



## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes February 15, 2022 Online by Zoom

Attendance: Pages 6-11

Proceedings of the meeting are uploaded onto UB Box.

The Secretary, Jessy Alexander, called the meeting to order at 3:03pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Agenda:** Agenda for the day was approved unanimously.

**Secretary's report:** Two calls for nominations for the secretary's position which starts the next academic year were sent out. The position is still open, we request that any of you who feel so inclined, please let us know so that we can move forward with the nomination.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

**President's report:** Governor Hochul has designated UB a flagship of SUNY system. UB has long been considered a de facto flagship, but the formal distinction underscores UB standing as premier public research university. And as we seek to situate UB among the top 25 public research universities in the nation, the flagship designation positions us to make even more profound impact on the communities that we serve. In particular, it will enhance our ability to attract and retain the very best faculty and students, secure competitive federal research funding and catalyze growth and innovation across business and industry.

Governor Hochul has approved funding for a new engineering building through a 2-to-1 state to campus capital matching program. The graduate school of education will relocate to the south campus. This move allows us further our collaborations with our community partners with the goal of improving education outcome. It will also create more space on our north campus.

One World Café is now open, although dining options will become available later in the semester, possibly in early March.

A few recent examples of the impact from research faculty are conducting. The US Air Force research lab has selected researchers in UB School of Engineering and Applied Sciences to lead a \$5 million research study to improve the nation's ability to track and monitor spacecraft and space debris. The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has received a \$2.3 million grant from the NIH to help prevent life threatening drug interactions. And the School of Public Health and Health Professionals received a \$750,000 grant from the US Department of Agriculture to expand access to locally grown produce food in underserved communities.

Another validation of our faculty impactful work comes from the prestigious national and international awards. Mark Hicar, associate professor of Pediatrics in the Jacobs School, has been named fellow of the Infectious Disease Society of America, one of the highest honors in the field. Nalini Ratha, Empire Innovation Professor in the department of Computer Science and Engineering, has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. And within just five years of his conception, the Department of Material Design and Innovation has its first NSF career awardee in assistant professor Baishakhi Mazumder.

According to the university communications research, in the 2021 calendar year 320 faculty members were quoted in the local, national and international media, resulting in 13,476 media placements. That represents a 21% increase in the number of faculty quoted, for the past two years, and a 36% increase in the number of media placement for the same two-year period.

Chad Lavin asked it is clear materially what the flagship status for UB means or that's all still being negotiated. President Tripathi responded that we do not have precise guidelines and resources yet, but that the Governor has indicated she wants to work with institutions to see what is needed and how we can achieve the goals.

**Provost's report:** no report

Fred Stoss asked about updates in terms of Covid and masking requirements. Provost Weber responded that UB will follow the guidelines as promulgated by SUNY, and things will be decided based on local conditions. No change in the mask requirement is anticipated in the near term, but this might change.

Barbara Prinari asked for clarifications about the digital skills cyber security boot camp, a cybersecurity course that's being offered by the third party for-profit company Thrive Dx, and which is hosted on the UB website. This might

lead people to think that this is a UB course, and that UB faculty have control over its content. Provost Weber responded that it is a continuing education course offered through the TCIE. He is aware there is some concerns and is going to look into that. Other schools (University of Michigan, NC state, Wisconsin Madison) have similar partnerships with ThriveDx. Dean Lewis added that TCIE uses outside consultants as well as UB faculty, and that UB faculty are involved in overseeing this program. The course is not for credit, but it is a UB program, since it is offered through one of our organizational affiliates through the TCEI. RJ Multari asked if there is any reason why these courses could not be run through UB via Coursera. Dean Lewis said that this might be a better option moving forward. Since many schools are offering professional development and continuing education courses, RJ Multari also suggested that it would be useful to have a central repository where all the information could be stored.

Julia Latorre asked if the data relative to teaching evaluations with a small number of responses can be aggregated in some way so that faculty could get feedback if they request it. Provost Weber responded he will work with the team that administers the course evaluation surveys to see if something can be done about this.

**Chair's report:** Uploaded on UB Box. Two items were highlighted at the meeting from the report. Terry Miller was posthumously awarded the "Friend of the University Faculty Senate" award, given to non-members of the University Faculty Senate. The award acknowledges Terry's career that began here as a professor of law, and her work on issues of equity and inclusion. The other item is a new piece of legislation calling for SUNY and CUNY to come up with plans for eliminating single-use plastic on their campuses.

### **Items of interest:**

**COACHE update:** VP Granfield updated the senate on the new COACHE 2022 survey that was launched last week. This is the fifth time UB is participating. All full-time faculty (faculty with at least .75 FTE appointment) have received an email with an individual link to take the survey. The survey will be open for approximately 4 weeks, and results are expected in July. COACHE stands for Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education, surveys are conducted by the Harvard School of Education. Over 300 universities have been involved since COACHE was originally launched

in 2008. It is currently the most widely used instrument to solicit input from faculty on a host of issues related to faculty life. All faculty are strongly encouraged to take the survey, which takes about 20 minutes to complete. COACHE provides the results in form of comparisons, to UB subgroups by faculty type (by rank, gender, race, ethnicity) and in comparison to our peer group and other institutions that are in the survey. Associate VP Baumstark showed slides with the results of the 2017 COACHE survey as they were presented to the faculty senate. The results and benchmarks can be found on the Provost's website. Response rates are crucial. In 2017 UB's overall response rate was just under 50%, which was similar to our peers'. But the response rate was lower for NTT faculty. The goal for 2022 is to bring up the response rate, particularly for NTT faculty.

Walter Hakala pointed out that the resolution on the document available on the Provost's website is extremely low. Associate VP Baumstark said that they will see to that.

Barbara Prinari asked if the peer group for the 2022 COACHE survey has already been selected, and, if not, if the faculty will have an opportunity to provide some input on the selection. VP Granfield responded that the selection has not been made yet, as it depends on the participating institutions. It is good to have some consistency, so if some of the peers from 2017 are also in the 2022 cohort, they will likely be selected. The COACHE implementation committee, which has faculty representation, will be a good place to have this conversation.

### **New business:**

**Review of the 190th UFS Plenary:** RJ Multari gave an overview of the January 190th UFS Plenary. The full report is available on UBbox. Items of interest are: final Fall SUNY system enrollment data; the current status of SUNY; the upcoming digital learning environment changes the system is about to undertake (decision is still pending as to whether UB will stay with Blackboard or adopt a different learning management system); additional resources behind marketing and communication to get the SUNY brand more widely known; micro-credentials as a way to increase enrollment at SUNY schools.



**Resolution: Successful Implementation of the SUNY General Education Category “Diversity: Equity, Inclusion, & Social Justice” – First reading**

Fred Stoss presented the resolution, which is uploaded on UBbox. There was no discussion. There will be a second reading of the resolution at the March Faculty Senate meeting.

**Resolution: Advancement of historically underrepresented faculty – First reading**

Fred Stoss presented the resolution, which is uploaded on UBbox. There was no discussion. There will be a second reading of the resolution at the March Faculty Senate meeting.

These resolutions cannot be amended or changed, we are only asked for a vote of endorsement of the resolutions as written.

**Resolution: UFS Endorsed – FCCC Statement: SUNY Chancellor and Executive Leadership Searches – Reading**

Fred Stoss presented the resolution, which is uploaded on UBbox. There is no action that needs to be taken at this or any future time.

**Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Submitted by Barbara Prinari, Interim Secretary of the Faculty Senate, March, 2022.



Faculty Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**CHAIR:**

Fred Stoss – ✓

**SECRETARY:**

Jessy Alexander – ✓

**PARLIAMENTARIAN:**

Nicholas Chibuikem Ogam – ✓

**ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:**

Hiro Hata –

Kerry Traynor – ✓

**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:**

Michael Cowen – ✓

Maureen Jameson – ✓

Barbara Prinari – ✓

Kristin Stapleton – ✓

Jason Benedict – ✓

Gino Biondini –

Sampson Blair – ✓

Julie Bowker – ✓

Vesna Danilovic – ✓

Christopher Dennison – ✓

Grady Gambrel – ✓

Walter Hakala – ✓

Eero Laine – ✓

Chad Lavin – ✓

Yiqiang Li – ✓

Sara Metcalf – ✓

Kimberly Meehan – ✓

Carin Mardorossian –

Harvey Palmer – ✓
Justin Read –
Wei Sun –
Liana Vardi –
Marion Werner –

DENTAL MEDICINE:
Othman Shibly –
Richard Hall – ✓
Michelle Kay – ✓
Benita Sobieraj – ✓

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER:
Michael Baugh – ✓

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:
Paschalis Alexandridis –
Marina Tsianou –
Kevin Burke – ✓
Lora Cavuoto – ✓
Qiaoqiang Gan –
Julia Latorre – ✓
Cecilia Hilde Martinez-Leon – ✓
Presentacion Reyes – ✓
Kallol Sett – ✓
Tarunraj Singh – ✓
Ferah Percy Vandrevala –
Jose Walteros – ✓
Junson Yuan –
Jennifer Zirnheld – ✓
Adly Fam (alternate)- ✓

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:
Tiffany Karalis-Noel – ✓
Blythe Anderson – ✓

Stephanie Fredrick – ✓

Alisa Husain –

### LAW:

Matthew Steilen –

Matthew Dimick –

Patrick Long –

Stephen Paskey –

### MANAGEMENT:

Michael Dambra – ✓

Laura Amo –

Myungsun Kim –

Chunchi Wu – ✓

### MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Anna Blumental-Perry – ✓

Channa Kolb – ✓

E. Brooke Lerner – ✓

Michael Morales –

Yongho Bae – ✓

Vanessa Barnabei –

Elsa Bou Ghanem – ✓

Marilou Ching – ✓

Richard Chou –

Stewart Clark – ✓

Michael Duffey –

Valerie Elberson – ✓

Michael Farkas – ✓

Edward Fine –

Seth Glassman –

Michael Guppenberger – ✓



Wilma Hofmann –

Liise Kayler – ✓

Supriya Mahajan – ✓

Yaron Perry – ✓

Matthew Ruggieri – ✓

Ferdinand Schweser – ✓

Spyridon Stavrou – ✓

Elizabeth Wohlfert – ✓

Ahmad Zaaroura –

#### **NURSING:**

Jennifer Livingston – ✓

Darryl Somayaji – ✓

#### **PHARMACY:**

Marilyn Morris – ✓

Nicole Cieri-Hutherson –

Erin Slazak – ✓

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:**

Albert Vexler –

Adam Graczyk – ✓

Jeanne Langan – ✓

Vijaya Prakash K. Muthaiah – ✓

Todd Rideout – ✓

#### **SOCIAL WORK:**

Annahita Ball – ✓

Peter Sobota –

#### **UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:**

John Beatty – ✓

Carolyn Klotzbach-Russell – ✓

Deborah Chiarella (alternate) – ✓

**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:**

Scott Weber – ✓

**PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE:**

Tim Tryjankowski – ✓

**COUNCIL OF ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP (COAL):**

Brianna Bennett – ✓

**INVITED GUESTS:**

**UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP:**

Robert Granfield – ✓

Graham Hammill – ✓

William McDonnell –

Eileen Sherman – ✓

Marsha Lewis - ✓

Gary Pollack - ✓

Tilman Baumstark - ✓

Jean Wactawski-Wende - ✓

Keith Alford - ✓

Robin Schulze - ✓

Suzanne Rosenblith - ✓

Ann Bisantz - ✓

Bob Shibley - ✓

Paul Tesluk - ✓

Aviva Abramovsky - ✓

Craig Abbey - ✓

Kemper Lewis - ✓

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica Naish – ✓

Phil Glick – ✓

Bob Miletich – ✓