

#### Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting December 8, 2021. Zoom Hall

Attendance:

Proceedings of the meeting are uploaded onto UB Box.

The Chair, Fred Stoss called the Meeting to order at 3.00pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Agenda: Agenda for the day was approved unanimously.

**Secretary's report**: The minutes of the previous meeting was approved unanimously.

**President's report**: President Tripathi thanked the faculty for helping the university community enjoy a highly successful return to campus and a highly productive semester. The COVID19 positivity rate of the University has remained low since the members of the University have remained vigilant to the threat of COVID19 and have been following the health and safety protocols. There was an increase in the positivity rate after Thanksgiving.

*Faculty recognition*: Five UB faculty Quanxi Jia, Marianthi Markatou, Janet Morrow, Robert Shibley and Mark Swihart were appointed to the distinguished professor rank by the SUNY Board of Trustees at its meeting on Nov. 9.

*Quanxi Jia*, Empire Innovation Professor and National Grid Professor of Materials Research, is an internationally recognized leader in multifunctional and nanostructured materials for energy and electronic-device applications. He has made significant contributions to the development of highperformance superconducting coated conductors, or 2G wires, for electricpower applications. He has invented and pioneered the polymer-assisted deposition, a cost-effective coating technique to grow a vast number of electronic materials. Jia is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), National Academy of Inventors (NAI), American Ceramic Society (ACerS), the American Physical Society (APS), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the Materials Research Society (MRS) and the Los Alamos National Laboratory.



*Marianthi Markatou*, professor of biostatistics and associate chair of research and healthcare informatics in the Department of Biostatistics, is an internationally renowned expert in biostatistics, statistics and biomedical informatics. She has conducted seminal methodological research that has significantly advanced the fields of statistical robustness, mixture models, statistical distances, weighted likelihood methods and statistical machine learning. Among her many honors and awards, Markatou has been named a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and a member of the International Statistical Institute.

Janet R. Morrow, Larkin Chair and UB Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, is a highly regarded expert in the field of metal ion complexes in biology and in biomedical imaging. She is recognized for her invention of transition metalbased MRI contrast agents that have the potential to monitor disease states including bimodal imaging agents, paramagnetic liposomes and selfassembled cages as theranostic agents for imaging drug delivery to tumors. Morrow has authored more than 120 publications, 12 book chapters and nine patents, and serves as associate editor of Inorganic Chemistry, the premier American Chemical Society journal in the discipline. She is the recipient of an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship, a Special Award for Creativity from the NSF, and the Schoellkopf Medal from the ACS. She is a fellow of the AAAS.

Robert G. Shibley, professor and dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, is a globally renowned scholar, recognized for his work on the theory and practice of place making — the way we transform the places we are into places we love. He has authored more than 120 publications, including 17 books and 15 book chapters. His productivity is all the more impressive given the significant administrative roles he has held, first as chair of the Department of Architecture during the 1980s, and as dean for the past decade. Shibley's work has received global attention for its impact on the people and places of Buffalo, and its elevation of practice-based research in architecture and urban planning. The work has also led to top national awards in his disciplines, including an American Institute of Architect's (AIA) Thomas Jefferson Award and induction into the College of Fellows in the AIA, and the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is the recipient of the UB President's Medal, the New York State AIA Educator of the Year Award, and 45 other international, national and regional honors for outstanding design and planning projects, as well as additional lifetime achievement awards.

*Mark Swihart* is UB Distinguished Professor, chair of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, and Empire Innovation Professor in



the UB RENEW Institute. He is recognized globally for developing new nanoscale materials, engineering practical processes for producing unique materials, and generating fundamental understanding of those processes. Swihart has made key contributions to the synthesis and post-processing of these materials. He has published more than 285 manuscripts on these subjects, which have been cited roughly 20,000 times. He co-authored the two most recent editions of the chemical engineering undergraduate textbook and has co-founded two startup companies. He is a fellow of AIChE and AAAS, and has been recognized with the Schoellkopf Medal from the American Chemical Society and the Whitby Award from the American Association for Aerosol Research.

Earlier in the week, the President hosted a reception for the presidential honor scholars. The feedback from the scholars regarding their Fall semester experience was positive.

During the Q & A: Fred Stoss thanked the administration for their vigilance in opening and maintaining a safe semester.

Maureen Jameson asked about media reports suggesting that, in the wake of the resignation of the Chancellor, the Governor's Office was exploring organizational changes to the SUNY system. The President replied that he had heard these same reports but did not have any additional information.

Barbara Prinari enquired about a potential university wide Task Force for PhD students to which the Provost responded that there was no presidential task force but vice provost Hamill continues to lead the effort.

Kristin Stapleton: UB weighing in on Bryant Stratton's request to be a nonprofit and the concern of the Union. The President responded that UB supports it being a non-profit since it would be beneficial for students and higher education institutions.

## Provost's report:

Provost Weber expressed his appreciation for the faculty successfully navigating the very difficult landscape caused by the pandemic. He wished everyone a good ending to a difficult semester.

## **Decanal transitions:**

*Marsha Lewis*, Dean of the school of Nursing, announced that she will be retiring from UB at the end of this academic year. Under her leadership, the school has significantly increased funding through federal grant proposals, more than doubling its research expenditures, increased its faculty



recognition, and significant enrollment growth in several programs. Lewis recognized nursing as an increasingly global profession and focused on internationalizing the school providing UB nursing students with global perspectives and providing them with unique international learning opportunities. Lewis has built many partnerships within the UB and local healthcare communities to expand clinical opportunities for students and to increase the school's impact.

*Paul Tesluk,* Dean and Professor School of Management University at Buffalo will be stepping down at the end of the academic year to return to his faculty role, and as the Donald S Carmichael professor of organizational behavior. Dean Tesluk has led the school through a nationally challenging time for management, education, while strengthening the schools programs and partnerships. Under his leadership the school developed several new educational programs that align with students needs and help meet the growing high tech workforce demands of society. In addition, the school has expanded student fellowships and internships and enhanced international opportunities for students, which led to a significant increase in student engagement experiential learning and networking opportunities.

UB is very grateful to Deans Lewis and Tesluk for their dedicated leadership and UB will be launching searches for both the Dean positions in January and plan to have new leadership determined by the end of the Spring 2022.

## PhD excellence initiative:

Professor Graham Hamill, the vice provost for academic affairs and Dean of the graduate school continues to lead the university's PhD. The excellence initiative was launched about two years ago. It aims to recruit the very best PhD students, provide exceptional educational and research training for these students. It will enhance the diversity of the PhD programs, improve outcomes, including time to degree and completion rates and make sure that UB is nationally recognized as offering top ranked PhD programs to prepare students for specific challenges, and opportunities they will encounter as future scholars and researchers. As the dean of the graduate school vice provost Hamill has charged a faculty committee to review the goals of the excellence initiative and recommend revisions and prioritization of the goals. The committee is being chaired by Krishna Rajan, SUNY distinguished professor and the Eric block chair in materials design and innovation, and it has representation from across the campus.

During Q & A –



Maureen Jameson requested an update on the fate of the 30 international students who had visa difficulties. The Provost responded that UB has approached this issue, not from a compliance standpoint but from a student success standpoint, and a process is in place to avoid a recurrence. The Provost remarked that UB had taken a careful look at the way it communicated with students, and in future would consider being less reliant on email.

Barbara Prinari requested the roster of the PhD excellence committee charged by Vice Provost Hammill.

Mike Dambra asked the Provost regarding conversations between the School of Management and the central administration regarding the forward trajectory and the decanal review process.

Cemal Basaran enquired about nominations for the position of FS secretary.

Chair's report: The report has been uploaded on UB Box.

The Chair, Fred Stoss gave a review of the FS activities during the Fall semester.

**Items of interest**: Daniel Schweitzer spoke about the "Adopt a Family Donation with the PSS."

Members of the FSEC were invited to purchase digital or tangible gift cards for the Kwitegetse & Ngendahimana, Gaymon and/or Marek families.

## Unfinished business:

Anti-Semitism Resolution:

The Resolution Condemning Antisemitism and Racially-driven Graffiti and Hate-Speech was presented.

Approval Standing Committee Rosters:

The rosters for the FS standing committees was presented.

A discussion ensued regarding the anonymity of the voting process during the meetings and needing more time for the agenda and reports before the meeting.

## New business:

Calendar Update – January Meetings.



Fred Stoss presented the Spring calendar that is scheduled to begin January 31, 2022 and ends May 21, 2022.

The 12/14 FS Meeting Agenda

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 4:17pm.

Submitted by Jessy Alexander, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, February, 2022.



## CHAIR:

Fred Stoss - 🗸

#### SECRETARY:

Jessy Alexander - 🗸

## PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Nicholas Chibuikem Ogam - 🗸

## ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:

Hiro Hata - 🗸

## COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:

Michael Cowen -

Maureen Jameson - 🗸

Barbara Prinari - 🗸

Kristin Stapleton - 🗸

## DENTAL MEDICINE:

Othman Shibly - 🗸

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER:

Michael Baugh - 🗸

## ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:

Paschalis Alexandridis - 🗸

Marina Tsianou - 🗸



## GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:

Tiffany Karalis-Noel - 🗸

## LAW:

Matthew Steilen - 🗸

MANAGEMENT:

Michael Dambra - 🗸

## MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Anna Blumental-Perry -

Channa Kolb - 🗸

E. Brooke Lerner - ✓

Michael Morales - 🗸

## NURSING:

Jennifer Livingston - 🗸

## PHARMACY:

Marilyn Morris - 🗸

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Albert Vexler - 🗸

## SOCIAL WORK:

Annahita Ball - 🗸

## UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

John Beatty - 🗸



#### SUNY SENATORS:

Cemal Basaran - 🗸

Amit Kandel - 🗸

Patrick Long -

R.J. Multari - 🗸

Ken Seldeen (alternate) -

## PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

Satish Tripathi - 🗸

## PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

A. Scott Weber - 🗸

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE:

Tim Tryjankowski - 🗸

## COUNCIL OF ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP (COAL):

Brianna Bennett - 🗸

## **INVITED GUESTS:**

Daniel Schweitzer - 🗸

#### **UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP:**

Robert Granfield - 🗸

Graham Hammill - 🗸

William McDonnell - 🗸

Eileen Sherman - 🗸



# OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessica Naish - 🗸

Bob Miletich - 🗸

Phil Glick - 🗸