



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

FACULTY SENATE

February 3, 2015

CHAIR:

Ezra B. W. Zubrow

SECRETARY:

Cynthia Tysick

ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:

Jordan Geiger

ARTS & SCIENCES:

Alex Anas (excused)

Melvyn Churchill (absent)

Michael Cowen

Kenneth Dauber

Stephen Dyson

Walter Hakala (excused-EunHee Lee,
alternate, present)

James Holstun (excused)

Jacob Kathman

Charlotte Lindqvist (excused)

Sara Metcalf

Peter Morgan (absent)

Alyssa Mt. Pleasant

Harvey Palmer

Katja Praznik

Adam Sikora (excused)

Kristin Stapleton

Jean-Jacques Thomas (absent)

Camillo Trumper (absent)

Marion Werner (absent)

Paul Zarembka (excused)

DENTAL MEDICINE:

Michael Hatton

Ray Miller

Sawsun Tabba (absent)

Mine Tezal

**ENGINEERING & APPLIED
SCIENCES:**

Paschalis Alexandridis (absent)

Christine Human

Igor Jankovic

James Jensen

Joseph Mollendorf

Adel Sadek (absent)

Sabanayagam Thevanayagam

Robert Wetherhold

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION:**

Maureen Boyd

Anne Perroult (excused)

Lorna Peterson (retired)

Sarah Robert

Lynne Yang

LAW:

Christine Bartholomew

Martha McCluskey

MANAGEMENT:

Veljiko Fotak

Jun Ru (absent)

Larry Sanders

MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Daniel Amsterdam
Jeffrey Anker (absent)
Matthew Barth
Kathryn Bass (absent)
Peter Bradford (excused)
Michael Chaskes (excused)
George Chen (absent)
Peter Elkin
Edward Fine
Lorna Fitzpatrick (absent)
John Gibbs (absent)
Richard Gronostajski
Vijay Iyer (absent)
Dennis Nadler
Chukwumere Nwogu (absent)
Gabriela Popescu
Laurie Sadler
Rajeev Sharma
David Shucard
George Simpson
Satpal Singh (absent)
Scott Stewart (absent)
Daniel Swartz
Susan Udin (absent)
Charles Wiles (absent)
Taechin Yu

NURSING:

Grace Dean
Donna Fabry

PHARMACY:

Alice Ceacareanu (excused, Al Reiman, alternate, present)
Fred Doloresco

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Peter Horvath
Heather Kearns
Jim Lenker (excused)
Sue Nochajski

SOCIAL WORK:

Robert Keefe (excused)
Kathleen Kost (absent)

SUNY SENATORS:

Henry Durand
Kathleen Kielar (excused)
Rober Van Wicklin
Vacancy

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

Glendora Johnson-Cooper
Ophelia Morey
Margaret Wells (excused)

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Richard Gronostajski

GUESTS:

Phil Glick, Medicine
Andy Stott, English & UGE
Elaine Davis, Dental Medicine

Meeting began at 3:05pm

1. Approval of the minutes from 12/4/14
 - The body voted to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2014 Faculty Senate meeting.
2. Chair's Report
 - University Senate: SUNY Operations Committee has signed an a 5 year agreement with Elsevier. A \$1 million dollar shortfall was negotiated.
 - Chancellor's Awards: Ezra served on a number of Chancellor's Awards for Excellence committees and was impressed with our talented faculty.
 - Greg Dimitriadis (GSE) passed away at the age of 45. A moment of silence was taken in his honor.
 - March 2nd will be a general meeting of PRB. Faculty will get an opportunity to meet the new VP of Faculty Affairs and the new Chair of PRB.
 - The Governor put forth new legislation for public sector employees:
 - Raise retirement age from 62 to 65
 - End early retirement
 - Required employees to contribute 6% of their salary towards retirement
 - Vested after 12 years rather than 10 years
 - Calculate retirement distribution based on the best 5 years' salary with an 8% cap
 - Exclude all wages above \$175,000
 - Eliminate lump sum payment of unused vacation
 - Eliminate unused sick time toward health insurance
 - It will be difficult to recruit new faculty competitively if all of these new changes are approved.
 - Introduced Dr. Phil Glick (Medicine) as the incoming Chair of Faculty Senate
3. President's Report
 - Governor's Budget:
 - SUNY will implement performance based budgeting whereby 10% of a campus' budget will be withheld until they have shown positive performance. SUNY will need to present their proposal to the Board of Trustees before it can be implemented.
 - \$10 million dollars will be put aside from the SUNY system for performance enhancement. This is consistent with what other state university/college systems are doing.
 - \$55 million dollars has been budgeted for NYSUNY 2020. The funds will be tied to collaborative projects.
 - StartUpNY helps you start, expand or relocate your qualified business to a tax-free zone in New York State. UB has really taken the lead on this initiative .

- There is a proposal by the Governor to forgive loan debt for the first 2 years of college. The program is currently called “Get on Your Feet”.
 - SUNY is considering cost cutting measures that would call for shared services between SUNY and CUNY.
 - SUNY is considering requiring “experiential learning” for all undergraduates.
 - SUNY is looking to increase contracts with Minority and Women Owned Businesses from 25% to 30%.
 - State tax support for higher education is flat.
 - Negotiated salary increases are not coming from the Governor so money will be short on the campuses.
 - Critical maintenance of South Campus buildings is needed. There are buildings that need rehabbing and those that need to be demolished. Last year UB received \$49 million, this year we will receive only \$18 million.
 - SUNY wanted \$600 million dollars from the Governor for critical maintenance across the system (many campuses are like ours and showing their age). The Governor allocated \$200 million dollars.
 - SUNY Binghamton School of Pharmacy already had money budgeted by SUNY for their new building.
 - Chancellor’s State of SUNY:
 - Highlighted UB’s Finish in Four and would like to rollout the initiative to all SUNY.
 - The number of graduates is increasing dramatically.
 - Every campus should have a diversity officer.
 - Want to extend and expand SUNYNY2020.
 - The President will continue to push SUNY for an increase in the critical maintenance and operating budget.
 - Questions:
 - Dr. Glick asked how the removal of Sheldon Silver as the Speaker will impact the timeliness of the State budget.
 - The President was not sure how a new Speaker could impact/delay the budget.
4. Provost’s Report:
- Complimented the Faculty Senate on the approval of the new Undergraduate General Education Program.
 - Highlighted the initiative to create “Communities of Excellence” around solving big societal questions/problems using UB talent across all three campuses. The problems that CoE proposals are tackling need to be bigger than an individual department or school; rather they require multiple entities to solve them. An announcement of which CoEs have been funded will happen at the end of March.
 - UB is in the top 20 institutions for hosting international students.
 - Winter session can be important for international students. We had 10 study abroad programs running for 3 weeks during the Winter session. 1500 students enrolled, up from 900 last year. A majority of the courses are taught online.
 - Heart of the Campus (HotC)

- North Campus will become a welcoming place for undergraduates. The first step to that happened over Thanksgiving with the clearing out of the 3rd floor of the Silverman Library at Capen Hall. A 21st century library that is social, collaborative, and media enhanced is being envisioned and created over the next year. Plans for the 2nd and 3rd phase of the HotC is being done now because SUNY wants “shovel ready” projects when funds become available and UB is being proactive.
 - Faculty Accomplishments:
 - Norma Nowak for her work in the creation of the Buffalo Institute for Genomics and Data Analytics (BIG).
 - Natalia Litchinitser professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, has been elected a fellow of the American Physical Society.
 - Alexander N. Cartwright, has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.
 - Carole Emberton (History) was awarded the Willie Lee Rose Prize for best book in southern history from the Southern Association of Women Historians.
 - Dr. Amit Goyal, Director of the Research and Education in eNergy, Environment and Water (UB RENEW) Institute has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.
5. Decanal Review Evaluation Ad-Hoc Committee Report and first reading of the committee’s resolution was presented and made by the committee chair, Elaine Davis. (see <http://faculty-senate.buffalo.edu/documents/documents.htm>)
- Comments:
 - Martha McCluskey talked about the history behind the need for such a report and resolution.
 1. Assessing and monitoring Decanal performance is necessary.
 2. SUNY Senate also asked for such a decanal review process.
 3. Faculty need the ability to provide feedback in the decanal review process.
 4. Retaliation complaints need to be taken seriously and remain as anonymous as possible.
 - Ezra advised the senators that this was the first reading and that next month’s meeting will serve as the second reading where amendments from the floor or prior via email would be accepted.
6. Undergraduate General Education Program by Andy Stott
- All General Education Proposal committees have been disbanded with then plan to create new implementation committees around Freshman Experience, a Writing Council, Math & Quantitative Reasoning, Scientific Inquiry, Integrative Clusters, and ePortfolios. Faculty Senate will have oversight of the new program with one senator serving on each of the subcommittees and three serving on the Steering committee. All senators will have voting rights on the committees they serve.
 - A course development template has been sent out to teaching faculty.
 - A list of all current undergraduate courses that may be retooled for the new program is being created.

- Comments:
 - James Jensen (Engineering) asked whether or not chairs of faculty senate committees could serve on the new general education subcommittees.
 - Andy Stott's answer was they could but the faculty senators would be the ones with voting rights and be able to bring committee issues to the faculty senate.
 - Ezra urged senators to start the process of identifying which senators would serve on these important committees.
 - Robert Wetherhold asked for an implementation timeframe
 - Andy Stott's answer was courses begin in the Fall 2016 but of work needs to be done by the end of 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25p

Respectfully submitted 2/26/2015 by Cynthia Tysick, Secretary