

University at Buffalo Council

Meeting minutes

December 5, 2022, 8:00 a.m.

Buffalo Room, 10 Capen Hall

Members present:

Jeremy M. Jacobs, Chairman

A.J. Franklin

Scott E. Freidman

Jonathan Dandes

Brenda W. McDuffie

Other participants:

Satish K. Tripathi, President

A. Scott Weber, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Gary Pollack, Dean of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Attendees:

Brice Bible, Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Allison Brashear, Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Vice President for Health Sciences

Beth Del Genio, Chief of Staff to the President

John Della Contrada, Vice President for University Communications

Jason Diffenderfer, Interim Vice President for University Advancement

Brian Hamluk, Vice President for Student Life

Jacqueline Hollins, Interim Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence

Laura Hubbard, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Jocelyn Jakubus, Director of Presidential and University Events

Allison Korta, Assistant Director of Presidential Events

Nojin Kwak, Vice Provost for International Education

Dan LaDelfa, Assistant Director for Presidential Communications

Kemper Lewis, Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Eileen Sherman, Deputy to the Provost

David Shurtleff, Instructional Support Specialist, UBIT

Stefan Ruhl, Professor of Oral Biology

Timothy Tryjankowski, Chair of the Professional Staff Senate

George Zimmerman, SUNY Counsel

Opening business

Call to order

Chairman Jacobs called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Approval of minutes

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2022, meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Friedman, seconded by Ms. McDuffie and approved unanimously by Mr. Friedman, Mr. Franklin, Ms. McDuffie, Mr. Dandes, and Chairman Jacobs. None voted to oppose.

Topics for discussion or action

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Jacobs stated there were no resolutions that required the Council's vote and asked President Tripathi to give his report.

University Briefings: Report of the President

President Tripathi updated the Council on several recent major research awards associated with members of the UB faculty. These include a \$7.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that has UB faculty across disciplines collaborating with researchers at Roswell Park and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine to explore the influence of the oral microbiome on both cancer treatment and cancer risk. Other research grants include an extremely competitive RO-1 grant from NIH to lead an international effort to improve the accuracy of newborn screening; UB is a partner for a \$15 million grant for the Innovation Corps Hub, a National Science Foundation program, that supports science and technology entrepreneurship in rural regions and small cities; a \$5 million NSF grant for UB's newly created Center for Information Integrity to help older Americans identify online scams and other forms of disinformation; a \$4.8 million award from the U.S. Department of Defense for a concussion protocol developed at UB to be applied to active members of the military; and \$3.5 million to expand UB's Teacher Residency Program further in Western New York.

President Tripathi also updated the Council on awards recently received by members of the UB community including Wojciech Krzyzanski, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, who was named a fellow of the International Society for Pharmacometrics; James Chen, associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, who was named a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; John Violanti, research professor of epidemiology and environmental health, who received the American College of Epidemiology's most prestigious honor, the Outstanding Contributions to Epidemiology Award; and UB alumna Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque, deputy director of the National Institute of Dental and Cranio-Facial Research at the NIH, who was elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Tripathi informed the Council about a visit by SUNY Board of Trustees Chair, Merryl Tisch, to UB in November. Chair Tisch met with the president and senior leaders, as well as faculty and students to gain a firsthand understanding of their experiences and how SUNY can contribute to their education, research and service.

President Tripathi then invited Dr. Gary Pollack, dean of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, to provide a brief presentation.

University Briefings: Presentation by Dean Pollack

Dean Pollack began his report by giving the Council an overview of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The school is one of only four pharmacy schools with a comprehensive configuration that offers PharmD, PhD, master's and bachelor's degrees. Currently ranked 14th, the school's goal is to be among the top 10 pharmacy schools in the U.S. The school has five broad, strategic goals including: provide high-value educational programs with an unsurpassed student experience; increase research capacity, productivity, and recognition; maximize community, regional, and national impact on equity in access to, and outcomes of, pharmaceutical care; enhance the reputation of the school through intentional outreach; and develop a sustainable financing plan for programmatic growth and enrichment. Dean Pollack highlighted several major examples from the school's research portfolio including HIV research and antiviral therapeutics; microbial resistance to antibiotics; and protein therapeutic drugs. Dean Pollack also highlighted the school's outreach efforts, including efforts to educate the refugee community in WNY.

President Tripathi continued his report informing the Council about the UB women's soccer team success. The team won the Mid-American Conference championship. Goalie Emily Kelly was named MAC Goalkeeper of the Year and Ellie Simmons was named MAC Defensive Player of the Year.

UB's Football team finished the season 6-6 and has received an invitation to participate in the Camellia Bowl on December 27. The team will face Georgia Southern. This is the fourth bowl invite for the football team in the past five years.

Report of the Student Representative

Mr. Franklin began his report by informing the Council that a group he chairs, the Council on Advocacy and Leadership (COAL), received a \$457,000 grant to fund publications, new programs, and extend programs for students at UB. Mr. Franklin is also advocating for a two-day break for students during the fall semester. Mr. Franklin also highlighted points of pride at UB. These include UB Information Technology (UBIT), which has invested greatly and worked tirelessly to improve campus Wi-Fi; plans for a greater focus on student wellness; and entrepreneurship opportunities for students at UB. Mr. Franklin also reiterated several recommendations he has previously made, such as increased food diversity options on campus, enhancing outreach to students, and improving campus parking. Mr. Franklin would also like to see a convenience store on campus, as well as additional financial literacy programming for students and additional student advising options.

Adjournment

Chairman Jacobs called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Dandes seconded by Mr. Friedman and approved unanimously by Mr. Friedman, Mr. Franklin, Ms. McDuffie, Mr. Dandes, and Chairman Jacobs. None voted to oppose. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

A video recording of the entire meeting, including all presentations, can be found at this [link](#) on the UB Council website.

Minutes approved at the March 27, 2023 meeting of the UB Council