

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

March 21, 2014

Present from Council: Kathryn Grant Madigan, Linda Biemer, Patricia Cummings, Thomas Doty, Anthony Fiala, Jr., Dennis McCabe, Albert Nocciolino, James Orband, Matthew Salanger, and Andrew Topal

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Interim Vice President Benner, Professor Brown, Mr. Coker, Ms. Doyle, Mr. Edouard, Director Elliott, Ms. Ellis, Chief Faughnan, Ms. Hampton, Mr. Howell, Mr. Hubeny, Mr. Kane, Professor Lees, Professor Mischen, Professor Morewedge, Ms. Navarro, Provost Nieman, Ms. O'Neil, Vice President Rose, Vice President Van Voorst, and Mr. Yarosh

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. on Friday, March 21, 2014 by Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., Chair.

The minutes of the December 20, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Stenger noted that it has been very busy on campus since the Council last met in December.

President Stenger wanted everyone to be aware that former President Clifford Clark died in January at the age of 88. Clark was president for 16 years from 1975 until 1989. Clark had a lasting legacy on this campus and, in particular, he played a significant role in developing our graduate programs and establishing and strengthening the Watson School of Engineering and the Decker School of Nursing. He also was deeply committed to enhancing the campus's diversity and inclusivity. All of these are goals that we continue to pursue, and President Stenger recognized him for his visionary leadership in terms of identifying challenges that we are still making progress on.

The campus has seen a number of changes since we last met, particularly with regard to a number of construction projects taking place. Perhaps most welcome has been the completion of the University MarketPlace in the University Union, which offers students a great, beautiful place to relax and enjoy their meals. The MarketPlace hosts 11 different food venues, including food styles from around the

world. This has proven very popular among students, faculty and staff. The rest of the University Union renovations are also nearing completion with a new atrium and office spaces for the Career Development Center, the Center for Civic Engagement, the Tutoring Center, the Educational Opportunity Program and TRIO.

Completion of East Campus Housing has opened up a lot of former residential space, which is now being transformed into office and learning spaces. Dickinson Hall, the former dining hall, will be the new home for a student services center for the University. Offices for Student Accounts, the Registrar, Financial Aid and Admissions Recruiting will be relocated there. At the same time, Old Johnson and Old O'Connor halls will be home to Information Technology and Geography. Old O'Connor will house Advancement functions such as the Foundation and Alumni Affairs, and will include a new alumni lounge. The University Counseling Center will also be located in Old O'Connor.

President Stenger pointed out the new signs at the campus entrance on the Vestal Parkway. These were designed in-house with input from the campus community. Every day more than 5,000 cars pass through the gates and more than 30,000 cars pass by, so we wanted to have signage that proudly proclaimed who we are.

Among those thousands of cars that entered campus on March 15 was one with Governor Cuomo inside. He was on campus to promote the Southern Tier Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program held at the Events Center with the goal of ensuring that Southern Tier residents are equipped to deal with emergencies and disasters. The Events Center was a very appropriate place to hold the event since it served as temporary housing for thousands of evacuees during the previous two floods that hit the region in 2006 and 2011.

Just as the Governor has been traveling to Binghamton, we have been traveling to Albany to provide information for legislators and their staff members as they prepare to finalize the state budget. In the past, we organized a large group of faculty, staff, administrators, students, and community members to overwhelm Albany for a day long deluge of Binghamtonians. This year a small group of us, including Vice President of Research Bahgat Sammakia, United University Professionals Chapter President Benita Roth, CSEA Chapter Vice President Martin Honeychuck, and University tour guide and BU Zoo co-president Ben Zachs, along with some of our communications and admissions teams, held court at the Legislative Office building. We encouraged passersby to tell us of their connections to Binghamton, while others provided information to legislators and their staffs. President Stenger had the opportunity to meet with Senator Ken LaValle, chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, Lt. Gov. Robert Duffy, and others interested in Binghamton's role as an educational and economic engine in the region. These meetings were very successful and we are looking forward to the outcome of the budget negotiations that are beginning in Albany.

We also spent time showcasing Binghamton's educational excellence and community impact with "BU Day at Oakdale Mall" earlier this month. More than 1,500 community members stopped to learn more about the campus, by engaging in interactive science experiments, watching performances by student organizations, and talking to professors and admissions staff about our academic programs and civic engagement. It was a very productive day.

We also are moving forward on a number of projects identified as Road Map priorities. This year, 46 projects aligned under our five strategic priorities – Creative Activities, Learning Community, Inclusive Campus, Global Impact and Strategic Investments. Our Road Map Steering Committee has been divided into five teams that are developing metrics to assess our work. These include both leading and lagging indicators so that we can be sure of the progress we are making. At the same time we are looking forward to 2015-2016, and Provost Nieman has announced a request for proposals. These will be refined by the steering committee, reviewed by the Faculty Senate Budget Committee during this semester, and ranked by the steering committee in early June. Final decisions will be made by mid-summer.

Last fall we submitted a letter of intent to SUNY to create a new Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, and we recently developed a full proposal that is on track to be approved by our Faculty Senate. We will submit this to SUNY and the State Education Department by early summer. Our original plan was to modify some buildings on campus to house the new school, although an opportunity was presented to us in December of 2013 to plan a new building in Johnson City near UHS's Wilson Hospital. We could see the enormous benefits this would bring to the new program, our local economy, and our major health care providers.

Over the next seven years, as the facility is built and brought on-line, we expect that its economic impact will be over \$219 million regionally and more than \$290 million statewide. In addition, the School will support (directly and indirectly) over 2,428 jobs in New York State over the next few years, while providing much-needed professional training for students in a high-demand field. When fully enrolled, we expect to have 240 students in the Pharm.D. program, plus 60 students in a PhD program. We expect to initially employ 12 clinical faculty and 12 research faculty. Research faculty should be bringing in about \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year each in funding. There is an expectation of attracting drug companies and start-ups to the area. We are currently trying to identify suitable property in Johnson City and are looking to receive an allocation of \$10 million, provided in the recently proposed executive budget, which will allow us to acquire the building site and begin design work. We estimate the construction costs of the new building to be approximately \$45 million, and equipment and startup staffing for education and research to be an additional \$5 million. Thus the full cost of the project will be approximately \$60 million spread over three fiscal years, ending in 2017, the same year that our first class of students will be entering. This project has strong support of regional hospitals and healthcare providers.

A pharmacy school is one aspect of a program of planned growth that we are working towards. Predictable tuition has provided resources for student support (\$2.5 million in the last two years), as well as funding for faculty hiring. We have hired 93 new faculty in the last two years. At the same time, enrollment has increased; we are now at over 16,000 students, up from 14,700 in 2011. We project to be at 17,122 by fall 2016 which is a rapid, but manageable increase.

Most of our peers have 10,000 more students and a 3:1 undergraduate to graduate ratio. Growth will be a catalyst for research, education, and outreach; give more students new educational and career opportunities; increase our visibility and recognition; allow us to hire more faculty, lower the student-to-faculty ratio, encourage student success, and make us more accountable to students, families, our community, and our state; shift the balance between teaching and research, allowing us to focus not only on the education of our students but on the challenges facing our world; allow us to establish a

critical mass of excellence across the University; and will generate pride among our alumni. We want to sustain the trajectory of growth, but change the balance between graduate and undergraduate enrollment.

For the 4-1-1 BU Corps program, our best undergrads will be invited to participate in a nine-month externship, followed by one year of master's courses. Alumni will play a key role in generating externships for these student.

We want to see 20,000 students at Binghamton. Growth will focus on masters level students, provide resources, and add to the University's reputation. What will BU look like with 20,000 students? We will hire an additional 180 faculty, an increase of approximately 35% over current levels. These faculty will be supported by an additional 180 teaching assistants and more than 100 new staff members. 3,000 additional students not only will have a real impact on the local and regional economy, it will also significantly add to our excellence in research, scholarship and teaching. With 180 new faculty, above what we will add by 2016, we will reduce our student-to-faculty ratio to 15:1, down from our current 22:1. For students, this means more personalized attention from experienced faculty. This is an ambitious plan, and I look forward to working with the Council and the community they represent so that we can reach 20 by 2020.

#### **STUDENT REPORT:**

Mr. Andrew Topal reported that the Fall commencement ceremony was successful with great speakers. Andrew encouraged all Council members to attend the Spring commencement and added that he will be graduating in the spring.

Students are enjoying the new MarketPlace, the student services area, and the general meeting area. He thanked everyone who was involved in the project.

Many student groups are working on exciting projects. One such group is working with Sodexo to donate the surplus food that has not been sold at the end of each day.

School spirit has increased. Basketball games are more fun. Students are proud to be at BU and it's nice to see the BU green everywhere.

It was great to see the Governor here promoting the preparedness training program. It is nice to see BU as the center of the community, expanding outward and being a place the community can gather. It's good to see the community rebuilt after the 2011 floods and getting education to be prepared for any future emergencies.

Spring Fling acts are being lined up.

Chair Madigan noted that the town gown relationship has improved over the years. We have seen a heightened level of student volunteerism. Student governance working with Binghamton Police has started to turn things around in downtown Binghamton.

**Report on Personal Safety Programs and Crime Statistics:**

Chief of Police Tim Faughnan, David Hubeny, Director of Emergency Management, and Devin Howell, Executive Director of Harpur's Ferry presented a report on the campus personal safety programs and crime statistics. See detailed presentation attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 18, 2014.