

## COUNCIL MINUTES

March 20, 2015

Present from Council: Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., Linda Biemer, Patricia Cummings, Esq., Sarah Glose, Dennis McCabe, Esq., James Orband, Esq., and Matthew Salanger

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Vice President Broschart, Mr. Coker, Mr. Delviscio, Director Elliott, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Fauci, Chief Faughnan, Officer Flanders, Ms. Gahring, Interim Dean Gal, Dr. Gantt, Mr. Mess, Professor Mischen, Vice President Navarro, Vice President Rose, Ms. Westbrook Scarlett, Esq., and Mr. Yarosh

### CALL TO ORDER:

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:18 a.m. on Friday, March 20, 2015 by Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., chair.

The minutes of the December 19, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

In February, the University hosted a premiere screening of *The Rewrite*, a movie which was written and directed by Binghamton University alum Marc Lawrence '81 and Binghamton University's campus served as a backdrop for the film. More than 1200 guests attended the on-campus screening along with Marc Lawrence, Hugh Grant, and three of the actors who played students in the movie. It was an outstanding event, the crowd in attendance loved it, and the movie is getting good reviews from *The New York Times*.

This past weekend, Binghamton University hosted a TEDx Talk. The event was sold out and included speakers such as Sunny Hostin '90, CNN Legal Analyst and Host; Christopher Fix '86, CEO of the Dubai Mercantile Exchange; Lisa Lottie, Hula Hoop Artist; Adam Eskin, Founder and CEO of Dig Inn Seasonal Market; Zephyr Teachout, Associate Professor of Law at Fordham University and author and former anti-corruption candidate for New York Governor; Maria Santelli, Executive Director of the Center on Conscience & War; and for the first time there was an undergraduate speaker, Jack Fischer, who is a sophomore scholar and Computer Science and Math major.

Krishnaswami “Hari” Srihari, Dean of the Thomas J. Watson School of Engineering and Applied Science has recently been appointed to succeed Katharine Krebs, Vice Provost for International Affairs, when she retires at the end of May. Hari will assume the title of Executive Vice Provost for International Initiatives and Chief Global Affairs Officer in addition to Dean of the Thomas J. Watson School of Engineering and Applied Science and Director of the Watson Institute for Systems Excellence. Hari has vast experience and a record of success in international recruitment and education and will be an excellent fit in this new, additional role.

Binghamton University is currently hosting 24 sophomore high school students from Zhenjiang International School (ZIS) as part of an ongoing exchange program. During their ten-day visit to Binghamton University, the students are learning what college education is like in the United States. Under this program, Binghamton University faculty and graduate students teach at their high school, and then students from Zhenjiang take college courses at Binghamton University after they graduate from high school. We expect to have ten students from Zhenjiang International School taking classes at Binghamton University this fall as freshman as a result of this program.

The University has a new Center for Israel Studies, and has received a multi-year grant from the Israel Institute in Washington, D.C., that is supporting the center by enabling the hiring of three tenure-track professors in the Judaic Studies Department. The Director of the Center is Randy Friedman, who is also an Associate Professor of Judaic Studies and Comparative Literature at Binghamton University.

The University is in the third year of our four year plan to hire 250 new faculty members. We have hired 190 new faculty members thus far and expect to hire an additional 60 new faculty hires over the coming year.

The University recently hired a new Director for the Educational Opportunity Program, Dr. Calvin Gantt. Dr. Gantt is a Binghamton University alum and came to Binghamton from SUNY Geneseo where his former position was Director of the Access Opportunity Programs.

The University is in the middle of two searches, one for a new Chief Information Officer, and one for a new Dean of the Libraries. Candidates for these positions are on campus now and we hope to appoint someone to these positions soon.

The Road Map process continues to make progress. The Steering Committee has approved goals and metrics to measure progress toward the goals. The five key goals are faculty scholarship, high impact learning experiences, diversity of faculty, economic impact, and student-to-faculty ratio. We believe that if the University does well in these five areas that this will have a positive effect on the entire University.

The property for the new School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has been purchased and the building design is approximately 40% complete. We expect to open the new building in the spring of 2018 and in the fall of 2017 we will admit the first students to this new school.

The SUNY budget requests have worked their way through the state budget process. Most of the requests for SUNY were not included in the Governor's budget, and those that were have been modified or removed by the legislative process. New projects that the Chancellor was trying to initiate were not accepted such as the "Master Innovators Program" to hire outstanding senior faculty, and a program to encourage performance based improvements in graduation rates. Binghamton is doing fine, we have good student demand and we have set another record with applications, we have a growth plan for students, and we can continue to hire new faculty.

The Upstate Revitalization program that the Governor has announced is a \$500 million competition between seven upstate regions for economic development initiative awards. Binghamton will be included as one of the seven regions competing for one of the three grants to be given from the state government. The eligible regions include the Finger Lakes (Rochester), CNY (Syracuse), North Country (Potsdam), Mohawk Valley (Utica), Hudson Valley (Westchester), Southern Tier (Corning, Ithaca, Binghamton), and the Capital District (Albany).

It will be hard for the Southern Tier to win one of these awards as we will be competing against larger cities such as Albany, Syracuse, and Rochester, and the goals for these awards center around large urban areas. Since the Binghamton area doesn't have a large urban center, we will have to be creative and innovative and look at a "community of centers." We will be working with the Elmira, Ithaca, and Binghamton areas which are smaller cities but could provide a different model for economic revitalization. The proposals are due at the end of the summer with decisions to be made in December. We will be working very hard on the proposal.

### **STUDENT REPORT:**

Ms. Glose reported that TEDx was a great event that was well attended and well received by the students. This was the first time that there was a student speaker. Of the 30 proposals received, sophomore Jack Fischer was chosen to be the speaker and he did an excellent job speaking about "Porn: The New Tobacco."

Binghamton was recently named the most distracting place to shoot a foul shot by *The New York Times*. Any positive press that Binghamton University receives from the *The New York Times* is good!

The SUNY Mascot Madness contest has started again. Binghamton University is the reigning champs, so hopefully we will win!

The class schedule for next semester is available today and students will be busy putting together their schedule for the fall. Registration for fall classes begins next Friday.

The Student Association recently held its elections and the positions were filled as follows: President, Dillon Schade; Executive Vice President, Zach Vigliani; Vice President for Finance, Kate Tashman; Vice President for Academic Affairs, Amanda Bake; and Vice President for Programming, Bernadette Machuca. The position of Vice President for Multicultural Affairs is up for a re-vote and this is expected to occur on March 31st.

The Graduate Student Organization and the Student Association have started the process of selection for the next Binghamton University Council student representative. Letters of intent are due on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the expected date for the election is Tuesday, April 28th.

Currently, the Student Association is introducing a \$3.50 increase to the student activity fee, \$3 of the proposed increase will go toward OCCT to address the increasing minimum wage and fleet expansion, and \$.50 will go toward Harpur's Ferry in preparation for their growth.

The Graduate Student Organization elections are coming up. Candidates had an informal meet and greet with students last night, and will have more formal presentations next week.

There will be a small, new graduate student space in the library. The space will be evaluated based on the usage and may be expanded in the future. Some faculty members have expressed an interest in using the space also, so it may be a shared space.

There was an alumni and Graduate Student Organization networking event held on Wednesday, March 18 at Water Street Brewing Company. This was a successful event as many alumni attended.

The Master of Public Administration's Graduate Student Organization will be hosting an annual "Party with a Purpose" on March 27 at Grande's Bella Cucina. All proceeds from the event will benefit a local non-profit organization. Ms. Glose encouraged Council members to purchase a ticket and to attend.

A student group, Students for Change, are advocating for more cultural competency on campus. They have been making demands at various campus offices and their methods have created a polarizing effect on campus. Students have mixed feelings about the group's ideas and methods. Most graduate students generally support their cause, but not necessarily their methods. Ms. Glose will be meeting with the group soon in an effort to learn more so that she is better able to represent their concerns.

Ms. Glose has been working on her communications project and has been in contact with Communications and Marketing and other stakeholders. She looks forward to working more on the project once her schedule allows and as soon as she receives further information.

#### **REPORT ON SAFETY PROGRAMS AND CRIME STATISTICS:**

Vice President Navarro introduced Tim Faughnan, Chief of Police. Chief Faughnan presented a report on the campus personal safety programs and crime statistics. See detailed presentation attached.

Chief Faughnan introduced Dan Flanders, a City of Binghamton Police Officer who serves as a liaison between Binghamton University and the Binghamton Police Department. Officer Flanders has specialized duties directly related to off-campus students. As part of a one-year pilot Police Partnership Initiative, Officer Flanders is stationed in the University Downtown Center and fields questions from students and parents and responds to complaints from

Binghamton city residents. Outside of his office hours, Officer Flanders patrols the downtown area and the west side of Binghamton, areas that have a high concentration of off-campus students. On Friday and Saturday nights he is on patrol as late as 3:45 am in areas where students gather and live.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 17, 2015.