

Faculty Senate Meeting
February, 2020
Center for tomorrow

Attendance:

Proceedings of the meeting are uploaded onto UB Box.

The Chair, Dr Robert Miletich called FS Meeting to order at 3.00pm.

Agenda: The agenda was accepted unanimously.

Secretary's report: The minutes of December 2019 was approved and accepted unanimously. Carla Jungquist was thanked for serving as the interim secretary while Jessy Alexander was away as a Fulbright fellow.

President: The President gave the FS an update on achievements and priorities.

Funding: The National Institutes of Health awarded \$21.7 million to UB. The grant will be spearheaded by Dr. Timothy Murphy, the principal investigator. Dr Murphy is a SUNY distinguished professor, and senior associate dean for clinical and translational research at the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. The grant encourages translational research – efforts across university departments and specialties – to boost innovation, speed development of medical treatments, and reduce health disparities in poor, rural and minority communities. The President said that it brought recognition and prestige for the institution.

The College of Arts and Sciences has received a \$3.174 million grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in support of a new Department of Indigenous Studies.

The NIH awarded UB chemist, John Richard a \$2 million grant for enzyme research.

SUNY Distinguished Professors: The SUNY Board of Trustees named UB faculty members John Crassidis and Krishna Rajan, SUNY Distinguished Professors in recognition of their international prominence and distinguished reputations within their chosen fields.



Provost appointment: An excellent pool of candidates applied for the position of Provost. Scott Weber was the best of the pool. Scott has accepted the position of Provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at UB following the international search.

Vice President for Student Life: Christina Hernandez is the Interim Vice President for Student Life. She will provide oversight and leadership to the units within Student Life to ensure students have the support and resources they need to thrive at the university and beyond.

Dean, School of Engineering: The selection process is a multistage process. The process is ongoing with the President and Provost involved. The candidates will be on campus next month.

Provost:

Provost Weber thanked the President and said he was looking forward to working with the Senate.

He said the goals at present were: to attain the rank of top 25 among Public Universities by increasing retention of both students and Faculty, increase external funding, increase faculty recognition, growing top ranked graduate programs and fostering diversity and inclusivity.

The Provost Office would be launching a search for VP of international programs.

Chair's report:

Obituary:

Marilyn M. Kramer (nee McMann) passed away at age 75. She was a career librarian, had an MLS from Indiana University and a JD from Temple University. Retired from UB Libraries in 2009, Marilyn was Secretary of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 1998-2002. Body was donated to UB Medical School.

Dr. Julian L. Ambrus Sr., 95, prominent physician and medical researcher passed away on January 16, 2020. Dr. Ambrus served as the Director of Roswell Park Memorial Institute and as a Department Chairman at the University at Buffalo Medical School.

Dr Evan Caulkins died on January 24 at the age of 99. In 1968, He became the first chair of the university wide Department of Medicine

Forestation: The Chair gave a presentation on the need to increase forestation in the campus –UB Box.

Faculty Senate Secretary: The election for the Faculty Senate Secretary was ongoing.

Shared Governance Day: The Chair informed the FS that the Shared Governance Day was scheduled for March 3rd in the downtown campus.

PRESENTATIONS:

University Sustainability: Ernie Steinberg gave a presentation on the forward movement of the sustainability committee. He invited everyone to the monthly meetings. He mentioned that a resolution regarding parking would be forthcoming. He mentioned that top Universities take pride in their environment. He suggested that we should become the frontrunners for sustainability in the SUNY system and encourage other campuses to follow suit.

Student wellness: Sharon Mitchell gave a presentation on UB student mental health, trends and services _ UB Box.

Undergraduate education: Ann Bisantz, Dean of undergraduate education reported to the senate regarding the UB curriculum: status and updates. The presentation is available on UB Box.

Executive session: None

New business: Professional senate sustainability fair 23rd 11am at the Student Union.

Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 4.15 pm. -

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