

## Minutes of the General and Senate Meeting – UNAPPROVED

**Dec. 2, 2021** (virtual, held using Zoom, business conducted)

**Convener:** Tim Tryjankowski

**Officers Present:** Tim Tryjankowski (Chair), Don Erb (Vice Chair), Catherine Donnelly (Secretary)

**Senators Present:** Charlie Baxter, Kim Behun, Brianna Bennett, Rachel Blane, Ed Brodka, Ray Danneffer, Lynn Emminger, Rita Ferri, Andrew Fogelsonger, Meredith Forrest Kulwicki, Bradley Hendricks, Hugh Jarvis, Chris (CJ) Keough, Kimberly Krzemien, Carl Lam, Jenna Lenz, Doug Levere, Tim Matthews, Sherene Milizia, RJ Multari, Marlo Roetzer, Pam Rose, Melinda Saran, Daniel Schweitzer, Virginia Stever, Fred Stoss, Krystal Testa, Tony Waleszczak, Michael Yates

**Senators Absent:** Jennifer Chazen, Jessica Coram, Janiece Jankowski, Dom Licata, Lisa Patterson, Janet Schrum, Eileen Sirianni, Thomas Slomka, Ryan Spearer, Christopher Wilson

**Guests:** Laura Hubbard

**Parliamentarian:** Rachel Poole

**Staff:** Jessica Naish

**Recorder:** Catherine Donnelly

**Meeting called to order** by Tim Tryjankowski at 3:01 p.m.

**Quorum reached:** 28 senators and 3 officers present.

Supporting documents in Box.com folder in  
Professional Staff Senate/ Meetings/ Senate and General Meetings / 2021-12-02

### PRESENTATION OF AGENDA – Tim Tryjankowski

- **Motion to adopt Agenda: Tony Waleszczak (Hugh Jarvis) Passed.**

### REVIEW OF PAST MINUTE(S) – Tim Tryjankowski

- **Motion to approve Minutes from Oct. 28, 2021: Virginia Stever (Rita Ferri) Passed.**

Started the meeting with a weather discussion since members were logged in across all three campuses experiencing different weather events. Carl Lam explained that hail is completely frozen from the core outwards. As hail travels through a cloud water continues to freeze on top of that core so that it may increase in size. Sleet is frozen precipitation warms up as it gets closer to the surface, but refreezes.

## CHAIR'S REPORT – Tim Tryjankowski

- Joint special committee with the Faculty Senate on child and eldercare had their first meeting to discuss issues of child and elder care across the campuses. Wait lists for child care extend beyond gestation. We're hoping that through the stimulus package and SUNY that we can address these issues. Right now the group will develop an inventory of services and will then survey the campuses to shine the spotlight on those issues.
- Fred Stoss commented about the enthusiasm and interest in tackling this particular issue. The issue is much more acute down downtown who teach in the evenings or work clinical rotations. There is interest in a 24/7 solution.
- **Motion to accept the chairs report. Daniel Schweitzer (Melinda Saran) Passed.**

## VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – Don Erb

- Awards Committee is in the process of identifying a new chair, we thank Bill McDonald, for his service to the PSS.
- The Budget Advisory Committee has proposed standing order changes and we will be taking those up at the January general membership meeting.
- The Constitution and Bylaws Committee has now completed their annual review of our governing documents and a review of the proposed reorganization. Details to come in the new year.
- The Inclusion and Diversity Committee land management statement along with the Audoban resolution will be shared with the EC in coming weeks. They are also working on collaborations with the MFSA and others.
- Marketing and Communications continue to debug the new email software and to order the tabling items to help with future events.
- Recreation and Wellness will be naming a new leader since Kathy Aikens is stepping down. If you are interested in participating please let Time or Don know.
- Staff Development and Engagement Committee working on some events for the new year.
- Sustainable Living Committee had a successful recycling event with 210 participants, over seven tons of recycled electronics and eight cubic yards of food donations for Blue Table. Currently in discussion for a Lake LaSalle cleanup.
- Alternative Transportation chair Jim Gordon continues to participate in a number of local and regional planning.
- **Motion to receive: Hugh Jarvis (Daniel Schweitzer). Passed.**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT – Catherine Donnelly

- (none)

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Marlo Roetzer shared update on the holiday gift program. Community Relations gave the PSS three families to help.
  - o The Kwitegetse & Ngendahimana parents were in a car accident and have 10 children to support including one with special needs.
  - o Jarielys Gaymon is a foster student who lost her adoptive mother and is back in the foster care system.
  - o The Marek family is a blended family of 12 who are coping with Covid related job changes.

Digital gift cards are preferred but physical gift cards can be provided. if you have any questions about this drive please contact Marlo Roetzer, [mkerr@buffalo.edu](mailto:mkerr@buffalo.edu), or Daniel Schweitzer, [djschwei@buffalo.edu](mailto:djschwei@buffalo.edu).

**Donations needed by Dec. 16, 2021.**

## PRESENTATION

- Laura Hubbard, vice president for finance and administration at the university. She offered an overview of current construction projects along with a view to future events.
  - o UB receives capital money from New York State that funds new buildings and supports ongoing maintenance. The last new building that we got funding for in recent history is the Medical School. Funding dropped off in 2013 due to a state law to limit debt. So, we have only received critical maintenance money that can only be used on existing facilities.
  - o This year we received \$83.3 million to allow for some new construction. There is a two-to-one matching program for new buildings, as well as renovations of existing facilities. So, if UB can raise \$10 million for a building that gets you know another \$20 million from the matching program
  - o UB's strategy around the critical maintenance is to work on projects that have a strategic impact for the campus. For instance we've been able to generate \$18 million in utility savings that has been used for classroom and lab renovations. .
  - o We continue to revitalize the South Campus as a professional studies campus to fulfill our goal for the North campus really to be more focused on the undergraduate programs. Want to develop a heart of the campus on each one and improve the number of touchdown spaces for our students.
  - o On North, we are finishing up One World Café and improving the quality of classrooms and teaching labs. Athletics will be expanding their facilities with a privately funded addition to the field house. Engineering is planning for a new building and Management will expand to fill spaces vacated by groups moving to the South Campus. A new wellness and recreation initiative is in a design phase.
- The School of Social Work and Graduate School of Education will move to South Campus. Then the School of Public Health and Health Professions will move into the old med school. There are plans to update Clark Hall, upgrade technology across the campus and create spaces for students to use. HR completed a successful move to Townsend Hall.
- Downtown completed renovations to the Center for Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, thanks to Empire State Development Funding.
- Student housing has been 100% occupied, so we are considering an update to that master plan. Looking to update with the wellness plan and integrate more closely with the core of the campus.

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University at Buffalo

## Professional Staff Senate

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- As always, there is a focus on sustainability. We've increased our goal to try to move that to 100% of our electricity to come from renewables in the near term.
- Q&A touched on solar updates, if windmills would be a future enhancement, that there are no immediate plans for Pharmacy to move downtown, that UB is supportive of a light-rail expansion to North Campus, and that parking is always an issue. Next year no hang tags, just license plate scanning. This technology will help find open spots.
- If anyone wants particular slides, you can reach out to Tim for help.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Inappropriate and threatening flyers were found on campus. If you see anything similar, please notify security. A QR code was used. The PSS will participate in a joint statement with the Faculty Statement to condemn any instance of harassing language in our community.
- We are drafting a resolution to rename the Audubon road.
- College of Arts and Sciences faculty are discussing issues of TA, GA and PhD student funding as well as support staff shifts. If professional staff have concerns they should share with their senator or an officer.
- We are proposing coffee talks to gather together and discuss work-life balance and visit with PSS members across campus. Coordinators will pass out pins and coffee mugs that celebrate our 50th anniversary.
- Future meetings will be very busy. Please continue to check in with each other and stay safe.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: 4:16 p.m.

Attendance and meeting audio recording available through the PSS office.

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