

Minutes of the General and Senate Meeting – UNAPPROVED

December 7, 2023 (via Zoom, business conducted)

Convener: Don Erb

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

Executive Members / Senators Present: listed by last name alphabetically (*sent alternate)

Ball, Bartelo, Behun, Beverlin, Bratta, Brodka, Cason, Cooper, Coram, Cott, Cunningham, Erb (Chair), Ferguson, Gaeddert, Galgovich, Griswold, Harzewski, Howard, Jankowski, Jarzab, Jenney, Keough, Krzemien, Kulwicki, Lam, Lombardo, Mariglia, Milizia, Miller, Multari, Pawlowski, Pizzutelli, Poole (Parliamentarian), Rexinger Kuhn, Richardson, Roetzer, Saran, Sillis, Skeans, Snyder, Stever (Vice Chair), Stockslader, Szrama, Taughrin, Testa, Valentine, Vick, Waleszczak (Secretary), Walker-Whiteside, Wilson, Zander

Executive Members / Senators Absent: listed by last name alphabetically (*sent alternate)

Bodack, Cannon-Zelasko, Davis, Doxbeck, Gault Wilson, Harris, Jungbluth, Komendat, Matthews, Murphy, Savoy (excused), Slater, Stumm (excused), Wallace, Washington

Members/Guests: as listed by the Zoom Attendance Log

Annette Pyszczynski, Colin Sugrue, Theresa Kruse, Leah Kerr, Lynn Lasota, Jennifer Austin, Jackson Mar, Katheryn Ross-Winnie, Ken Kern, Neil McGillicuddy, Deborah Pierce-Tate, Hannah Norris, Constance Hanel, Ashley Fries, Meredith Forrest Kulwicki, Bin Chen, Juana Colon, Brie Kishel, Mayra Lopez-Perez, Linda Ramsey, Vanessa Lillard, Joe Bach, Beth Fellendorf, Justin Miller, Maggie Balles-Clark, Kevin Ragland, Megan Krebuszewski, Rachel Blane, Jason Chow, Abdul Bari, Tyler Bingham, Kishanie Fernando, Briana White, Jonathan Navratil, Sarah Cogley, Genevieve Naklicki, Rebecca Kranz, Donald Hosie, Melinda Whitford, Brett Sitzman, Meredith Jones, Jess Labella, Carol Ciaciuch, David Lang, Kaitlin Williams, Lauren Merletti, Mark Molnar, Chris Hamm, Jennifer Greiner, Steven Shepler, Jennifer Chazen, Sarah Baille, Lynne DePasquale, Eileen Sirianni, Karen Joppe, Gary Koterak, Nikolaus Wasmoen, Michele Sedor, Shannon Cinotti, Doug Levere, Sarah Bauch, Ian Fineberg, Tracey Gasinski, Brad Hendricks, Jenna Lenz, Kristy Heffley, Evy Chen, Jaime Maerten-Rivera, Lorenzo Guzman, Lisa Collin, Laura Stevens, Leilani Wang-Yeung, Pam Rose, Megan Vaughan, Sean Cunningham, Janelle Toner, Xiaohong Zeng, Anges Zak, Krista Pszkowsky, Mark Zalikowski, Roberta Sullivan, Leandro De Andrade Pereira, Phyllis Floro, Mylous Hairston, William Belz, Rubik Asatryan
**Several other first names and phone numbers were logged but we were unable to identify the individual.*

Parliamentarian: Rachel Poole

Staff: Jessica Naish

Recorder: [Recording made and available via Box](#)

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

Quorum reached at 3:03pm: 43 members/senators and 3 officers present.

Office of University Shared Governance
Professional Staff Senate

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[Land Acknowledgement was read after featured speakers.](#)

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

FEATURED SPEAKERS – Don Erb & Ryan Taughrin

Don Erb: That was Then, This is Now

- Erb outlined how the University can change in the span of a career. Erb showed a picture of North campus in the 1970s as well as a recent picture of North campus to highlight the expansion of the University in 50 years.
- Word clouds from from the 1970s versus today, what people thought was important to their jobs.
- Erb also talked about technological advances particularly ChatGPT which is able to generate quotations based on two individuals, in this case Maya Angelou and Winston Churchill.

Ryan Taughrin: The Future of Higher Ed.

- Taughrin highlighted staffing issues in the future, the great resignation, flexible working options are all things that the University needs to consider for future staffing.
- Almost 76% of those seeking new job opportunities are doing so to get a pay/salary increase according to one employee retention survey that Taughrin found, followed by remote working possibilities (~43%).
 - Burnout is a major issue, what happens when positions are left unfilled? Because salaries are low.
 - Narrative assumptions about the labor market are being backed-up by data.
- Future Trends to watch:
 - Technology, but not just AI
 - We are having to become knowledge experts on technology and how to use this technology integrated into our jobs. Knowing these technologies could become a key component to one's job security, safety, or satisfaction in the future.
 - 88% of learners say educational institutions should use technology to maximize learning.
 - 67% of learners believe educational institutions are less effective in their use of technology than other industries.
 - Shifts in Student Population
 - Trying to attract new students to the same on-campus experience, by creating new majors and program offerings, is not working.
 - 41,446 degree/certificate programs have been created, yet enrollment decline has only accelerated in the past decade.
 - What students expect:
 - 79% more psychological counseling
 - 77% advising

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- 67% virtual delivery options for orientation
- 63% online components for career fairs
- 55% student activities programming will use online/technology engagement.
- Some discussion and questions ensued for both presenters.

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA – Don Erb

- Presentation of the day's agenda
- No discussion ensued
- **Motion to adopt Agenda: Krzemien (Szrama). Passed.**

REVIEW OF PAST MINUTE(S) – Don Erb

- Review of previous minutes, 11/2/2023
- No discussion ensued
- **Motion to approve Minutes from November 2, 2023: Jankowski (Cooper). Passed.**

CHAIR'S REPORT – Don Erb

- Erb reviewed the Approved Resolutions for the SUNY Wide Faculty Senate, three (3) were passed:
 - Microcredentials
 - Executive Budget Resolution
 - Resolution to endorse Potsdam Faculty Senate Resolution to freeze the Financial Stability Plan
- Erb also highlighted that we (the PSS) have access to the ARPP Budget report for the University. If anyone is interested in reading the report, Erb urged all to contact him directly and he will share the report with them.
- Erb also reviewed the Shared Governance Senator Election Results for the Health Sciences representative and non-Health Sciences representative. Erb congratulated the winners.
- **Motion to receive: Saran (Jankowski). Passed.**

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – Virginia Stever

- Stever gave a broad overview of committee affairs:
 - Budget Advisory is meeting and will have a budget to share soon with the General Membership for the planning of activities.
 - Constitution and Bylaws reports that changes to the Constitution and Bylaws were approved by a full membership vote on 11/22/23.
 - Election Committee is prepping for the Senator nomination and election season.
 - Marketing Committee, website update slated for January.

- Awards Committee, the nomination deadline for the Chancellor's Award in Professional Service has been extended to 1/8/24.
 - The other award nomination deadlines remain unchanged.
- Mentoring Sub-Committee is still looking for mentors -no experience needed to become a mentor to new professional staff.
- Inclusion and Diversity is hosting a virtual session on 12/12 to showcase the UB Center for Assistive Technology.
- Recreation and Wellness reports that their Ice Bumpercars event sold out in 23 minutes, but they are working to have another date. The Ice Bumper car event will be 1/27/24 from 1:30-3:30p.
- Stever also gave an overview of successful events in the past few weeks.
- **Motion to receive: Pizzutelli (Brodka). Passed.**

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Tony Waleszczak

- Waleszczak reviewed the reinstatement of senators by the Executive Committee on 11/9. Seven (7) senators were reinstated. Three (3) senators resigned. One senator changed areas from the Provost to the School of Dental Medicine effective 11/27. The current number of senators now rests at 65.
- **Motion to receive: Lam (Synder). Passed.**

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Governing Documents Approval – Don Erb

Erb outlined the approval vote for the governing documents. The final vote tally was 180 yeas and 13 nays. The website has been updated to reflect the amended governing documents.

No motion/vote needed

NEW BUSINESS

PSS Adopt-A-Family – Marlo Roetzer

- The PSS has two families that we will be sponsoring this year and asking for donations, the Weatherspoon family and the Johnson family.
 - Roetzer gave a brief description of each family and their needs.
- Roetzer indicated that the best way to donate is to donate a digital giftcard, but physical cards are still acceptable.

No motion/vote needed

Lithium Batteries – Don Erb

- Erb explained the dangers of lithium batteries. They can start on fire especially if they are defective or not constructed properly. Erb shared a tip sheet for those to consider.

No motion or vote needed

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: Roetzer (Cott). Passed. 4:18 p.m.

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