

**Buffalo State**  
**State University of New York**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**December 2, 2014, 4:00 PM**  
**Cleveland Hall 518**  
**MINUTES**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Melissa Brinson; Mr. Jim Brandys; Mr. Todd Brason; Mr. Gary Brost; Ms. Linda Dobmeier; Mr. Charles Naughton; Mr. Mylous Hairston; and Student Representative, Mr. Muhammed Sumbundu.

**FACULTY & STAFF PRESENT:**

President Katherine Conway-Turner; Provost Dennis Ponton; Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Susanne Bair; Vice President for Student Affairs, Hal Payne; Chief Diversity Officer, Karen Clinton Jones; Interim Chief Information Officer, Brad Fuster; Chief of Staff and Secretary to the College Council, Bonita R. Durand; Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, Kevin Railey; Dean, University College, Scott Johnson; Dean, School of Education, Wendy Paterson; Dean of Students & Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Charles Kenyon; Associate Vice President for Student Success; Daniel Velez; Associate Vice President for College Relations, Tim Walsh; Buffalo State UUP President and Associate Professor of Technology, Richard Stempniak; Buffalo State College Senate Chair & Distinguished Service Professor of History & Social Sciences, David Carson; Director & Head Football Coach, Intercollegiate Athletics, Jerry Boyes; Director, Educational Opportunity Program, Yanick Jenkins; Assistant Director, Academic Services, Abdollah (Abdi) Hajikandi; Staff Assistant, Melissa Slisz; Buffalo News Reporter, Jay Tokasz; Alumni: Charles Woody Brandy, Students: Catherine Guichardo, James Militano.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Dobmeier called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Ms. Dobmeier reported that the week of October 14 through 21 was a marvelous time at Buffalo State as we celebrated the Inauguration of our ninth president. The activities were festive and inclusive of all of the college's constituents. Community Service Day on October 18<sup>th</sup> was a true example of how this institution serves the community.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2014 meeting. Mr. Sumbundu moved that the minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Brinson. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to approve the College Council Annual Report for 2013-2014. Mr. Hairston moved that the Annual Report be approved; the motion was seconded by Mr. Brost. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President mentioned that at the Inauguration many people asked "how can we help Buffalo State College?" She also mentioned during the snow closure it was best to stay home and stay safe. She is engaging the Provost and College Senate to work with students, to determine what activities can be implemented when the college is closed and how they can be communicated (blackboard and digital ways). The President has been meeting with various groups on campus and they have been sharing their thoughts on strengths of the institution, challenges and what the faculty and staff are committed to.

The President also spoke about the items below in her written report: (see attached)

- SUNY Draft Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention (new language at next meeting)
- Inauguration
- Housing
- Enrollment (Flat compared to last year)
- Recruitment for fall of 2015 (not as high as we wanted)
- Major goals for this year
- Divisional Updates (In spring you will see the progress; she will be reporting on them).

Provost Dennis Ponton introduced Dean of University College Scott Johnson and the Academic Presentation: Educational Opportunity Program presented by Yanick Jenkins, Director and Abdi Hajikandi, Assistant Director, Academic Services, EOP (see attached). Three current students and one former student attended the meeting

and shared their experiences in the EOP Program. First was alumni Charles “Woody” Brandy. He graduated with a history degree in 1994 and he is the director of Social Sciences for the Buffalo Public Schools. He said he owes his success to the EOP program and the staff and students. Current Student Catherine Guichardo has been on the Dean’s list. She is a Residence Assistant and has been interned at a law firm. She is very appreciative of the EOP Program. Another current student James Militano started with the EOP Summer Program in 2012. Participating in the program helped him to understand how to be away at college and away from his parents. EOP helped him tremendously and he in turn has helped other EOP students. He wasn’t the best mentor initially but he is now. He likes that the students look up to him.

The President announced information placed at the council member’s seats

- Enrollment Summary – Fall 2014
- Insight Into Diversity Magazine: *Buffalo State received 2014 HEED Award, pg. 69*
- Faculty/Staff Creativity Fall Forum Program Booklet
- New Buffalo State View book
- Adult Education Brochure
- Music Education Brochure
- List of Upcoming Events
- Year of the Innovator Events

The President mentioned she has received many compliments on the new signage around campus and thanked Mike LeVine and others for their work. She also thanked Jay Tokasz, the reporter from the Buffalo News, for attending the meeting today.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sumbundu moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Brinson seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonita R. Durand". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the phrase "Respectfully Submitted,".

Bonita R. Durand, Ph.D.  
Secretary to the Council



## **Report to the Buffalo State College Council**

December 2014

Progress Report, Updates, and Significant Accomplishments since the October meeting

Prepared by: Kate Conway-Turner, President

### **OVERVIEW**

#### **Inauguration**

The inauguration on October 21 was very successful and provided a wonderful moment for the campus to celebrate and appreciate the outstanding attributes of the campus. Guests visiting during that period were unanimous in their praise for every aspect showcased. Events were held in several locations in order to provide broader exposure to some of our new or renovated spaces. The students who participated in the Student Bash and the inauguration showcased the engagement of our students in the life of the campus. I would like to express special appreciation to Susie Bair, Howard Zemsky, and Trustee, Eunice Lewin for co-chairing the inauguration activities.

#### **Housing**

The housing constraints, although not ideal, have been managed well by the Residence Life staff. As beds have become available, we have offered students to move from Canisius back on campus. We continue to have approximately 130 students in Canisius. Programming is provided to students in that location and transportation is provided to transport students from the secondary location to campus. The Trudeau Housing consultants have been on campus to gather information for the Housing Master Plan. I have asked for their final report as soon as possible. We recently met with the consultants to discuss short term solutions to our housing concern as well as to discuss the possibilities for a long-term solution.

Our short term solution will likely include delaying or modifying the next phase of the Tower renovation to bring on board an additional 200 beds for next fall. Vice Presidents Levine, Payne and I are discussing the importance of developing other short-term strategies that could have a positive result on housing demand for next fall until we have implemented a long-term solution. We will define our full short-term plan within the next few weeks.

### **Enrollment**

The enrollment settled out to provide an enrollment of 10,661 which is relatively flat compared with fall of 2013. The first year enrolment was 1875, the highest since 1980. The graduate enrollment was 1176, a decline of 95 students from 2013.

However there are several troubling concerns that we are tackling as a campus. 1) Graduate enrollment continues to fall. It is clear that we need to develop a strategy to address graduate enrollment. Under the Provost's leadership, we are exploring new programs and possible expansion of existing programs. I have asked the Provost to work with the Deans, Department Chairs and appropriate parties to put together a strategy for stemming this tide. 2) We as examining the retention efforts we have in place and strategizing how to enhance efforts and to coordinate work across divisions. Despite strong work in this area, our retention figures have been relatively flat in mid-70 for first time first year students. We have several cohorts that see a higher retention level and I have asked the Provost Ponton and Vice President Payne to strategize how to implement some of these best practices more widely.

### **Recruitment for fall of 2015**

We held a very successful open house with a significant increase in attendance of perspective students and their families. We saw an increase of 105 students participating in the open house and the overall audience was 1137 (2013 attendance was 860 and 2012 attendance was 957). We believe this strong attendance illustrated an enhanced interest in Buffalo State and is a good omen for fall 2015.

### **Major goals for this year**

Attached you will find a list of major goals that will be accomplished this year. I will report on these goals in the spring meetings and provide a status report.

## DIVISIONAL UPDATES

### Academic Affairs:

1. Faculty/Staff Research and Creativity Fall Forum was October 30, 2014. See the booklet enclosed with this report for details.
2. The Division is completing the Academic Program Array Review Process. This process will guide future additions, eliminations, and changes to our programmatic line-up.
3. Two Buffalo State Masters Programs have been selected for OPEN SUNY: adult education and music education. See attached a description of each program.
4. The Year of the Innovator is drawing significant audiences and a good deal of interest on and off campus.
5. The fall 2014 enrollment reveals high demand areas for undergraduate study in Business, Communication, Criminal Justice, Psychology, and Engineering Technology.
6. Currently we have 12 students on campus in the 3+2 program with Chinese universities. We believe this is a promising program and we look forward to seeing greater numbers in the future.

### Finance and Management:

#### 1. Consultant's Review of University Police:

This past spring, Buffalo State contracted with a national firm, Margolis Healy, to conduct a Public Safety Management Study to evaluate the University Police Department's community policing approach. The consultants were on-site from April 14 to 18, and conducted interviews in a mix of one-on-one and forum sessions, met with members of the college's leadership team, and reviewed the Police Department's operating activities and data.

An overview of the consultant's reports was presented to the College Senate on November 14<sup>th</sup>, and the reports were made available on the college website. We have been left with solid recommendations that we will review and consider, including reestablishing a community policing advisory committee, enhancing training, and

revising operating practices. While the report concluded that “it is evident that the men and women of Buffalo State’s University Police Department are committed to effectively delivering the best services possible in a thoughtful, humane, sensitive, and efficient fashion” campus leadership will collaborate with University Police to identify goals and objectives and align their services to meet those goals and objectives. Copies of the consultant’s reports can be found at: <http://financeandmanagement.buffalostate.edu/>

2. Facilities and Construction:

Our **Exterior Signage and Wayfinding** project; including large lighted signs at the four main campus entrances, kiosks with campus maps, building identification signs, and new vehicular and pedestrian directional signs, is virtually complete. Feedback from the campus community, and visitors to the campus, has been extremely positive.

Major renovations of **Caudell Hall**, the **Science and Mathematics Complex**, Tower 1 of the **Scajaquada Towers Housing Complex**, and the **Coyer Field Press Box** continue.

The current status of all campus construction activity can be found at:

<http://facilities.buffalostate.edu/projects-construction>

### **Information Services and Systems**

1. Reorganization within the ISAS division has resulted in a decoupling of some duties. To better serve the needs of the library an interim director of the library has been appointed, Marc Bayer.
2. The phone systems on campus are being migrated to VOIP. This will increase the functionality of our phone system and although it will require upfront costs of \$1.5 million, this cost will be recouped over 7-8 years due to savings from the new system.

### **Equity/Diversity Division**

1. The Fall Diversity Dialogue and Film Series: *See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil*: These initiatives, collaborating with the Communications Department, The Burchfield Penny Art Center, Student Success, Health and Promotions, faculty/staff/students, and local community based organizations, serve to provide co-curricular experiences



examining diversity. Here's a listing of our events (5) and the number of program participants (331):

Event	Number of Participants
Homestretch (film) (addressing homelessness)	77
Dealing With Stereotypes (dialogue session)	66
Bipolarized (film)	93
Mass Media, Social Networks, and Technology (dialogue session) (technology & stereotypes)	35
15 to Life (film) (youth serving life sentences)	60
Gender Myths (dialogue session)	Postponed until next semester
<b>Total number of participants this semester</b>	<b>331</b>
<b>Average amount of participants per event</b>	<b>66</b>

### **Institutional Advancement**

1. The inaugural donor-scholar breakfast was held on September 20, 2014 prior to the Homecoming football game. Over 300 donors and students came together to celebrate donors who generously fund scholarships. Donors were seated with their recipients and, for some it was the first time they were able to meet in person. Photos were taken of scholarship recipients to send to donors who could not attend.
2. The Peterson luncheon was held on September 3, 2014 and welcomed several new members. The Peterson Society is Buffalo State's planned giving legacy group and is ably led by Council member Jim Brandys. Currently there are 347 members and the value of the expectancy book is \$29, 214, 216.
3. New Foundation Board members recruited for 3 year terms are: Nick Sinatra, Mike Masters, Tom Quatroche, Jr., Jeremy Hudson, Chris Maloff, Gerry Saxe, Holly Quicksey

(staff representative – 2 year term), and Rosalyn Lindner (faculty representative – 2 year term).

4. Alumni Affairs has hosted multiple events in the past several months. Our goal is to engage more alumni in the life of the college. Currently there are over 100,000 alumni and over half of them live in WNY. Other areas of significant alumni concentration are NYC, Long Island, Washington DC, California, Florida, and Atlanta. Events included Wine Club, Alumni Afterhours networking event with 9 area colleges and universities, Music Department Alumni Reception, alumni family day with the Buffalo Bisons, Homecoming Tailgate, Home-Away-From-Homecoming event in Long Island, Bengal 5K Scholarship Run, Astronomy Club event, and Visual Arts Alumni event in NYC, CDC Career Program and Alumni Family Skate.
5. A group of prominent alumni participated in a Professional Roundtable Conversations program. Professionals in the fields of Political Science and Criminal Justice shared their experiences with Buffalo State students in a 90 minute program in the Student Union. Alumni participants included a NYS Supreme Court Justice, the Chief Medical Examiner for the City of San Francisco, an Assistant US attorney, the Assistant Attorney General of NYS, and the Director for Maritime Security on the National Joint Terrorism Task Force.
6. College Relations has created a new set of Admissions print recruitment publications. Print, electronic, and social media are key parts of recruiting students.
7. Inauguration communication plan (print, web, social media, and public relations) was coordinated by College Relations. The theme “Engagement, Excellence, Social Responsibility/ Reach for the Stars was incorporated throughout the campus and the community.

### **Student Affairs**

1. On November 7, the Career Development Center held Buffalo State’s 12<sup>th</sup> Manners Matter etiquette dinner in the Campbell Student Union Social Hall, where 165 students

learned about and practiced essential professional skills in social settings. The program began with a Mocktail Party in the Fireside Lounge area. Corporate guests and campus faculty engaged with students at five table stations focusing on different skills including “starting and holding conversations,” “what NOT to wear,” “social media and networking” and “rules for eating and drinking.” Over 20 campus and community guests - many of whom are alumni - joined students at dinner to provide support and role modeling for students throughout the course of the program. The guests were asked to assist students with initiating conversation and to help them with appropriate questions to ask for suitable dinner table talk. Northtown Automotive Companies was the corporate sponsor. Hospitality students volunteered to assist Chartwell’s with the event. A fabulous five course meal was served under the direction of Manny Lezama, Director of Dining Services. The event was co-sponsored by the Career Development Center, the Hospitality and Tourism Department, the National Society for Minorities in Hospitality, and Chartwell’s.

2. Within our athletic department, we have seen several successes this fall. Women’s Soccer and Women’s Volleyball both went to SUNYAC playoffs this fall. Our football team won the ECAS Championships on November 22, 2014. It has been a wonderfully successful season for the Buffalo State athletic department under the leadership of our Athletic Director, Jerry Boyes.

## Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Buffalo State State University of New York

### What is EOP?

- ▶ An undergraduate college admissions and support program; EOP helps students reach their full academic and personal potential through advisement, counseling, workshops, academic mentoring (tutoring), and peer mentoring
- ▶ The Educational Opportunity Program offers an alternative means of acceptance to Buffalo State for students who show ability and motivation in the face of economic and academic challenge

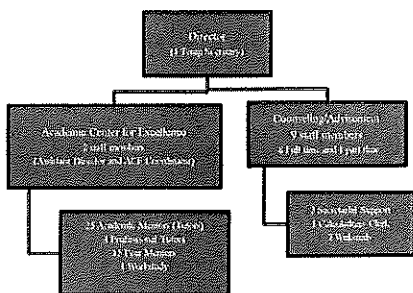
### Origin

- ▶ EOP has its origins in the late 1960's during the Rockefeller Administration. The Master Plan of the State University for 1964 set forth a long range commitment that –every student capable of completing a program of higher education shall have the opportunity to do so
- ▶ In 1964, the SUNY Board of Trustees realized that there were talented yet educationally unprepared students in our cities, suburbs, and rural areas thus the vision of EOP was born.

### Origin Cont'd

- ▶ EOP was established in 1967 at Buffalo State College by then Assemblyman Arthur. O. Eve of the 141<sup>st</sup> Assembly District in Buffalo
- ▶ In 1970, the Legislature approved funding for EOP on all state campuses and community colleges

### EOP Organizational Chart



### Admissions

- ▶ 2013 Buffalo State EOP Freshman Enrollment: 160
  - ▶ Total EOP Enrollment: 750
  - ▶ SAT 810-880
  - ▶ ACT 7-19
  - ▶ High School Average: 80-84
- | Educational Opportunity Program<br>Enrollment by<br>2013-14 |            |
|---|------------|
| Year  | Enrollment |
| 2013  | 21,582     |
| 2014  | 28,226     |
| 2015  | 36,122     |
| 2016  | 43,223     |
| 2017  | 51,634     |
| 2018  | 60,168     |
| 2019  | 68,658     |
| 2020  | 77,167     |
- ▶ 2014 Buffalo State EOP Freshman Enrollment: 162
  - ▶ Total EOP Enrollment: 757
  - ▶ High School Average : 78 SAT (Math & Reading): 800
- Buffalo Committee for Special Circumstances
- ADD \$750 for each additional student's family member in excess of eight.

## Demographics

	Female	Male	Total	
Black/Non-Hispanic	299	177	475	62.7%
Hispanic	108	74	182	24%
White/Non-Hispanic	28	22	50	6.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	9	17	2.24%
Native-American/	0	1	1	.1%
Alaskan	0	0	0	0
Other	18	14	32	4.2%
Total	480	297	757	

## Core Programs

- › Counseling and Advisement
- › 4-Week Credit Bearing Academic Summer Program
- › Academic Mentoring
- › First Year Program
  - Freshman Mentoring
  - Inspire Program
- › Transfer Student Mentoring
- › Sophomore Year Program
- › Empowerment Workshops for first time freshmen on academic probation
- › Academic Enrichment and Grade Improvement Services (AEGIS) for all students on academic probation
- › EOP Women's Support Group

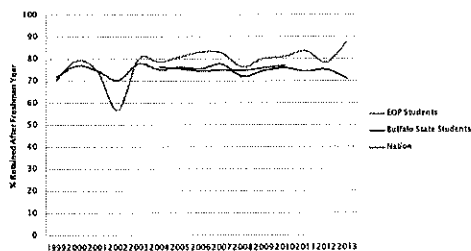
## Achievements

- › Consistent 80% or above first-year retention rate
- › Improved graduation rate
  - 2010 report of 6-year grad. rate data for EOP 48.25%
  - 2013 report of 6-year grad. rate data for EOP 60%
- › 400+ students eligible to be recognized at the EOP Honors Convocation each Spring
- › Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, Beta Epsilon Chapter members
- › Student Engagement on and off campus

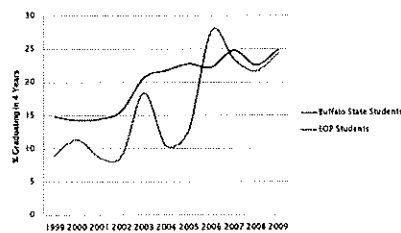
## Achievements Cont'd

- › President's Medal and Chancellor's Award Winners
- › McNair Scholars
- › Currently 4.2% of students are on academic probation
- › 39.6% GPA 3.0 or above 300/757
- › 23.8% 2.5 < GPA < 3.0 180/757
- › Contributing members of society working and paying taxes in NY State

1st Year Retention Rate



4 Year Graduation Rate



**Retention and Graduation Rates: EOP**

Year	N	Spring			Fall		
		First Time Spring	First Time Graduated	First Time Graduated	4 Years	6 Years	6 Years
1999	211	44.3%	39.4%	59.6%	9%	24.9%	28.7%
2000	136	41.1	39.3	65.8	11.9	31.3	31
2001	184	41.3	38.2	59.2	8.7	30.9	34.8
2002	177	43.2	36.9	63.5	8.8	27	30.7
2003	225	42.5	39.4	62.2	15.5	34.8	33.3
2004	225	42	38.19 (47)	63.2	15.1	28	31.8
2005	192	42.2	38.84 (47)	63.2	13.7	31.3	33.5
2006	180	43.8	41.14 (47)	72.8	21.7	47.7	52.3
2007	204	43.6	42.16 (47)	75.8	23.5	50	57.9
2008	205	42.9	40.19 (47)	65.1	11.7	33.8	
2009	222	41.4	39.2 (47)	67.4	14.4		
2010	142	43.2	41.17 (47)	68			
2011	154	45.5	43.8	67.2			
2012	141	47.4	44.4				
2013	180	46.6	45.1				
2014	141						

Updated 11/20/14  
Data from: EOP Office of Institutional Research

- ### Reasons for Success
- › Expert and dedicated staff
  - › Program's academic focus
  - › Individualized attention to each and every student in our Program
  - › Intentional and pro-active programming/initiatives
  - › Well Structured Academic Summer Program
  - › EOP students giving back to the Program
  - › Programs to promote creative thinking
  - › Programs to promote group interaction
  - › Collaboration of our staff with faculty and various entities on campus

- ### Reasons for Success Cont'd
- › One stop shop for all student needs.
  - › Application of Retention Theories, in particular the Involvement Theory and Student/Faculty Interaction Theory
  - › Empowering our students
  - › Recognizing and celebrating our student achievements (EOP Honors convocation, etc.)
  - › Continuous assessment of our services
  - › Emphasis in Collaboration with Admissions Office

- ### Funding Source
- › **OSP**
  - › Counselor Salaries
  - › Student Direct aid
  - › Tutoring
  - › Summer Program
  - › **Institutional Support**
  - › Administrative salaries
  - › Support Staff salaries
  - › Travel
  - › Approx.. 30% Summer Program
  - › Some equipment
  - › Travel
  - › Office Supplies
  - › *SEOG* (as available)
  - › **Outside Funding**
  - › Jaelah Jenkins EOP Fund
  - › Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society Fund
  - › Kalawole Glover Memorial Scholarship Fund
  - › EOP Emergency Assistance Fund
  - › **Various Grants**
  - › FSA Grant
  - › University College Honors support
  - › College Access Challenge Grant
  - › UUP Individual Development Grant

- ### Data Source
- › [http://www.buffalostate.edu/offices/instrsch/whatsnew/whatsnewfiles/TrendsInRetention\\_GradRate\\_Summary\\_1999\\_2012.pdf](http://www.buffalostate.edu/offices/instrsch/whatsnew/whatsnewfiles/TrendsInRetention_GradRate_Summary_1999_2012.pdf)
  - › [http://www.buffalostate.edu/offices/instrsch/usefulstats/regradfiles/Trends\\_In\\_FirstTime\\_Retention\\_GradRate1999\\_2013.pdf](http://www.buffalostate.edu/offices/instrsch/usefulstats/regradfiles/Trends_In_FirstTime_Retention_GradRate1999_2013.pdf)
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