

**Buffalo State College**  
**State University of New York**  
**COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**April 28, 2009**  
**4:00 PM**  
**Cleveland Hall 518**  
**MINUTES**

**COLLEGE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair, Mr. John Hoskins; Vice Chair, Mr. Howard Zemsky; Mr. James Brandys; Mr. Charles Naughton and Student Representative, Ms. Dominique Gabriel.

**COLLEGE FACULTY & STAFF PRESENT:** President Muriel A. Howard; Provost, Dennis K. Ponton; Vice President for Finance & Management, Stanley Kardonsky; Vice President for Student Affairs, Hal D. Payne; Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Susanne Bair; Senior Advisor to the President for Equity and Campus Diversity, Dolores Battle; Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the College Council, Bonita R. Durand; Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, Benjamin Christy; Dean, School of Professions, Scott Johnson, Dean, University College; Mark Severson; Associate Provost & Dean of the Graduate School, Kevin Railey; Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Mark Petrie; Associate Vice President for Housing and Auxiliary Services, Timothy Ecklund; Associate Vice President for College Relations, Tim Walsh; Dean of Students & Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Charles Kenyon; College Senate Chair & Professor of Exceptional Education, Sharon Cramer; UUP Chapter President & Associate Professor of Technology, Richard Stempniak; Director, Intercollegiate Athletics, Jerry Boyes; Director, International Student Affairs, Jean Gounard; Professor, Sociology, Jie Zhang; Staff Assistant, Melissa Slisz; Zeng Xiutao, Tan Ziwei, Su Chang, China 150 students and Eve Everett, Sarah Fehskens, Honor Students.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Zemsky called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Zemsky requested approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2009 meeting. Ms. Gabriel made the motion that the minutes be approved; Mr. Hoskins seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Zemsky stated that the College Council Medal is awarded by the Buffalo State College Council to individuals in recognition of their leadership and service to Buffalo State College and the Buffalo community. He advised the council that the College Council Medal committee had nominated Miss Dominique Gabriel for this prestigious award. He referenced a resolution in the board book to this effect and called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Naughton made the motion that the resolution be approved; Mr. Hoskins seconded the motion. The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Zemsky congratulated Dominique. She will be awarded the College Council Medal at the 2pm commencement ceremony on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Vice Chairman Zemsky provided an update on the Presidential Search. Over the past three weeks he met with college and community leaders and constituent groups to consult about the interim presidency and the search for a new president. He really appreciated how generous people have been with their time and how courteous everyone has been. He has found the discussions very helpful and enlightening and appreciates all of the advice and counsel that the campus community is providing. Several College Council members were at the April 17<sup>th</sup> College Senate Meeting; he thanked them for coming.

The first priority as a College Council is to make a recommendation regarding the interim president to the SUNY Board of Trustees in time for the trustees to act at their next board meeting on May 12. The interim president will officially assume his or her responsibilities on August 1, 2009. Mr. Zemsky reported that he is working closely with SUNY to develop a process and the resources required to conduct the search for a new president. SUNY has provided some very helpful guidelines to assist with the entire search process. However, the guidelines for the

composition of the search committee do not fully represent all of the constituent groups that are significant to a process of this importance at Buffalo State. Mr. Zemsky stated he is working with the campus community and external groups to ensure that the search committee is as representative of this institution as possible. There is a listing of the constituents attached.

Although he has met with many individuals and groups thus far, he would like to provide the opportunity for as many members of the campus community as possible to have input. To help accomplish this goal, an email account has been established for feedback. The email address is [presidentsearch@buffalostate.edu](mailto:presidentsearch@buffalostate.edu).

On Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> Mr. Zemsky asked the College Council members to join him at a town hall meeting from 2:00-3:00pm in the Warren Enters Theatre whereby the college community will have an opportunity to provide advice about the desired attributes of a new president.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Howard thanked the College Council for its support of her presidency and of the institution over the past 13 years. She had the privilege of working with many extraordinary individuals on this campus and in this community and she leaves knowing the college remains in the capable hands of many caring and compassionate individuals. She values the advice and guidance she received. Again, it has indeed been her honor and privilege to serve with all.

Included in the board books is the program for the three ceremonies for the 137<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony to be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> along with itineraries for commencement day.

Dr. Howard reported that on April 25<sup>th</sup> Buffalo State College participated in the Community Service Day. She reported this was a great event and thanked Fred Howe, Emeritus Professor of Educational Foundations, for all his hard work on this project.

SUNY Chancellor elect Nancy Zimpher plans to visit all 64 SUNY campuses between June 1st and August 30th. She will visit the four campuses in Western New York on June 19-23. On Monday, June 22, she will spend the entire day at Buffalo State. The College Council will have

an opportunity to meet with her at lunch on that day- she asked for the council to keep their schedule open for that day. Additionally, members of the College Council will join the Chancellor for dinner that evening. Her other institution visits will include:

- Visits to Niagara County Community College and Erie Community College on June 19th
- She will have dinner with four SUNY Presidents on June 21<sup>st</sup>
- She will spend the day at the University at Buffalo on June 23.

### **Academic Presentation**

Provost Ponton introduced Dr. Scott Johnson, Dean of University College. Dr. Johnson spoke about the China 150 and the All College Honors Programs (see attached). He thanked Dr. Jean Gounard and Professor Jie Zhang for their help with the China 150 Program and introduced some of the students from the program who made presentations to the College Council: Zeng Xiutao, Tan Ziwei, Su Chang. After the China 150 presentations, Eve Everett and Sarah Fehskens, two of the All College Honors Program students, gave presentations on their experience.

### **Report of the Student Elected Representative Report**

Dominique Gabriel reported on the United Student's Government Program and upcoming events. (see attached)

Mr. Zemsky presented Dominique with flowers and a plaque to thank her for her work with the College Council during this past year. She has represented the students of Buffalo State College in an exceptional manner.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Government Relations**

Mr. Zemsky delivered the report on Government Relations on behalf of Mr. Bissett. (see attached).

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hoskins called for a motion to Move to Executive Session: In accordance with Section 105 of the New York State Open Meetings Law. Mr. Zemsky moved that the council move to execute executive session; Mr. Brandys seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The council adjourned to executive session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

After the executive session ended, the council reconvened to open session. Ms. Gabriel called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Zemsky moved for adjournment and Mr. Naughton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bonita R. Durand*

Bonita R. Durand, Ph.D.

Secretary to the College Council