

Minutes of the General and Senate Meeting / Executive Committee – UNAPPROVED

October 12, 2023 (in-person, Jeanette Martin Room, 567 Capen, business conducted)

Convener: Don Erb

Officers Present: Don Erb (Chair), Virginia Stever (Vice Chair), Tony Waleszczak (Secretary)

Executive Members / Senators Present: listed alphabetically (* alternate)

Kyle Beverlin; Brian Bratta; Ashley Canon-Zelasko; Brett Davis*; Don Erb (chair); Lauren Galgovich; Carl Lam; Sherene Milizia; Rachel Poole (Parliamentarian); Erik Silis; Virginia Stever (vice chair); Ryan Taughrin; Tony Waleszczak (secretary)

Executive Members / Senators Absent: list alphabetically (*sent alternate)

Rosemary Lombardo*; RJ Multari; Neil Savoy

Members/Guests:

Alika Turton (UB Student Council Student Representative)

Parliamentarian: Rachel Poole

Staff: Jessica Naish

Recorder: No recording made

Meeting called to order by Don Erb at 3:02 p.m.

Quorum reached: 9 members/senators and 3 officers present.

**Supporting documents in Box.com folder in
Professional Staff Senate/ Meetings/ Senate and General Meetings**

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA – Don Erb

- Presentation of the day's agenda
- No discussion ensued

- **Motion to adopt Agenda: Lam (Silis). Passed.**

REVIEW OF PAST MINUTE(S) – Don Erb

- Review of the September 2023 minutes
- No discussion ensued

- **Motion to approve Minutes from September 14, 2023: Beverlin (Milizia). Passed.**

CHAIR'S REPORT – Don Erb

- Erb summarized his attendance at the Senior Leadership Retreat
 - Mostly Deans and VPs present
 - Focus on Enrollment, and Success in the morning, and Research, and Innovation in the afternoon.
 - Enrollment –up 4% in the middle for SUNY centers, could be better for international enrollment and transfers, but things are sustainable for now
 - We are slightly more male than female, this has been the case for quite some time.
 - Success –Improvements to the Ellicott Complex, Clark Gymnasium, and Student Union
 - Research –we need two things President Tripathi outlined:
 - We need more staff dedicated to research and information curators AND
 - Programs and or systems in place to support research
 - Tripathi said that they are going to put money into these places.
 - Innovation –upgrades to IT services, talk of a new Zoom feature that will summarize meetings using AI.

- **Motion to receive: Lam (Galgovich). Passed.**

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – Virginia Stever

- Stever reported on her progress for the request for committee updates.
 - Awards Committee Reception 10/26, invite is out, but this is the same as a business retreat in Niagara Falls for some at the University.
 - Inclusion and Diversity Committee scheduling “Your Name Matters” and other staff development activities.
 - Lunch Bunch groups have started
 - Abbott has joined the Mentoring Subcommittee
- Milizia mentioned the Accessibility Tour of the Medical School, seemed well-attended, waiting on feedback and recommendations for the group.

- **Motion to receive: Canon-Zelasko (Bratta). Passed.**

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Tony Waleszczak

- Waleszczak reported on the quorum issue encountered at the first General Membership meeting. Quorum had been initially ruled, but after review, the meeting was 3 Senators short. New votes will need to be taken at the 11/2/23 General Membership meeting to ratify all the votes taken.
 - Waleszczak outlined the numbers needed for the General Membership meetings to reach quorum.
 - Parliamentarian Poole ruled that votes to ratify the meeting's proceedings may be taken either as a slate or individually dependent on the membership preference.
 - Agendas from both the 4/27/23 meeting and 9/28/23 meeting are uploaded to Box for Senators' viewing.
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- **Motion to receive: Galgovich (Lam). Passed.**

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Governing Documents Deeper Dive – Erb

- Reviewing the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Orders changes. Changes are being made to standardize the working in both the Bylaws and Standing Orders to be consistent with the Senate's Constitution.
- No discussion, questions, and/or comments ensued

No vote needed

NEW BUSINESS

Alika Turton Presentation – Alike Turton UB Student Council Student Representative

- Alika introduced herself to the Executive Committee outlining her background and goals for the University's student body
- She is involved in organizations both on and off-campus
- Her goal is to augment student voices and empower them. She also would like to innovate by promoting transparency at the University.
- She would like to increase accessibility on-campus, better transportation options and parking resources, and promote EDI on-campus
- Some discussion around the type of technology needed to track buses and parking ensued.

No vote needed

President Tripathi: A Call for Questions - Erb

- Erb talked to President Tripathi, and President Tripathi outlined that he is willing to answer any questions we have. Erb also outlined that President Tripathi does not want to come and give the same talk that he normally gives.
- Erb encouraged all present to send him questions to send to President Tripathi as soon as possible.

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- Several members posed some questions and topics they would like to hear President Tripathi address.

No vote needed

Approval of PSS General Membership Agenda (11/2/23) - Erb

- No discussion ensued

Motion to approve: Galgovich (Bratta). Passed.

Good of the Order? - Erb

- Erb mentioned the Recreation and Wellness Committee will be tasked with investigating a member's question regarding the lack of open time for staff to use the fitness centers on-campus, currently the fitness centers are open, for free, for one hour between 12p-1p.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Erb at 4:07 p.m.

Attendance sign in sheet(s) available through the PSS office.