

COUNCIL MINUTES
May 10, 2013

Present from Council: Dov Berkman, Linda Biemer, Patricia Cummings, Thomas Doty, Anthony F. Fiala, Kathryn Grant Madigan, James Orband, and Matthew Salanger

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Ms. Benner, Vice President Craner, Mr. Chester, Mr. Coker, Ms. Court, Ms. Doyle, Director Elliott, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Frierman, Mr. Geiger, Ms. Hancock, Ms. Loso, Mr. Nostrom, Provost Nieman, Ms. O'Neil, Vice President Rose, Ms. Scarlett, Mr. Topal, and Vice President Van Voorst

CALL TO ORDER:

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. on Friday, May 10, 2013 by chair Kathryn Grant Madigan.

The minutes of the March 15 and April 19, 2013 meetings were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Stenger noted that we are winding up the 2013 academic year. This is a busy and exciting time on campus. Today marks the last day of classes. Students have spent the past couple of weeks finishing final projects and papers. Although our students are very good at what they do, there is an undercurrent of excitement and stress that is evident in conversations you hear in the dorms and dining halls.

Recognizing that stress gets in the way of both the physical well-being and the quality of academic work students do, the University has increased its de-stress efforts with Stress-Free Spring, which runs throughout the month. The program is run by the Office of the Dean of Students, but involving all areas of the campus. This includes numerous stress reducers, including nap rooms, toys and games to lighten the mood, chair massages and therapy dogs. Sodexo has provided snacks and other comfort foods in the dorms, and there have even been opportunities for day hikes at local state parks, as well as open hours in the gyms for students to get exercise.

The annual Spring Fling was held last Saturday and the Harpur Quad turned into a carnival for a day. Students have been very busy in other end-of-the-year performances as part of their academic work, especially in the performing arts.

This is the time of year when we recognize the academic achievements of our best students as well as the contributions they make to our campus and community. In April, we celebrated the successes of our Binghamton University Scholars, along with the faculty and staff mentors who help them. The Provost Office hosted ceremonies recognizing 16 students who were nominated for or selected for awards recognizing undergraduate research, service to the campus or community, and academic excellence and leadership. Winners of the President's Awards for Undergraduate Excellence automatically have their names entered as candidates for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence at SUNY.

We held an end-of-year ceremony for our student athletes to recognize excellence both on and off the field. President Stenger noted that the America East Track and Field Championships were held at Binghamton last week, and this weekend we are hosting the Conference women's softball championship—this is an opportunity to showcase our facilities and bring visitors to our campus and community.

Student Affairs held its Leadership Awards Reception to recognize Binghamton's outstanding student organizations and the leaders that guide them. At this event, President Stenger had the honor of presenting Mr. Berkman with the Paul Battaglia Outstanding Student of the Year Award for his work as a campus leader.

Earlier this month we recognized three outstanding members of the Harpur College faculty who have provided 50+ years of teaching and research excellence to the University. Together, Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures Carrol Coates; Distinguished Teaching Professor of History Gerry Kadish; and Professor of Comparative Literature and Classics Zoja Pavlovskis-Petit have had a profound impact on our campus and on thousands of students who have passed through their classes.

President Stenger noted that Associate Professor of Geological Sciences Peter Knuepfer has recently been elected as President of the SUNY University Faculty Senate. As such, he will have a non-voting role on the SUNY Board of Trustees and have a strong voice in helping shape SUNY educational and professional policies.

Recently the University hosted more than 200 scholars and researchers of the middle ages and early modern period as part of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CEMERS) interdisciplinary conference examining the works of the Italian author Baccaccio. The Center has been hosting annual conferences for almost 50 years and this year most of the conference events were held at the University Downtown Center helping to bring the University's scholarly activities into the Binghamton community, particularly with the Roberson Museum and Science Center and the Art Mission and Theater as partners.

Last month, the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Partnerships - in conjunction with the Binghamton Biomedical Research Conference and the Center of Excellence in Small Scale Systems Integration and Packaging - hosted members of the community as well as partners in industry and academia for Healthcare Innovation Days.

We held an Alumni Leadership Conference that brought more than 200 active alumni to campus. The sessions were meant to inform alumni about the Binghamton University of today and inspire

them to get involved further. During the conference, President Stenger gave a presentation on the University's Road Map and how alumni could be involved in helping us become the Premier Public University of the 21st century.

At the same time, we are preparing to welcome a new group of students into the ranks of our alumni. This week the University will hold our spring 2013 Commencement ceremonies, beginning with tonight's Graduate School of Education ceremonies. More than 3,000 students will receive degrees from our six schools, including 90 PhD and 589 master's degrees. This year, for the first time, each school will hold individual, personal Commencement ceremonies. This new model will allow each student to walk across stage as his or her name is read. We also will hold a special hooding ceremony for doctoral candidates next Friday.

Honorary doctorates will be awarded to pioneering pilot, educator and philanthropist Marilyn C. Link; scientist and inventor Voya Markovich; preeminent social worker and champion of the homeless Nancy Wackstein; and scientist and scholar George Whitesides.

In addition, actor, writer and director Ruben Santiago-Hudson '78, Lawyer Linda Riefberg '81, and physicians Lisa Benson MS, BS '81, MA '83, and Lee Guterman, MD, PhD, BS '81, MA '83 will be recognized by their respective schools with alumni awards.

As we conclude the academic year, there are as always several personnel changes that take place as the University prepares for the challenges of the next year and as individuals move on to other positions. Recently, Vice President for Student Affairs Brian Rose announced the appointment of Garrett Fitzgerald as associate director for Alcohol and Other Drug Programs and Services to help develop strategies to deter the use of drugs and alcohol among students and design intervention strategies to mitigate the harmful impact on students and the campus.

The University will be seeking to find a replacement for College of Community and Public Affairs Dean Patricia Ingraham, who has announced her retirement effective June 12. Provost Nieman has appointed professor of social work and chair of the Department of Social Work, Laura Bronstein as Interim Dean.

Vice President for External Affairs Marcia Craner will be leaving to begin teaching for the College of Community and Public Affairs in spring 2014, sharing her 35 years of professional experience (30 of them at Binghamton) with students who plan to enter the fields of philanthropy and not-for-profit management. Vice President Craner has been a dedicated, committed member of the President's senior staff. President Stenger thanked her for her service and wished her the best for her future endeavors.

STUDENT REPORT:

Mr. Dov Berkman reported that many students will be going to two commencement ceremonies if they have dual majors. The student award ceremony was last night; it was nice to see students and administration together. Spring Fling was fantastic! 1,000 students attended the free B-Mets game last week. Research Days held last month went well where students got to showcase their work. Library Rave is to take place this week. This event helps students de-stress. The Dean of Students

Office had ice cream and therapy dogs to help with the stress of exam week. Mr. Berkman met with Mr. Chester regarding changes to the Code of Student Conduct. Samantha Fox has been elected by the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) as next year's president. The election has taken place for the BU Council student representative for the academic year 2013-14, and Andrew Topal, who is in attendance at today's meeting, will be the next student representative to Council.

Mr. Berkman extended a thank you to all members of Council and administrators who took an active interest in the projects he was working on. He was made to feel like a real part of the Council and appreciates and thanks everyone for this opportunity. Chair Madigan noted that Mr. Berkman has been the most proactive student representative and wishes him the best of luck. Chair Madigan read and presented the Council resolution to Mr. Berkman and thanked him for his work on the veteran program and the tobacco initiative. Chair Madigan welcomed Mr. Topal to Council.

REPORT ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT:

Vice President Marcia Craner presented her report on External Affairs and Development. See detailed presentation attached.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF 2013-2014 CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT:

Vice President Rose noted that most of the proposed changes were technical in nature. See attached. Vice President Rose thanked Mr. Chester, Director of Student Conduct, for his work.

Prior to the meeting, Council members had each received a copy of the suggested revisions to the Code and the rationale for these changes.

A motion was made and carried to approve the 2013-2014 Code of Student Conduct.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.