COUNCIL MINUTES
March 16, 2012

Present from Council: Kathryn Grant Madigan, James Orband, John Spring, and Matthew Lugo

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Vice President Craner, Professor Deak, Mr. Delviscio, Ms. Ellis, Chief Faughnan, Mr. Geiger, Ms. Glover, Mr. Hubeny, Professor Lee, Interim Provost Mileur, Ms. O’Neil, Vice President Rose, Professor Strehle, and Vice President Van Voorst

CALL TO ORDER:

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. on Friday, March 16, 2012 by Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., Chair.

The minutes of the December 16, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.

Chair Madigan welcomed President Harvey G. Stenger to his first Binghamton University Council meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

President Stenger reported that it is great to be at Binghamton University. During his first two-and-a-half months he has found great, innovative, smart people who are excited about the University’s future and who are looking forward to new ideas and directions while maintaining and preserving all that is great about Binghamton University now.

President Stenger reported that the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant proposal is moving forward. The proposal and presentation has now been approved by the Governor’s Higher Education staff member and we have approval to schedule a date to meet with the Governor to present this proposal. It is hopeful that this meeting will be scheduled in the next four weeks. NYSUNY 2020 will give Binghamton University the opportunity to expand its research in areas of smart energy and to fund a new Smart Energy Center. We are hoping that the Governor will approve the proposal and come to Binghamton, as he has done at Buffalo and Stony Brook, to officially acknowledge his approval.

Binghamton University currently has 36 new faculty searches in place. These searches, which have netted excellent quality candidates, are now in their final interview stages with offers to be extended soon.

Binghamton University has a plan to grow the student body by 2,000 students within the next four to five years, with an immediate plan to grow by 500 students for fall 2012. Of the 500 new students, approximately 200 will be freshman, 200 will be transfer students, and 100 will be graduate students.
This plan is on target. Improving Binghamton University’s student-to-faculty ratio is one of the key components of our SUNY 2020 plan.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs search is currently underway. Applications are coming in, interviews will take place soon, and we hope to have an offer extended and the appointee on board by the beginning of the fall 2012 semester. Vice President Rose and Distinguished Service Professor Susan Strehle are chairing this search.

STUDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Lugo reported that mid-term examinations are over and students now have an opportunity to sit back, relax some, and enjoy the beautiful weather.

Binghamton University had five wrestlers who, earlier this week, went to the NCAA Championship in St. Louis. Unfortunately, none of them made it through the first-round, but they are all now in consolation matches. We wish them the best of luck as they represent Binghamton University.

The Saint Baldrick’s event, held earlier in the week, was sponsored by the Athletics Department and Residential Life. This event raised over $10,000 for pediatric cancer research and over 100 Binghamton University members participated in this event.

Currently, the students are campaigning for the Student Association Executive Board. Elections will be held on March 25-26, 2012.

The 2012 Spring Fling festival/concert is scheduled for May 6 and everyone is looking forward to this event.

Chair Madigan asked Mr. Lugo to pass along the Council’s thanks to the students for their very successful fundraising efforts in support of pediatric cancer research.

REPORT ON SAFETY PROGRAMS AND CRIME STATISTICS:

Vice President for Administration, James Van Voorst, introduced Chief of University Police, Timothy Faughnan, who presented the annual Report on Safety Programs and Crime Statistics. See detailed presentation attached.

Chief Faughnan reported that at the Broome County Legislative session held yesterday, he was presented with a proclamation in recognition of Binghamton University’s efforts during the September 2011 flood. The proclamation, which was read in full by Chief Faughnan, declared March 15, 2012 as Binghamton University Appreciation Day.

President Stenger stated that he appreciated everyone whose collective efforts made this extraordinary effort and community outreach possible.

President Stenger reported that the student volunteer ambulance service, Harpur’s Ferry, has just been named National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency of Year by the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation. Harpur’s Ferry made history by being the only agency to have won the award twice, having also been honored in 2005.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m. The next meeting will be held on April 20, 2012 in Room AD-148 in the Couper Administration Building.