

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 13, 2016

Present from Council: Kathryn Madigan, Linda Biemer, Anthony Fiala, Sarah Glose, and Dennis McCabe

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Mr. Coker, Ms. Coker, Mr. Elliott, Ms. Fauci, Prof. Guzman, Prof. Mischen, Ms. Mthombeni, Vice President Navarro, Provost Nieman, Ms. O’Neil, Ms. Pitt, Vice President Rose, Ms. Sager, Ms. Scarlett, Dean Stewart Fahs, and Mr. Yarosh

CALL TO ORDER

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:23 a.m. on Friday, May 13, 2016 by chair Kathryn Madigan.

The minutes of the April 15, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT REPORT

President Stenger reported that May 11 was the last day of classes. Students are working to complete projects and papers, and faculty are busy advising and grading their students’ work.

Former President of the United States Bill Clinton held an event on campus in support of Former New York Senator Hillary Clinton’s campaign for the Presidency. More than 1,700 people packed the gym.

Final exams begin today. The Library has extended its hours and opened new spaces for students to study.

Finals can be a very stressful time for students, so we are working to make studying a more fun and relaxed experience. Sodexo Dining Services has increased the hours for resident and retail dining and as part of “Stress Free Spring,” the Student Culinary Council and Dining Services have teamed up to provide free treats -- ice cream, fruit, cookies and beverages at different places on campus every day through the end of finals. In addition, students are being encouraged to take breaks and pull away to reenergize.

The America East softball tournament began on Wednesday at the Sports Complex. BU won their game on Thursday and will play again today.

Next weekend over 3,500 students will be graduating. There will be eight different ceremonies, beginning with the Graduate ceremony on Friday, where 81 PhD degrees will be awarded. We expect more than 22,000 guests on campus during Commencement weekend. It is estimated that this will have an impact on our economy with \$1.65 million spent locally, \$2.66 million in Broome and Tioga counties, and \$3.63 million statewide.

The University will be recognizing two individuals with honorary degrees this year. We are especially happy to welcome back to campus John Bartle, dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service and professor of public administration at the University of Nebraska, Omaha. Bartle followed his grandfather Glenn G. Bartle's footsteps and has made his career in higher education. He is a nationally recognized scholar in public sector budgeting and finance, currently focusing on sustainability in transportation, public financial management, and tax policy.

We will also recognize Binghamton alumnus screenwriter, producer, and director Marc Lawrence, best known for *Miss Congeniality* (2000), *Two Weeks Notice* (2002), and *Music and Lyrics* (2007). Marc graduated from BU in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in English literature. Most recently, he used his writing and directing talents to film *The Rewrite* (2014), starring Hugh Grant and Marisa Tomei, which he called his "love letter" to Binghamton.

We had the opportunity to welcome over 230 alumni back to campus last month as part of the fourth annual Alumni Leadership Conference. We presented our Alumni Awards to Vincent Daniel '94, an investment guru whose ability to foresee the economic crash of 2008 is one of the highlights of the book and movie, *The Big Short*; academic and author Deborah Tannen; Milburn Corporation CEO Barry Goodman, '79; U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Palau Amy Hyatt '78; and director of strategy and planning for small business products for the management consulting firm Accenture, Gregory Reynolds, '08.

President Stenger extended his thanks to Dean Anne McCall for her work on behalf of Harpur College. Anne will be leaving Binghamton to become provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Xavier University in New Orleans. Provost Nieman has appointed Terry Deak, professor of psychology, as Interim Dean. The search for the replacement dean will begin in the fall.

We will be welcoming to campus Dr. Mario Ortiz, as dean of the Decker School of Nursing. Dr. Ortiz comes to us from the University of Indiana-South Bend, where he served as professor of nursing at the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences.

President Stenger noted that it is a good time to take stock of Binghamton University's accomplishments. Once again, Binghamton fares very well in these prestigious polls having achieved a top 100 ranking in *US News & World Report*; ranked #15 in *Forbes*' 2016 "Best

Value Colleges” among public colleges and universities; is one of *The Princeton Review*’s 380 Top Colleges 2016; and is a *Kiplinger*’s 2016 “Best College Value.”

The website greatest.com recently ranked Binghamton one of the top 25 healthiest campuses based on such initiatives as our B-Healthy program that provides support for healthy behaviors from fitness and physical activities to smoking cessation and even financial health.

The City of Binghamton has gained a reputation as an exciting and affordable college town, being named as one of the 50 best college towns by BestCollegeReviews.com and as one of the 50 most affordable college towns by ValueColleges.com.

The REDC is now positioning itself for the next round of Consolidated Funding Applications. This will be round six of the REDC process. The REDC recently began accepting funding applications with the deadline set for the end of July. In addition, each region will receive \$10 million in funding dedicated to Downtown Revitalization. In the Southern Tier, these funds will be reserved for the best plan from Binghamton, Ithaca, or Elmira.

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Glose reported that Spring Fling was very successful with the most people she has ever seen in attendance.

The re-vote on the SUNY fee referendum was approved. There are some continuing members on the GSO e-board for next year, so there will be consistency.

The student representative election results have been announced. Ryan Sheppard, who is at today’s meeting, will be the next Binghamton University Council representative.

Mr. Sheppard is interested in several projects for next year such as improving the quality of professors’ teaching so students are able to learn effectively. Having designated researchers and designated teachers that work with students rather than lecturing is a far more beneficial style of learning; improving campus safety by widening the roads on campus to allow for vehicles to safely pass each other, improving conditions of crosswalks, increasing the number of blue lights in areas that are currently underserved, and working with the Binghamton Police Department to establish an off-campus blue light system; and improving connectivity among student organizations and administration to better student life on campus.

Ms. Glose noted that Mr. Sheppard is coming right from the Student Association so he will be able to bridge the gap.

It has been suggested that the student election process be changed so it is more standard, more efficient, and there are clear explanations of what the student roles are in both the Student Association and the Graduate Student Organization.

Ms. Glose thanked everyone on the Council for a great two years and a great experience serving on the Council. Chair Kate Madigan read and presented a Council resolution to Ms. Glose and thanked her for her important input and dedication to the Council.

PARKING POLICY CHANGES

One of the responsibilities of the Council is to approve any changes to the parking policy. Vice President Rose reviewed the eight general changes that had been distributed with the agenda.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the changes. It was asked if these changes had been vetted by groups on campus. Vice President Rose answered that the Parking and Transportation Stakeholders Group vetted these changes with faculty/staff, collection bargaining units, and other groups on campus. After no further questions, these changes were approved by a unanimous vote.

REPORT ON RESEARCH

See attached presentation made by Vice President Sammakia.

REPORT ON ATHLETICS

See attached presentation made by Athletics Director Patrick Elliott.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.