COUNCIL MINUTES
October 16, 2015

Present from Council: Kathryn Madigan, Linda Biemer, Thomas Doty, Sarah Glose (by phone), Dennis McCabe, Albert Nocciolino, and James Orband

Present from the Community: President Stenger, Vice President Broschart, Mr. Coker, Mr. Delviscio, Ms. Doyle, Director Elliott, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Fauci, Ms. Gahring, Mr. Gantt, Ms. Hampton, Mr. Kane, Prof. Loewen, Prof. Mischen, Ms. Mthombeni, Vice President Navarro, Provost Nieman, Ms. O’Neil, Vice President Rose, and Ms. Sager

CALL TO ORDER

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:18 a.m. on Friday, October 16, 2015 by chair Kathryn Grant Madigan.

The minutes of the September 18, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Chair Madigan called for a moment of silence for departed former council member, Dr. John Spring. Dr. Spring was a member of our Council for 14 years and served as chair for ten of those years. He served with distinction and was a remarkable and extraordinary man.

Chair Madigan announced that Mr. Doty is retiring from Council after serving 15 years. Mr. Doty has been a very engaged and engaging member of Council. He has attended many ACT conferences on our behalf and we are in his debt. Mr. Doty was presented a framed certificate of appreciation. Mr. Doty gave heartfelt remarks and made a donation to the Memorial Courtyard.

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Glose was in New York City for a conference and participated via phone.

Ms. Glose commented on our absolutely beautiful autumn in Binghamton and suggested members check out the University’s Instagram account (@binghamtonu).

The Student Association held a Big Sean concert last night. John Mulaney will be the Family Weekend comedian. SA’s Vice President for Multicultural Affairs met with the Assistant Chief of Police and will be meeting with him and Milton Chester regularly to build a connection between the police and students. Specifically, his mission is to work to end racial profiling.
University Plaza students were promised bus service provided by University Plaza management to Downtown but UP did not come through with that promise. Students are upset and the SA has produced a resolution asking for answers from University Plaza.

A big concern for current graduate students is the increased PhD stipends for incoming students. As we focus on growing, graduate students fear that their concerns as current students will be ignored in favor of recruitment and new students.

The Center for Learning and Teaching spoke to the GSO about opportunities for learning skills in pedagogy. Students were excited about the opportunity! Our students want to be good teachers for their students, want assistance with the challenges of teaching, and look forward to gaining teaching skills.

Two graduate nights out and apple picking are scheduled; these should have good turnout if past events this year are any indication.

Regarding Ms. Glose’s student project, there was an article in Pipe Dream about using B-Alert to give students real time crime alerts from downtown and the west side of Binghamton. This is a feature Ms. Glose has spoken to Communications and Marketing about, and while it is not feasible to provide real time alerts, we are going to see what we can do with the app and other communication technology.

**PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Stenger noted that Homecoming Weekend was a success with more than 800 alumni attending. During Homecoming, the first Alumni of Color reunion was held for those alumni to reconnect and network. We recognized the 50th anniversary of our graduate programs. A special reading from Azur Nafisi, author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran* was featured.

Professor M. Stanley Whittingham, distinguished professor of chemistry and materials science, has been named a 2015 Thomson Reuters Citation Laureate. Professor Whittingham is the director of the NorthEast Center for Chemical Energy that has received a $12.8 million four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. Professor Whittingham was named a people’s choice selection for the Nobel Prize in a Thomson Reuters online poll.

President Stenger met with students of the Student Association Student Congress. The need for dialog between student organizations and the administration was stressed. President Stenger has invited a member of the Student Congress to be a member of his Senior Officer Group Plus.

At the end of September, we hosted a delegation from Shenzhen University of China. This is the third year that administrators from China have visited our campus. This year they focused their attention on the University’s student services programs.

On October 14, Dr. Bai Lee committed to a $1 million gift to support our scholar athletes. In recognition of this gift, the Events Center Court will be named the Dr. Bai Lee Court.

On October 20, we will be making our presentation for the Upstate Revitalization Initiative completion. Our region stands to receive as much as $500 million over five years.
UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

Donald Nieman, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, gave a presentation on Admissions (see attached).

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND INNOVATIONS

Brian Rose, Vice President for Student Affairs, presented the attached.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Valerie Hampton, Chief Diversity Officer, gave a presentation (attached).

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.