

**Buffalo State  
State University of New York  
COUNCIL MEETING  
December 8, 2015 4:00 PM  
Cleveland Hall 518  
MINUTES**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Ms. Linda Dobmeier; Mr. Todd Brason; Ms. Melissa Brinson; Mr. Gary Brost; Mr. Allen “Pete” Grum; Mr. Mylous Hairston; Mr. Charles Naughton; Mr. Robert Zak and Student Elected Representative, Ms. Emily Leminger.

**FACULTY & STAFF PRESENT:**

President Katherine Conway-Turner; Provost Melanie Perreault; Vice President for Finance and Management, Mike LeVine; Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Susanne Bair; Vice President for Student Affairs, Hal D. Payne; Chief Diversity Officer, Karen Clinton Jones; Chief Information Officer, David Demers; Chief of Staff and Secretary to the College Council, Bonita R. Durand; Dean, Graduate School, Kevin Railey; Dean, School of Education, Wendy Paterson; Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, Ben Christy; Associate Vice President for Student Success; Daniel Velez; Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Erin Alonzo; Dean of Students and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Charles Kenyon; Buffalo State College Senate Chair & Associate Professor, Biology, Amy McMillan; UUP President and Associate Professor of Technology, Rick Stempniak; Director of Athletics & Head Football Coach, Jerry Boyes; Professor, Social & Psychological Foundations & Director of Faculty Development, William White; Staff Assistant, Melissa Slisz.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Dobmeier called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Ms. Dobmeier welcomed everyone to the meeting. She spoke about events that had taken place since the last meeting. The College celebrated the culmination of a very successful capital campaign. She also thanked some of our most generous donors whose gifts were acknowledged at naming ceremonies since the last Council meeting. Other events mentioned were the dedication of a new lounge for veteran students and recognition of many past and our current presidents at the presidential portrait gallery unveiling. Ms. Dobmeier also congratulated our women’s soccer team and our football team who both completed very successful seasons, moving into post season championships. She said the College is winding up the year with many accomplishments to be proud of and many initiatives to look forward to in the future.

Ms. Dobmeier thanked the members of the Council who have been able to attend many of these events and activities. She encouraged all to continue to support Buffalo State in whatever ways they can. She gave best wishes to all for a happy, joyous and safe holiday season and a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2015 meeting. Mr. Hairston moved that the minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Mr. Zak. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Conway-Turner gave highlights from her written report. The full report and attachments were included in the board materials and are attached to these minutes. She then introduced the academic presentation for the Council. This November members of the Buffalo State faculty partnered with their students, student organizations, and other campus entities to introduce a new initiative, the Black Cross Project. The goal of this project was to start a campus wide dialogue about race and the meaning of social justice in the United States. It took place from November 8 through 13, and was highlighted by a panel discussion, "Race, Violence, and the Struggle for Social Justice," on Thursday, November 12, at 12:15 p.m. Professor Bill White, director of faculty development and professor of social and psychological foundations of education conceived the project and shared it with the Council. Bill came to Buffalo State in 2007 after completing his doctorate in Education Theory and Practice at West Virginia State University.

Professor White spoke about the Black Cross Project (see attached). He also thanked College Relations for all their help. The project can be viewed on YouTube under The Black Cross Project. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gou9YCmmvC4>

## **Committee Reports**

### Facilities

Vice President Mike LeVine delivered the report on behalf of the Facilities Committee (see attached). The report was informational, no action was taken by the Council.

### Naming of Buildings and Grounds

Ms. Dobmeier asked Mr. Zak to report on behalf of the Naming of Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Zak presented a resolution to name the Painting Studio in Rockwell Hall 231 in honor of Todd and Kimberley Brason. Mr. Zak called for a motion to approve the proposal. Ms. Dobmeier moved that the resolution be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Brinson. The motion carried by unanimous vote (see resolution attached).

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to move to Executive Session: In accordance with Section 105 of the New York State Open Meetings Law, to discuss personnel and proposed pending or current litigation matters. Ms. Brinson moved that the Council enter into executive session; the motion was seconded by Mr. Brost. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Council voted to forward a letter to SUNY Chancellor Zimpher and Provost Alex Cartwright outlining recommendations to address issues discussed in executive session. Ms. Dobmeier asked for a motion to move out of Executive Session. Ms. Brinson moved to end executive session and Mr. Zak seconded the motion. The council moved out of executive session back to regular meeting status.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Brinson moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Zak seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bonita R. Durand", enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

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