



University at Buffalo Council

Meeting minutes

October 1, 2018, 7:30 a.m.

Council Room, 505 Capen Hall

Members present:

Jeremy M. Jacobs, Chairman

Mike Brown

Michael Cropp

Jonathan Dandes

Scott Friedman

Pamela Heilman

June W. Hoeflich

Other participants:

Satish K. Tripathi, President

Charles F. Zukoski, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Nancy Nielsen, Senior Associate Dean for Health Policy, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Attendees:

Mark Alnutt, Director of Athletics

Ann Bisantz, Dean of Undergraduate Education

Michael Cain, Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President

Stephanie Gill, UB Graduate Student

Philip Glick, Faculty Senate Chair

Venu Govindaraju, Vice President of Research and Economic Development

Rod Grabowski, Vice President for University Advancement

Laura Hubbard, Vice President for Finance & Administration

Jocelyn Jakubus, Director of Presidential Events and Initiatives

Max Kalnitz, UB Spectrum

Dan LaDelfa, Assistant Director of Presidential Communications

Domenic Licata, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

Kate McKenna, University Communications

Arianna Nash, UB Graduate Student

Eileen Sherman, Deputy to the Provost

David Shurtleff, Instructional Support Specialist, UB IT

Despina Stratigakos, Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence

Sue Wuetcher, News Content Manager, UBNOW

Opening business

Call to order

Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

Approval of minutes

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2018 meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Dandes, seconded by Ms. Hoeflich, and the minutes were approved without correction.

Topics for discussion or action

Report of the Chairman

Consideration of naming resolutions

Chairman Jacobs stated there were two naming resolutions to be considered by the UB Council.

The first resolution called for the Council's approval to name the Felix Smist Scholarship in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Dandes, seconded by Mr. Friedman, and was approved unanimously.

The second resolution called for the Council's approval to name the Amin Tjota, MD, PhD '91, Melawati Yuwono, MD, and Tjota Family Advanced Procedures Suite in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Chairman Jacobs called for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Ms. Heilman, seconded by Ms. Hoeflich, and was approved unanimously.

Chairman Jacobs reminded the Council members that President Tripathi's State of the University address is October 12th and encouraged them to show their support. Chairman Jacobs also announced that this would be the last meeting for Ms. Heilman. Serving on the Council for a decade, Ms. Heilman was active with the Association of Council Members and College Trustees of the State University of New York (ACT). The Council plans to offer a resolution in her honor at the next meeting in December. Chairman Jacobs thanked Ms. Heilman for her service and added that she will be missed. Ms. Heilman stated that while she will no longer remain on the Council, her passion for UB will remain and she will continue to support the university.

Report of the Student Representative

Mr. Brown stated the fall semester is off to a great start. Mr. Brown reported from a recent COAL (Council of Advocacy and Leadership) meeting. Among the topics discussed: graduate student living stipends, mental health for students, food insecurity, the UBreathe Free initiative, and expanding campus transportation to include metro passes for students. Mr. Brown offered resolutions for the Council's consideration regarding a graduate student living stipend and expanding campus transportation.

At the conclusion of Mr. Brown's report, Ms. Heilman informed the Council that Mr. Brown is this year's recipient of the ACT scholarship for university centers in SUNY. Mr. Brown will be honored in November at the statewide ACT meeting.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi offered his congratulations to Mr. Brown for receiving the ACT scholarship and also expressed his appreciation to Ms. Heilman for her years of service to UB.

President Tripathi informed the Council that US News & World Report gave UB its highest ranking ever among national universities at 89—up eight places from last year. UB is also ranked 38th among public universities. In the Times Higher Ed/Wall Street Journal rankings, UB is the number one ranked public university in New York State.

UB has also been busy over the summer with capital projects across campus. These projects included Cooke/Hochstetter full renovation of the fifth floor to modernize biology labs and faculty offices, and major upgrades (technology, infrastructure) to 10 classrooms, learning landscapes, labs and centers on the North, South campuses.

Goals in terms of the capital improvements in the coming year include the completion of the Murchie Family Fieldhouse and breaking ground on One World Café. Goals for enrollment include increasing student enrollment to 32,160 by 2020.

UB also recently launched the multidisciplinary Artificial Intelligence Institute. UB has been at the forefront of A.I. research for decades. UB also received a \$22.5 million renewal award from the National Science Foundation for the UB led BioXFEL research consortium. In addition, UB transformed the Research Institute on Addictions into a new multidisciplinary institute called the Clinical and Research Institute on Addictions, or CRIA, that integrates clinical care, research and education to address addictions—particularly the opiate addiction epidemic. President Tripathi then asked Dr. Nancy Nielsen, Senior Associate Dean for Health Policy for the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences to speak to the Council further about this research.

University Briefings: Presentation by Dr. Nancy Nielsen

Dr. Nielsen began her presentation describing the significant increase in death rates in New York State involving opioids—up more than 20% from 2000 to 2015. The rise in Erie County was 256% from 2010 to 2015.

UB has 160 faculty involved in research and/or teaching on addictions across its schools. UB is working collaboratively with the Erie County Health Department, local hospitals, regional service providers and health insurers to gather input about opioid addiction in the region. UB is focusing on research, education, and leveraged clinical care to create a response network to this epidemic by working in collaboration with regional healthcare partners. The CRIA will expand upon and create new clinical services to fill regional gaps on addiction treatment in the region. The challenge is addressing this crisis from beyond the medical perspective. A multidisciplinary pain center is needed where people with chronic pain and addiction can be assessed and the proper treatment can be pursued by working with regional partners across disciplines and approaches. UB is seeking to be a center of excellence on addiction and allow university faculty

to be available across the region as sources of expertise for the medical community as physicians create a plan and patients are being treated.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi thanks Dr. Nielsen for her report. The president shared with the Council that Dr. Stephen Dunnett has stepped down as Vice Provost for International Education after nearly 30 years of service in that position. Dr. Dunnett joined UB as a faculty member in 1971 and is primarily responsible for establishing UB's reputation as an international institution. He was integral in establishing many pioneering international exchanges and programs, including UB's landmark agreement with China in 1980. Of UB's approximately 90 current partnerships with international universities, Dr. Dunnett has been responsible for about 75 of them.

University Briefings: Report of the Provost

Provost Zukoski reported UB has more than 70 new faculty on campus to start the fall semester. There are 9,100 new students on campus to start this academic year. This includes 5,900 undergraduate students including more than 4,100 new freshman, more than 1,600 new international students, and more than 3,200 new graduate and professional students.

As with students at all levels, UB is dedicated to bringing in the very best doctoral students, and providing them with transformative academic programs that prepare them for rewarding careers. Deans and departments continuously review graduate student programs and funding packages in order to attract the very best students to UB and to ensure their success. As part of this effort, English doctoral students will see an increase in stipends from around \$15,000 to \$20,000 over the next four years, which exceeds the national average among public institutions in the Association of American Universities. These stipends are part of a larger funding package that includes a tuition scholarship and health benefits, in addition to stipends. University-wide, this package averages about \$38,000 annually, but the amount varies by school and department. The university very much values the talent and dedication of our doctoral students and their contributions to our educational and research programs.

Provost Zukoski also updated the Council on several significant faculty awards received in the past few months including Carole Emberton, Associate Professor of History, who received a highly prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Program grant to support her work on her book project and Gregory Fabiano, Professor of Counseling, School and Educational Psychology, who received a \$3.3 million U.S. Department of Education grant to investigate the best way to support and treat children with ADHD and their families.

Mr. Brown requested the Council provide a brief period of public comment to give guests an opportunity to speak. Chairman Jacobs stated the request would be taken under consideration.

Adjournment

Chairman Jacobs then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Heilman and seconded by Mr. Friedman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes to be approved at the December 10, 2018 meeting of the UB Council.