1. The candidates who were willing to give their time to serve the FS
2. The Office of Educational Effectiveness, especially Dr. Carol Van Zile-Tamsen, *Assistant Vice Provost; Co-Chair, SUNY Council on Assessment and Professor of Psychology* for the amazing support given in conducting the election for FS Chair. With the help of her office, the elections were conducted in an efficient and non-subjective manner.
3. All the faculty who cast their vote.

The results from the election:

Amit Kandel	1	56
Robert Miletich	2	128
Fred Stoss	3	143

However, Dr. Robert Miletich pointed out to the election committee that the Standing Orders of the FS Article 1 Section D Subsection iv. states: If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the Elections Committee shall conduct a run-off election for those candidates who received the two highest numbers of votes. After consultation with the Parliamentarian, it

was decided that a run-off election was warranted. Therefore, a run-off election will be conducted as soon as possible.

Minutes of November 11, 2020 meeting was presented and approved unanimously.

President's report: None

Provost report: The Provost presented statistics on surveillance testing at UB. About 35,000 tests were administered during the Fall session with a +vity of less than 0.5%. Again 16,425 pre-thanksgiving tests were administered with a +vity of less than 0.5%. UB will continue testing during Spring in accordance with the SUNY, NYS Dept of health, CDC and local medical experts guidelines. Students are required to have tested within a 72h window and quarantined themselves for 7 days before returning to campus. Wastewater sampling is ongoing to try to utilize it as a benchmark-testing tool for outbreaks. The Provost thanked those that took the test, and those administering the test for their service.

The Provost informed the Senate that earlier in the week Drs. Graham Hammill and Anne Bisantz met with student representatives and during the discussions explained the rationale for UBs decision to maintain S/U policy for the Spring semester. Michael Cowen added: since students have had a semester to adjust to the COVID19 normal, UB would go back to the original S/U policy. Students would have to decide early in the semester if they wanted to opt for S/U, compared to the Fall 2020 S/U where the students could opt at any time during the semester. The associated letter grade would be available should the need arise later.

Parliamentarian report: None

Chairs report: Given on UB Box.

The Chair spoke of the COVID-19 landscape in NY and in UB. He also reiterated that UB will be following SUNY's reopening guidance for the spring semester.

Presentation:

Dr. Maura Belliveau presented an overview of the Center for Diversity: Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program. She acknowledged President Tripathi, Provost Weber and Dean Schultz for their support that helped the program achieve national recognition in the space of Diversity hiring. She

gave statistics regarding linkage between student and faculty diversity. UB numbers are in line with other Universities such as Texas A&M University. Faculty diversity is strongly correlated with student success. Faculty diversity is associated with persistence rates for students of color, reports of sense of belonging, inclusion climate and stereotypic threats. Service expectation of underrepresented faculty in the diversity space is more taxing making retention difficult. She gave approaches taken by universities to tackle diversity such as one-off hiring, cluster hiring, pre and post-doc mentoring and visiting faculty. Each of these suggestions come with associated challenges. The current program has a strong cohort of scholars in different fields which has been uplifting not only for graduate students in different departments but also in the surrounding schools. The scholars have undergraduate and graduate mentoring circles. The presentation ended with the introduction of each of the scholars.

New or Unfinished Business: A discussion ensued regarding the dates of the Spring semester session but it was concluded that the matter was closed since the decision was taken based on the circumstance and the timing.

There was a concern raised regarding the FS IT committee and its functioning. The Chair promised to look into the matter.

The Provost and the Chair were asked a question regarding the acquiring and distribution of COVID19 vaccine to which the response was no decisions have been taken.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 4.27 pm.

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

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 2, 2020
3:00-4:30 p.m.

CHAIR: Bob Miletich - X
SECRETARY: Jessy Alexander - X
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Richard Gronostajski - X
ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING: Hiro Hata - X
ARTS & SCIENCES: Michael Cowen - X Ken Dauber – X Barbara Prinari - X Maureen Jameson – X
DENTAL MEDICINE: Othman Shibly -
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 - X Channa Kolb - E. Brooke Lerner - X

NURSING:

Jennifer Livingston - X

PHARMACY:

Marilyn Morris - X

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Albert Vexler -

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 -

PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

A. Scott Weber - X

PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE:

Tim Tryjankowski - X

COUNCIL OF ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP (COAL):

Mike Montoro - X

INVITED GUESTS:

Maura Belliveau - X

Brice Bible - X

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessica Naish – X

Robert Granfield – X

PHONE ATTENDEES: