

Resolutions of the University at Buffalo Council  
June 13, 2022

**Crystal Peoples-Stokes Norton resolution**

- Whereas* The Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, majority leader of the New York State Assembly and assemblymember representing the 141st Assembly District, has served as a steadfast advocate for the people of Buffalo and Western New York during her nearly two decades of service in the New York State legislature; and
- whereas* she has blazed a trail as a public servant, becoming the first woman and first African American legislator in state history to hold the position of assembly majority leader; and
- whereas* she is devoted to improving the lives of all Western New Yorkers, particularly in the area of education, through her support of institutions such as the Educational Opportunity Center at the University at Buffalo and the Buffalo Public Schools; and
- whereas* she is devoted to equitable economic opportunity in New York State and a champion of minority- and women-owned businesses; and
- whereas* she has sought to improve diversity and inclusion in the medical and teaching professions by initiating and supporting programs such as the Diversity in Medicine initiative and the Buffalo Urban Teacher Pipeline Residency Program; and
- whereas* she has profoundly impacted the lives of countless Western New Yorkers far beyond her dedication as a state lawmaker, through her community engagement activities with numerous local organizations; and
- whereas* the UB Council concurs that she embodies former UB Chancellor Charles P. Norton’s characterization of an individual whose accomplishments “dignify the performer and Buffalo in the eyes of the world;” be it therefore
- resolved* that the UB Council wholeheartedly and unanimously recommends the Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes for selection as the 2022 Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medalist; and be it further
- resolved* that the UB Council marks her permanent place of prominence in its endeavors and traditions by presenting to her the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal at the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences’ Commencement Ceremony on May 20, 2022; and be it further
- resolved* that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council, and that a copy be presented publicly to Ms. Peoples-Stokes.

## **Heilman naming resolution**

- Whereas* Pamela Davis Heilman, JD '75, and Robert D. Heilman, MBA '75, have long been generous donors and active supporters of the University at Buffalo and the UB School of Law; and
- whereas* Ms. Heilman also has given generously of her time as a valued volunteer and an esteemed member of the UB Council, the School of Law Dean's Advisory Council and the School of Law Alumni Association; and
- whereas* in 2015, Ms. Heilman received the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award—the UB School of Law's highest honor, which recognizes “an individual who has distinguished herself and has made significant contributions to the School of Law and the legal profession;” and
- whereas* the Heilmans have had significant professional success in the legal and business communities—Ms. Heilman as an esteemed lawyer who joined Hodgson Russ Attorneys LLP in 1975 and helped found the firm's first Canadian office, focusing on cross-border business and charity laws; and Mr. Heilman as a highly regarded turn-around management and sourcing executive, providing global trade consulting services to businesses to facilitate the location of sources for imported products; and
- whereas* Ms. Heilman and Mr. Heilman have generously provided support for UB students in a variety of ways, most notably through the Pamela and Robert Heilman Scholarship Fund in the School of Law; and
- whereas* Ms. Heilman and Mr. Heilman are passionate about educating students in the areas of social equity and justice and supporting the School of Law's interest in recruiting and retaining a faculty expert in this field to lead these efforts; be it therefore
- resolved* that in deep appreciation for the philanthropic commitment of Ms. Pamela Davis Heilman and Mr. Robert D. Heilman, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Pamela D. Heilman, JD '75, and Robert D. Heilman, MBA '75, Professor of Social Equity and Justice; and be it further
- resolved* that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved* that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.

**Silicon Nexus Group naming resolution**

- Whereas* Silicon Nexus Group is dedicated to cultivating a unique ecosystem with the capacity to innovate, influence and create the tipping points of next-generation, sustainable technology; and
- whereas* the Silicon Nexus Group brings together leaders in innovation from the most reputable companies in semiconductors, software, AI, blockchain and biotechnology to develop breakthrough products that support human-centered computation; and
- whereas* Atif Zafar, BA '89, MD '94, a graduate of the University at Buffalo, is a partner at Silicon Nexus Group and recognizes that UB's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences' Department of Materials Design and Innovation has a unique intellectual and research infrastructure to create a platform for accelerating research, discovery and design; and
- whereas* this infrastructure will help take the field of materials informatics to a new level and reach the full translational potential from fundamental materials discovery to the development of manufacturing processes and engineering design in a broad range of fields, including medicine, aerospace, clean energy, advanced manufacturing and communications; be it therefore
- resolved* that in deep appreciation for Silicon Nexus Group's generous commitment to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the UB Council hereby endorses the naming of the Silicon Nexus Group Connectomics Laboratory @ UB MDI; and be it further
- resolved* that this recognition be forwarded to the State University of New York System Administration for final review and approval by the SUNY Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees; and be it further
- resolved* that this resolution be permanently entered into the records of the UB Council.