

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

November 9, 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; Don Erb (chair); Lauren Galgovich; Janiece Jankowski\*; Rosemary Lombardo; Sherene Milizia; RJ Multari; Erik Silis; Virginia Stever (vice chair); Ryan Taughrin; Krystal Testa\*; Tony Waleszczak (secretary)

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

Ashley Canon-Zelasko; Lauren Galgovich (excused)\*; Carl Lam\*; Rachel Poole (Parliamentarian) (excused); Neil Savoy (excused)

**Members/Guests:**

Alika Turton (UB Student Council Student Representative); Heather Cooper; Jennae Howard

**Parliamentarian:** Rachel Poole (absent)

**Staff:** Jessica Naish

**Recorder:** No recording made

**Meeting called to order** by Don Erb at 3:00 p.m.

**Quorum reached:** 7 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: Taughrin (Milizia). Passed.**

## REVIEW OF PAST MINUTE(S) – Don Erb

- Review of the October 2023 minutes
- No discussion ensued
  
- **Motion to approve Minutes from October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023: Beverlin (Taughrin). Passed.**

## CHAIR'S REPORT – Don Erb

- Erb reviewed his future: "That Was Then, This Is Now" presentation that will plan to be presented at the next General Membership meeting.
  - Reviews UB's history in the last 50 years -what can happen in the span of a career, how has UB changed since the PSS was funded in the 1970s.
  
- **Motion to receive: Jankowski (Milizia). Passed.**

## VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – Virginia Stever

- Stever outlined the Awards Reception nomination deadlines:
  - Chancellor's Award 1/3/24
  - Outstanding Service Award 3/6/24
  - Outstanding Service to the PSS Award 3/6/24
- Recreation and Wellness Committee: Mental Health First Aid, there was overwhelming interest and will offer another session on 12/1/23
- 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pie Sale preorders open 11/17/23, pick-up 11/21/23
- Upcoming TIAA Retirement Session on 11/9/23
- Dare to Repair on South Campus from 11a-2p on 11/18/23
- 2023 Adapt a Family, families will be assigned by 11/13/23
- Your Name Matters workshop will be held on 11/30/23 in 310 Silverman
  
- **Motion to receive: Silis (Bratta). Passed.**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT – Tony Waleszczak

- Waleszczak outlined Senator attendance, and that there are 13 total Senators who have missed two (2) consecutive meetings, which according to our Bylaws (Article III, Section E, Parts 1-3) means that the Senators have lost their seats and need to be reinstated by the Executive Committee.
  - Of this group of 13, Waleszczak has still yet to hear from three (3):
    - Faren Gault Wilson, Office of the President (away message indicates they are on a leave)
    - Beatrice Harris, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
    - Joshua Wallace, Research and Economic Development
  - Three (3) have indicated they will be resigning:



- Lynn Emminger, School of Nursing
- Karen Hardaway, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. Susan Ott, Office of the Provost
  - Erb indicated that he will reach out with a letter to this group to thank them for their service.
- Seven (7) others did respond and expressed interest in retaining their seat, and Waleszczak indicated that they have his recommendation for reinstatement.
  - Jennae Howard, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
  - Zachary Jenney, Finance and Administration
  - Christopher Keough, Office of the Provost
  - RJ Multari, Office of the Provost and Executive Senator
  - Jennifer Vick, Finance and Administration
  - Cassandra Walker-Whiteside, School of Public Health and Health Professions
  - Heather Copper, Division of Athletics
- One final Senator and Executive Senator was mentioned, Neil Savoy, Office of the Provost has been out on Medical Leave. He was contacted before the aforementioned group. He also expressed interest in retaining his seat, but in the meantime, Janiece Jankowski (Area 4 alternate) will sit in his place.
- Discussion ensued:
  - Heather Cooper spoke about not knowing about getting PSS emails and information to attend the meetings -these went to her junk file, she also spoke about not confirming her nomination, and she felt that the wording of the email was “harsh.”
    - Erb explained the election process to the group and that the officers are not involved in the process due to ethical concerns. This is handled solely by the Elections Committee.
    - Waleszczak stated that Heather’s concerns were relayed to the Elections Committee and that they have not responded back.
  - Suggestions about ways to mitigate this for the future were suggested:
    - Send out a calendar hold on Outlook.
    - Contact the Elections Committee to revise their communication.
    - Area Senators could call absent Senators to inform them about missed meetings.
- **Motion for the Reinstatement of Senators:**
  - Jennae Howard, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
  - Zachary Jenney, Finance and Administration
  - Christopher Keough, Office of the Provost
  - RJ Multari, Office of the Provost and Executive Senator
  - Jennifer Vick, Finance and Administration
  - Cassandra Walker-Whiteside, School of Public Health and Health Professions
  - Heather Copper, Division of Athletics
- **Jankowski (Taughrin). Passed**
- Tabling the reinstatement of Neil Savoy until he returns from leave.
- Jeremy Jungbluth recently accepted a new position in the School of Dental Medicine (SDM) and will need to move from the Office of the Provost to the SDM. The SDM already has its allotment of Senators and would like to be made at-large for this unit.
  - **Motion to Move Jungbluth from the Provost to at-large in the SDM**
    - **Multari (Jankowski). Passed.**

- **Motion to receive: Multari (Lombardo). Passed.**

## CONTINUING BUSINESS

### Spring Speakers Deep Dive – Erb

- Bringing in Chris Delello in March is the plan.
  - Would like to ask a few things of him, namely: remote work, the difficulties in hiring staff, employee morale, retiree support (because a lot of staff are beginning to age out), childcare (this could be asked to a certain extent, if not we could go to the community for a speaker on the child car topic).
- Laura Hubbard
  - Jankowski would like to hear Hubbard's response to the new IT Gateway and the plans to move this downtown. Jankowski states that there are a lot of unknowns right now about this.
- Jacqui Hollins
  - She may not be the best to bring in as UB is getting a new VPIX and she is returning to her role in Student Success
- Sharon Mitchell
  - Yes, to try and bring her in for a talk, but it was also mentioned that we might want to bring her in plus someone from EAP to address staff mental health.

No vote needed

## NEW BUSINESS

### Debrief of President Tripathi's Visit 11/2/23

- President Tripathi's talk was good, but the President did not address any of the questions that we sent to him.
- President Tripathi did provide some good information about other things going on around campus.
- There were some good questions from the audience asked by our membership.
  - Lombardo mentioned feeling underwhelmed by his responses and that he skirted around answers at times, especially when asked about the parking situation when the new Engineering Building goes up and replaces the Furnas lot where many staff already park.

No vote needed

### Approval of PSS General Membership Agenda (12/7/23) - Erb

- No discussion ensued

**Motion to approve: Jankowski (Milizia). Passed.**

Good of the Order? - Erb

- No Executive Committee meetings in December and January (even though we scheduled one for December 14th). Erb seems to think that there will not be enough content to have a full meeting. Discussion was had about having a holiday Executive Committee get-together, but the group decided against it due to time constraints and other things happening.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned by Erb at 4:14 p.m.**

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