

Faculty Senate Meeting  
March 24, 2020  
Online by Zoom

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 February 2020 was approved and accepted unanimously.

**President:** The President gave the FS an update on COVID-19 status of UB calling it trying and historic times. He thanked the Faculty for their flexibility and understanding and making the move to online teaching in this climate. He asked the faculty for their opinions, suggestions and feedback. Faculty responded positively.

The President acknowledged and gave a shout out to UBIT for the amazing accomplishment of working successfully to move 4000 courses online in a short span of two weeks. Zoom is available to everyone and the Wifi efficiency has been enhanced.

The Associate Deans were working on the policies to be put in place for course evaluations. The Provost is communicating with the Deans everyday while the President was also in contact with the cabinet and other officials. The commencement would have to be postponed and other ways to acknowledge the students accomplishments would have to be figured out. Most research labs were closed. VPR Govindaraju has been transmitting the information and taking decisions based on information received from the Governor's office and SUNY.

**Provost:** Not present

**Chair's report:**

Thanked the Faculty for attending the meeting in the setting of COVID19 pandemonium, which is the worst pandemic in more than 100 years, when the Spanish flu pandemic occurred.

He called for the second reading of the two resolutions that were uploaded on UB Box.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

*University Advancement:* Asked for it to be postponed.

## **Old Business:**

*Resolution 1 on UB Sustainability:* Ernest Steinberg, Department of Urban and Regional Planning gave an overview of the resolution on environmental sustainability on campus which is uploaded on UB Box. The resolution is meant to improve the campus per se, improve the image of UB, meet the sustainability objectives, and make it a campus that does not have dead zones but is surrounded by beautiful landscape. The resolution was then read, moved and seconded. After discussions pertaining to the progress report, student safety, specifics, identification of peer network, the question was called. The resolution passed unanimously.

*Resolution 2 on 184<sup>th</sup> SUNY Plenary resolution:* Fred Stoss, Librarian: Biological, Environmental Sciences & Mathematics presented the second reading of the 184th Plenary, Winter 2020 Resolution passed at the University at Albany. January 16-18, 2020. “This resolution asks the Governor and Legislature to increase the share of SUNY and CUNY operating budget that is covered by public funding instead of student tuition, fully fund SUNY and CUNY critical maintenance needs and capital projects, and establish a SUNY endowment. It also asks that SUNY UFS expand its coordination with governance bodies and union chapters across SUNY and CUNY in budget advocacy”. The motion was endorsed and seconded. The question was called. The resolution passed unanimously.

The Chair: Both resolutions would be forwarded to the President’s office for promulgation. Gwen Kay, Chair of the SUNY Senate would be informed of the discussion.

**Executive session:** None



FACULTY SENATE

**New business:** None

**Adjourned:** Meeting was adjourned at 4.00 pm. -

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Submitted by Jessy Alexander, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, April 13, 2020.