

COUNCIL MINUTES

October 17, 2014

Present from Council: Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., Linda Biemer, Thomas Doty, Sarah Glose, Dennis McCabe, Esq., Albert Nocciolino, James Orband, Esq., and Matthew Salanger

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Professor Barker, Vice President Broschart, Mr. Coker, Ms. Doyle, Director Elliott, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Gahring, Dean Gal, Ms. Griffin, Ms. Howell, Mr. Kane, Professor Lees, Mr. Liu, Dr. McGoff, Professor Mischen, Vice President Navarro, Ms. Nesslage, Ms. Neuberger, Provost Nieman, Distinguished Service Professor Pitarresi, Vice President Rose, Ms. Russell, Vice President Sammakia, Professor Sinclair, Dr. Smith, and Mr. Yarosh

CALL TO ORDER:

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:24 a.m. on Friday, October 17, 2014 by Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq., chair.

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

Assistant Provost, Distinguished Service Professor and Executive Director for the Center for Learning and Teaching, Dr. James Pitarresi, welcomed Council members to the Teaching Lab, "Sandbox," in the Center for Learning and Teaching. This new innovative room is the most recent result of Binghamton's ongoing effort to build a transformative learning community. It is a learning and teaching laboratory where we can experiment with pedagogy, room design and technology and where the teacher and students can actually write on the walls. The room has been very well-received.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The campus continues to be busy and vibrant. This weekend is Homecoming and over 1000 alumni have pre-registered to attend, marking the highest number of pre-registrations received in a number of years. There are many events happening this weekend including the BU Basketball Showcase event this evening; the men's soccer game on Saturday; Tier Talks where alumni, faculty and guests will discuss how they define success beyond financial wealth; the grand opening of the Fleishman Center for Career and Professional Development which was made

possible by a gift from alums Steven Fleishman '91 and Judith Garczynski Fleishman '90'; the Educational Opportunity Program's 45th Anniversary luncheon; and the Founder's Club luncheon honoring the 60th Anniversary of the Class of 1954.

Family Weekend was held last weekend and 2800 registered to attend this event. There were many family-friendly events during the weekend including a motivational talk by comedian Nick Offerman, and other opportunities for family members to learn more about Binghamton University. It was a wonderful weekend with a lot of activity on campus.

This past month, Governor Cuomo was on campus to announce the location of our new School of Pharmacy. The Pharmacy School will be located on Corliss Avenue in Johnson City, approximately 1 ½ blocks from UHS Wilson Medical Center. The construction of this \$60 million building will have a significant economic impact in the region.

This past month, we also broke ground on the Southern Tier High Technology Incubator in downtown Binghamton with Senator Schumer, Senator Tom Libous, Assembly members Clifford Crouch and Donna Lupardo, and several other dignitaries on hand. The 35,000 square foot facility will be built at the corner of Hawley and Carroll Streets and will have a direct economic impact of \$25.1 million on the Broome and Tioga County economies during construction. Following the completion of construction in fall 2016, the facility is expected to generate over \$6 million in economic impact annually to the local economy.

Administrators from Shenzhen University, China, were on campus for a 10-day visit recently to develop an understanding of how American universities work compared to higher education in China. While they were here, they met with a wide range of campus administrators. It was an interesting but good visit.

The Road Map is very robust and is in its second round of funding. Over the summer, we worked through a complicated process to determine how to measure success. As a result, we have come up with 25 metrics which are being used to measure progress towards our Strategic Priorities and to show that Binghamton University is not just getting bigger, it is getting better.

Last evening, we celebrated the achievements of our very best faculty and staff at the annual University Excellence Awards Dinner where 26 awards were given recognizing contributions beyond the call of duty in areas such as teaching, research, scholarship, mentoring, classified and professional service, etc. This is a very emotional event as we recognize and celebrate achievements. Dennis McCabe was on hand to represent the Binghamton University Council.

STUDENT REPORT:

Ms. Glose reported that there have been a lot of campus beautification efforts going on and the students are responding well to this. Green Bearcat paw prints have been painted on the sidewalk outside of the Admissions Center and, when they were done, a lot of students were there taking photos and posting them on Facebook and Instagram. There are also new flags in the residential communities that help to identify the various communities. Students are enjoying the increased Binghamton spirit on campus.

Binghamton University students are very excited to welcome alumni back to campus for Homecoming this weekend. Chief of Police Faughnan sent out a message to the campus community to remind students to be safe, recognizing that it is easy to get caught up in the moment and forget about being safe while having a good time. This is an important message for the students to hear and underscores Binghamton University's accountability to the students. Binghamton University students feel well cared for.

As President Stenger mentioned, last weekend was Family Weekend and it was nice to see so many families enjoying the weekend together. Nick Offerman's performance was exceptional as he spoke about paddling your own canoe and making your own happiness. It was an important message to be heard during Family Weekend and helped to open the dialogue for difficult conversations between parents and students.

Ms. Glose is a member of the Student Code of Conduct Review Committee which will bring suggested changes and revisions to the Code of Conduct to the Binghamton University Council next semester. The Review Committee will begin their community outreach process within the next couple of weeks where they will be hosting forums and focus groups to get student opinion on the Code of Conduct. The Review Committee will also be charged with bringing their Code of Conduct up to standards for the new sexual assault policies being implemented at the state and federal government levels. Governor Cuomo came to Binghamton to speak about this important initiative the beginning of this month. A new sexual assault conduct process, which Vice President Brian Rose's office is in charge of, has been implemented to make sure that students are being held accountable for their actions and that students who are going through the process receive the support that they need. They are also working to define a uniform definition of consent among all SUNY campuses. Council members will be informed of the progress as it moves forward.

One negative comment - there have been some negative University marketing efforts recently that students have felt have not been the best practices for the University. There was a recent negative message about off-campus housing and one about sports, "Nine reasons why Binghamton is better than a football team." These messages have brought up some negative feelings among students. This type of marketing technique does not resonate well with the students. The students come to Binghamton and they want to stay here and have a good, positive, experience - they want to love it here. They are always looking for the positive in situations and any time negative messages from the University come out, it puts a negative tinge on this relationship. There are so many great things happening at Binghamton and the students want to focus on the positive. Overall, spirit and the pride at Binghamton are growing.

The Student Association's Homecoming performance by Nick Offerman was sold out. The Student Association has booked Trey Songz for the fall concert at the end of October and the students are excited about this show. There has been a consolidation of student groups into different councils and coalitions which is hoped to bring better representation on student congress. The constitution evaluation is coming up for the Student Association so they will be looking at their practices and procedures to see what needs to be adapted for the current culture.

The graduate students are concerned about graduate space on campus and the quality of that space. President Stenger has assured Ms. Glose that there are plans to renovate those spaces. Hopefully, the graduate students will be feeling at home in these spaces soon.

On a personal note, Ms. Glose is in the Masters of Public Administration (MPA) program at Binghamton. The MPA students are collecting money for CHOW this week since the CHOW walk will be taking place on campus this weekend. The MPA students hope to raise over \$1,000, and the MPA faculty have pledged to match \$500 in donations.

UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS AND HOUSING:

Provost Neiman and Vice President Rose presented a report on University Admission and Housing (see attached). Following this report Ms. Neuberger, Liberal Arts to Careers Externship Coordinator, Fleishman Center for Career and Professional Development; Ms. Nesslage, Director, Harpur Edge; and Dr. Smith, Director University Career Services, Fleishman Center for Career and Professional Development, spoke about the services provided by their programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Madigan reported that the ACT meeting will be held the end of this month in Lake George, NY. She will be attending the meeting on behalf of the Binghamton University Council and will report on this meeting at the November Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.