

**Buffalo State
State University of New York
COUNCIL MEETING
February 9, 2021 4:00 PM
Zoom Meeting
MINUTES**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Linda Dobmeier; Mr. Todd Brason; Ms. Melissa Brinson; Mr. Allen “Pete” Grum; Mr. Charles Naughton; Cindy Odom; Mr. Robert Zak and Student Representative Jennifer Mauk.

FACULTY & STAFF PRESENT:

President Katherine Conway-Turner; Provost James Mayrose; Vice President for Finance and Management, Laurie Barnum; Vice President for Student Affairs, Timothy Gordon; Vice President and CIO, Jackie Malcolm; Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Jim Finnerty; Dean, Graduate School, Kevin Miller; Incoming Dean, School of Arts and Sciences, Brian Cronk; College Senate and Associate Professor Biology, Associate Professor, Academic Affairs, Amitra Wall; Assistant Provost, Academic Success; Heather Maldonado; Associate Professor, Anthropology, Susan Maquire; Interim Executive Director, Marketing and Communications, Jerod Dahlgren; Leadership Gift Officer, Institutional Advancement, Katheryn Ross-Vinnie; Senior Staff Assistant, Finance and Management, Brenda Durfee; Director, Student Achievement Program, Academic Success, Ashley Martin; Chair, College Senate and Associate Professor, Art and Design, Bhaki Sharma; Staff Assistant, Presidents Office, Melissa Slisz; Graduate Student, President’s Office, Katlyn Keane.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Dobmeier called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Ms. Dobmeier welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all attending remotely.

ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Dobmeier called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting. Mr. Zak moved that the minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Brinson. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Dobmeier asked President Conway-Turner to deliver her report to the Council.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Conway-Turner thanked Ms. Dobmeier. She Welcomed all to the meeting. She had some brief division updates that she thought were important for the Council to know and can be found in her report (see attached).

President Conway-Turner introduced Vice President Tim Gordon he reported on Student Affairs Updates (see attached).

Student Affairs

Vice President Tim Gordon reported for the committee (see attached).

Facilities

Vice President Laurie Barnum reported for the committee (See attached).

Government Relations

Associate Vice President for Government Relations William Benfanti prepared a report (see 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 the results of the Annual Self-Evaluation of the College Council; Mr. Naughton moved that the Council enter into executive session; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Odom. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Council took no action in executive session. Ms. Dobmeier asked for a motion to move out of Executive Session. **Mr. Zak** moved to end executive session and **Mr. Naughton** 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. **Mr. Zak** moved to adjourn the meeting and **Mr. Naughton** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at **5:08 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Crystal J. Rodríguez Dabney, Esq., LL.M.

Secretary to the Council



**President's Report
To the
Buffalo State College Council
February 9, 2021**

Progress Report, Updates, and Significant Accomplishments
Since the November 17th, 2020 meeting.
Prepared by: Kate Conway-Turner, President

Academic Affairs

Divisional Highlights for the President's Report to the College Council
February 9, 2021

School of Education

In an effort to remain connected to our global school partners, the International Professional Development Schools (IPDS) is developing online discussion options. Using the free platform Padlet, participants will explore educational topics together – sharing ideas, experiences, and resources across continents.

ELEEL Lecturer **Patricia George** was awarded the **Dr. Barbara R. Frey Faculty Award** in Education for her consistently outstanding teaching, and her work outside the classroom incorporating service with content, especially to promote global teaching skills including the Global Book Hour, the Global Literacy Channel and the Global Literacy Blog. This award recognizes extraordinary faculty leadership benefitting Buffalo State College and most specifically the students at Buffalo State that goes above and beyond the leadership exhibited in the classroom.

Faculty in ELEEL worked with Shelbymarie Amos, an education major who is also an RA in a residence hall for first-year students, to administer a survey of first-year students in the residence halls at Buffalo State and all first-year education majors, determining their experiences in entering college during a pandemic. The survey showed how much education majors appreciated lawn signs delivered by faculty members or by mail (96%), other interaction with faculty (52%), and interaction with other students via social media (38%) before entering college. This research has been submitted by Shelbymarie for presentation at a national conference.



School of Arts& Humanities

- In November, the School of Arts and Humanities celebrated the life of Dean Benjamin Christy with a virtual ceremony.
- Representatives from across the School and Arts and Humanities met with counterparts from the Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts to begin the process of expanding our college access/dual credit program in an effort that has already resulted in new dual credit courses being available to BAVPA students in Art and Dance.
- The Communications Department honored three alum for their contributions to communications in the Western New York area: Therese Fuerst '03, MS in PR Management, a PR/Advertising lecturer in COM and founder/president of Fuerst Consulting Corporation; David Morales '12, BA in Media Production, WKBW-TV photojournalist; and Mark Hall '11, BA in Media Production, creative director of commercial production at WGRZ-TV.
- English Department alumnus and CWP faculty member Roy Bakos opened the highly praised restaurant Café Godot https://buffalonews.com/entertainment/dining/7-new-buffalo-area-restaurants-cafes-you-might-have-missed/article_36c17ad4-1a02-11eb-81eb-5b98ef303139.html
- The Richard H. and Patricia E. Garman Art Conservation Department celebrated its 50th anniversary with a two day conference focused on making the world of art conservation more diverse and inclusive.
- Throughout the Fall semester numerous activities that would normally be held face-to-face were held virtually, including a research and creativity celebration within the Communications department, a faculty-student colloquium series offered by the Philosophy department, a concert series offered by the Music department, a video version of the English department's Drop Hammer reading series, and an art exhibition featuring the work of faculty members from the Art and Design department.
- A big success was our production of MOTHER C by Ansley Valentine, a virtual adaptation of Mother Courage and her Children by Bertolt Brecht. Ansley is a playwright of color, and a world premiere. We had a diverse cast, student designer, and alumni video editor. It was free to students and we had viewers from around the country and even internationally.

School of Natural and Social Sciences

- Geography and Planning. In fall 2020, the Department hosted a panel session titled "Race, Class, and the City: A Climate Change, Environmental Justice and Housing Panel", with guest Eric Walker, climate justice strategist for NYSEDA and cofounder of People United for Sustainable Housing. The panel, including Drs. Camille Holmgren and Jason Knight, focused on how long-standing racial and economic inequalities in the American housing system are being amplified by the impacts of global climate change. This panel session explored how housing and climate justice, with a focus on historic conditions and challenges, can provide opportunities and a pathway toward just housing and energy systems in Buffalo.
- ESSE. After focusing on installation of planetarium systems during the fall 2020 semester, Professor Williams will begin on the INNOVATE (Incorporating New and Novel Opportunities in Visualizations, Arts, Technology, and Education) in the Planetarium project, which is set to start during the first week of the spring semester. To date, 36 faculty and staff from across campus have signed up for the program. After getting a virtual orientation to the various planetarium systems and capabilities, participants will be assigned to smaller groups with related interests. From there, the groups will work on projects using the planetarium that could include short projects such as once-a-semester visits by a class to the planetarium to longer projects that will be developed over several semesters. The INNOVATE project is aimed at expanding use of the planetarium beyond astronomy to include other sciences as well as other academic and support areas across campus.
- HND/Psych. Jessica Kulak, assistant professor of Health, Nutrition, and Dietetics, and Kimberly Kamper-DeMarco, assistant professor of Psychology, recently published their paper, "Measuring Support for Requiring Reduced Nicotine Cigarettes: Issues with Questions, Answers, and Respondents," in the peer-reviewed journal Health Behavior and Policy Review. They coauthored with Lynn T. Kozlowski of the University at Buffalo's School of Public Health and Health Professions.
- Physics. Dr. Arjun Pathak, Assistant Professor of Physics, published nine peer-reviewed scientific articles in 2019-2020, including one in Nature Communications as a first author (equal contribution). The research published in Nature Communication was highlighted by the Office of Sciences, US Department of Energy as a Science Headline on their website Dr. Pathak has included Buffalo State undergraduates as co-authors on some papers and has recently prepared a multi-year grant proposal.
- ICHP. In concert with the President's Campus Smoking Taskforce, ICHP's Center for Health and Social Research (CHSR) is participating in the preparation of a campus training workshop focused on how UPD will enforce the impending marijuana legalization legislation in dorms and on campus. The workshop will include how legalization may impact the Clery Act, edibles and other forms of cannabis, and other related topics.
- HSSE. Museum Studies graduate students prepared a virtual exhibit for Western New York Heritage magazine. They did an extraordinary job telling local history through analysis of a painting. Over the last two years, WNY Heritage has published Museum

- Studies faculty and student research, and has now expanded into hosting virtual exhibits. https://www.wnyheritage.org/content/art_iron-_a_virtual_exhibit/index.html?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=western_new_york_heritage_late_january_update&utm_term=2021-01-28
- GLC. Mark Clapsadl secured a one-year extension for the NOAA funded project “Implementation of a Regionally Distributed Observing Network to Support Critical Stakeholder Needs for the 2016 – 2020”, GLOS-RA Cooperative Agreement (\$22,925). As part of this project, Mark Clapsadl worked with GLOS to acquire a new Lake Erie buoy valued at \$21,957 for Buffalo State. We expect to take delivery of the buoy in February 2021 and deploy it in the lake for the upcoming season. The GLOS buoy project received over 19,000 web visits in 2019 and over 7,500 during the very truncated 2020 season.
- ICHP. The Center for Health and Social Research’s (CHSR) federally-funded Drug Free Communities grant supports Buffalo’s West Side Youth Development Coalition (WSYDC), which has been selected as a distribution partner for the City of Buffalo’s Division of Citizen Services’ Wintermission project called “Winter in a Bag”. CHSR staff collected 40 bags of resources (e.g., family games, weatherization kits), and WSYDC will partner with the Jericho Road Community Health Center to distribute the bags to under-served families on Buffalo’s west side. The aim is to encourage healthy family bonding and provide alternative prosocial activities to families, especially in light of the COVID stay-at-home situation. A note of interest: Buffalo State is within the boundaries of WSYDC, so some students may live in the targeted area.
- ICHP. The Learning, Engagement, and Development Services (LEADS) division of ICHP trains front-line social services workers across NYS through funding from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (NYS OTDA). In response to the COVID pandemic, LEADS pivoted quickly to provide services remotely to OTDA. Staff designed, implemented, and analyzed survey data to help OTDA determine and prioritize needs of the front-line trainees/workers statewide. LEADS staff provided online training for 3400+ front-line workers so they could meet the increased demand for temporary cash and food assistance using mobile apps. LEADS staff also helped man a hotline to assist getting food to children who were, prior to COVID, getting it at school. These positive outcomes were dependent on LEADS’ successful development of adapted curriculum (over 300 hours of work). LEADS staff also provided remote training and executive coaching to support supervisors and managers of NYC’s Department of Social Services.
- Geography and Planning Dr. Jason Knight received two grant awards in Fall 2020 to study housing issues in our local community:
 - Two County Housing Needs Assessment, Local Initiatives Support Corporation and Partnership for the Public Good (\$21,375 Buffalo State portion, \$42,750 total)– Funding to complete a two-county housing market and policy analysis with Dr. Russell Weaver, Director of Research for Cornell’s ILR Co-Lab Buffalo. The work will identify current and future housing needs, with a focus on the overwhelming need for affordable housing. The project analyzes the geographic characteristics of housing and households and seeks to determine gaps in the

housing market based by determining the mismatch between the identified needs and preferences of households and the inventory of existing housing.

- City of Tonawanda Zombie and Vacant Property Study, Round 2 (\$20,050)– Through funding from the NYS Attorney General from the national housing foreclosure settlement, we are supporting the City of Tonawanda with the development of GIS/GPS-based applications to track and monitor housing conditions, especially homes that have been, or are in the process of being, foreclosed upon. This is a continuation of work completed under a grant from Round 1 of the program.
- Mathematics. Dr. Bruce Swan serves as the Chief Editor of the International Journal of Data Analytics. The first issue of 2021 has been completed and is now viewable online. Dr. Valentin Brimkov had a paper accepted for publication in the Journal of Combinatorial Optimization entitled “Optimal conditions for connectedness of discretized sets.”

School of the Professions

- Fashion and Textile Technology major, Cassidy Demons, was chosen as one of the winners of the Fashion Scholarship Fund's 2021 Scholarship award and will receive a \$7,500 scholarship for her case study "The New Generation - Bridging the Gap by Doing What is Right, Right Now."
- The NYS Business Plan Competition – with students supported by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC)- is on for 2021; students create a business plan and compete regionally, then statewide. Buff State students have done very well in the past, so please continue to support the program- Sue McCartney will send info to send to students in February
- Social Work faculty member, Cathy Mazzotta, was on Channel 2 news in December regarding coping with stress and anxiety during COVID.

Graduate School

- Graduate Student Association (GSA) started an initiative to offer graduate students virtual professional development sessions. They are called Gab with Grads. The session format is a 20-minute presentation followed by safe space open discussion. The first, *A Conversation of Justice*, was offered on November 19, 2020. The guest speaker was Dr. Tim Gordon, VPSA. GSA is planning to offer four Gab with Grad sessions in the spring 2021 semester. The spring topics are Grant Writing (February), Interviewing (March), Networking (April), and Crucial Conversations (April).
- Shifted Fall 2020 Graduate School Open House to virtual offering through Slate, departments hosted sessions in October & November – Spring 2020 was done on campus the Friday before full remote instruction was implemented.

1. Attendance: 114 registered (unique – some registered for multiple sessions), 134 total registrations, 71 attended – these numbers are larger than in recent past open houses.
 2. Will likely continue to host Open Houses in this manner as it seems to be preferred by students and faculty.
- The Graduate School engages with a local community organization.
 - At the request of VP Malcom, the Graduate School and Financial Aid Office presented to AmeriCorps members of City Year Buffalo on Graduate Opportunities at Buffalo State, December 11, 2020.
 - Members indicated they look forward to applying to BSC after their service year.
 - The Graduate School will follow up with the People and Operations Director of City Year Buffalo to collaborate on ways to meet the needs of their members and promote our graduate programs.

Civic and Community Engagement

Buffalo State's important role as an anchor in our community continues to grow and expand as we all see the impacts of COVID-19 and the economic downturn on our communities, particularly our neighboring low-income communities of color. Buffalo State continues to deepen outreach and partnerships to extend the college's resources into the community while simultaneously providing applied learning and civic engagement experiences for our students.

- **Community-Engaged Learning:** 48 faculty offered 83 community-engaged learning courses which involved 1,272 students with 55 community organizations in the fall semester. Students addressed community priorities including food insecurity, education, housing supports, and arts education. Remote projects are still providing students with applied learning experiences that support student learning and address the growing community need we face as a result of COVID-19.
- **Bengals Dare to Care:** Over 1,100 students, faculty, staff, and community members joined in-person or watched recordings of the four Bengals Dare to Care interactive sessions in fall 2020. Open Buffalo, Boys and Men of Color (A Say Yes Buffalo Initiative), Kirby's Corner, MOCHA Center were among the community partner organizations which helped to facilitate critical conversations about racial equity through the Bengals Dare to Care programming.
- **West Side Promise Neighborhood:** Continued funding from Rich Products was secured to extend the WSPN staff position through June 2024. As a significant aspect of Buffalo State's mission as an anchor in our community, WSPN continues to improve the lives of children and their families living on Buffalo's West Side. New initiatives resulted in fall 2020 as a result of COVID-19 include efforts to better coordinate food supports for residents throughout Buffalo's west side and coordination to address the digital divide evident in under-resourced communities.
- **Voter engagement efforts** educated, informed, and involved students in the 2020 elections. Videos, social media, and outreach efforts were utilized by the Civic and Community Engagement Office to inspire and encourage students to recognize the importance of active election participation, and collaborations with Open Buffalo particularly focused on voter engagement with communities of color. Specific activities included a weekly drop in hour to ask voting questions, voter registration and ballot drop

off, and a dorm storm project to educate residential students about voting. Data about voter turnout will be available to determine impacts of these efforts and determine Buffalo State student voter turnout trends.

- **Community Academic Center:** Remote classes were provided refugee youth and adults to support English language learning, assist individuals prepare to take the US citizenship exam, and support youth transitions to US school-based learning. Participation numbers are being calculated, and resources to support remote technology access are being pursued. Efforts to return to in-person programming in the old Grant Street library continue to progress.
- **Social Justice:** A sizeable donation was secured from an anonymous donor and plans to implement a Social Justice Faculty Externship are being finalized. The externship will allow faculty/community organization partnerships annually, bringing faculty into the community to learn about social justice efforts that can influence and impact their classroom instruction, and will allow community organizations to benefit from faculty expertise through a reciprocally beneficial project which may include research, professional development, or assessment for example.

Small Business Development Center

- Deeply engaged in E-Commerce initiatives. The center is providing one to one intensive assistance to small business owners to advance their on-line marketing and web site enhancement in order for them to be more competitive and successful doing business on-line. The center – with specialized funding – has retained five top marketing firms in the region to provide intensive e-commerce assistance to local business owners.
- Specialized Training for Restaurant Owners - we provided workshops on all aspects of keeping a restaurant compliant and in business during Covid. We teamed up with Dr. Till – Buffalo State Professor and the leading regional expert on restaurant and food safety to present several sessions to restaurant owners. We also held a blockbuster event called “Get Your Restaurant Ready for Winter” (some suggestions included: igloos, blankets, fire pits, seat warmers, and lots of hot drinks)
- Collaboration with elected officials: For the past year we have served on the Erie County Business Task Force led by County Executive Poloncarz. This has expanded the Buffalo State business assistance network. We have also coordinated with Congressman Brian Higgins to develop a program that provides all the basics for applying for disaster financing, micro loans, ECIDA financing and more. The launch is February 2.
- Our engagement with minority and women owned businesses has expanded with a generous gift of a private individual. This funding has allowed us to hire a Buffalo State CIS senior. The student oversees software and management that lets him provide MWBE businesses with the most current government contract opportunities.
- This past fall, we produced a conference focused on Blue Economy – water based economic development. Called: Blue Economy 101 – Ecology, Tourism, and the Law. Speakers focused on water- based ecology, water- based tourism, and the laws and policy that protect our water resources.
- Day to Day – we provide one to one confidential counseling - helping Western New York businesses to survive and ultimately thrive.

Continuing and Professional Studies

Veteran's Day

- The Military and Veteran Services Office partnered with WNY Higher Ground to provide three virtual programs to our campus community during the week that included Veterans Day. The first was targeted to students and featured an Ask a Vet session, where participants could ask Buffalo State students who have served about their experiences in the military. This session featured Kevin Reynolds, a Buffalo State alumnus who served in the military and now operates a software company out of Baltimore. The second session was for faculty and staff. The session featured an overview of services provided by the Veteran and Military Services office, as well as a presentation by Trey Randle, manager of the WNY Chapter of Higher Ground, on statistics, characteristics and ways to effectively engage with the veteran student population. The final session was facilitated by Natasha Roseboom, also of WNY Higher Ground. Natasha facilitated an experience called the Mindful Mile, which is used as part of a retreat program she hosts with military and veterans at Bever Hollow Conference Center. The Mindful Mile is an outdoor walking experience that engages the participant in mindfulness exercises. Natasha composed a version of the activity that utilized the perimeter of Hoyt Lake, for ease of use for the Buffalo State community.

New Partnerships

- *Riverside Academy*
Riverside Academy, partnering with Buffalo State as part of the Blue Economy, has entered a new agreement for 51 students to participate in the Dual Credit program. Students will receive college credits for a combination of the following courses: Environmental Biology, Intro to Business and Principles of Personal Training.
- *Nassau BOCES*
Approximately 20 students in the Nassau BOCES Health and Wellness program will participate in dual credit with the intention for matriculation in Buffalo State's Health and Wellness major.
- *American Negotiation Institute*
The CPS office will house the course "Negotiation and Conflict Management", an asynchronous 10 part program, developed by the American Negotiation Institute (an affiliate of Ohio State University). We are the 4th college to offer the program, and will receive 40% of all course fees.

Council/Committee Work

- *SUNY Continuing Education Collaborative*
The Continuing Professional Studies office is now a member of the SUNY Continuing Education Collaborative, a quarterly gathering of Continuing Ed professionals from

across the SUNY system. This group discusses on-line learning, credentialing, and recruitment for the lifelong learning audience.

- *SUNY Association for Special Sessions*
The Continuing Professional Studies office is now a member of the SUNY Association for Special Sessions. This group discusses enrollment, marketing strategies and facilitation of summer and winter terms.
- *WNY Apprentice Council*
A group comprised of industry, community and both secondary and higher education partners from the WNY region. The Council is led by New America, through the Partnership to Promote Youth Apprenticeship, and aims to create a pipeline for high school students that is inclusive of job placement and educational support.

Honors

- In the Fall semester Honors worked with M&T to provide 3 career-related seminars to all Buffalo State students – they were advertised through Honors and the Student Leadership and Engagement office:
 - Resume Building & Networking
 - Interviewing & Communication Skills (Virtually & Non-virtually)
 - Life in a Corporate Environment: What to ExpectStudents who attended really enjoyed and learned a lot! Many students mentioned that the topics discussed were things they hadn't thought about but really appreciated.
- M&T and Honors launched a year-long mentoring program with diverse students in business, political science, math, computer, and several other majors and professionals from the northeast region of the Law division at M&T. Fifteen students (mostly juniors and seniors) are paired with 15 law division employees at M&T. Pairs are meeting about once a month to talk about a variety of topics. Here is the story of one of our student mentees <https://suny.buffalostate.edu/news/buffalo-states-honors-program-partners-mt-mentoring>
- Honors held two, 2-part, Time Management workshops with Professor Randaccio in the fall. These were virtual and well-attended.
- Honors held a Jackbox Games night just before finals as a fun, stress-relieving, social event. The 25 students who attended loved it.

Instructional Design & Technology

- Instructional Design & Training collaborated with the Creative Studies (CRS) academic department to facilitate an Online Course Review process. Dr. Gerard Puccio initiated the conversation with Instructional Design & Training to form a faculty cohort where individuals could engage in self-reflection and discussion for continuous improvement of the online course offerings. Within the cohort, Brooke Winckelmann facilitated conversations about instructional design elements of Course Overview and Information, Course Technology and Tools, Design and Layout, Content and Activities and Interaction, Assessment, and Student Feedback.

Eight of the department faculty who teach within the Creative Studies (M.S.) program participated in this research-based process to review how instructional design and pedagogical effective practices can be applied to online courses, while also working towards a coordinated look and feel of their Blackboard Learn courses. By creating a brand image for the department it creates a seamless transition for students as they move from one course to another and enhances the student experience. The CRS faculty each completed a self-review and engaged in a peer review with colleagues to provide feedback on their courses. The final step of this process once any changes were made through the faculty feedback was a review by the campus instructional designer. The course design review process uses Buffalo State's customized version of the Open SUNY Course Quality Review (OSCQR) rubric.

Finance and Management

Divisional Highlights for the College Council
February 9, 2021

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING

Vice President for Finance and Management Laura Barnum continues to serve as Agency Executive for the campus response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She is designated by the President as chief administrator responding to the public health emergency. University Police Chief Peter Carey is serving as Incident Commander.

Since the last meeting of the College Council in November 2020, , activity within Finance and Management has focused on:

Business Continuity

Resource Planning: Buffalo State has launched the 2021-22 [strategic resource planning process](#) (SRPP) to address budgetary concerns exacerbated and accelerated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The SRPP provides a framework for linking the vision, priorities and people of Buffalo State in a flexible system of evaluation, decision-making and action. At a time when it is especially critical that we make data-driven decisions, the SRPP aligns resource planning to help Buffalo State achieve its overarching institutional and unit objectives.

As part of an ongoing effort to inform members of the campus community about significant financial concerns, including cuts to direct tax support and their implications, VP Barnum has used the [Bengal Business Forum](#) – a new campus forum for discussion about finance and administrative matters – to inform the campus community about integrated resource planning in general and Buffalo State’s SRPP in particular. She will provide a budget update to the College Senate on February 12.^z

Financial Operations continues to capture COVID-19 costs and other financial data as requested by SUNY System Administration for weekly submission

Administrative Services is implementing procedures for spending controls that oversee and constrain spending in the categories of salary-related expenditures and hiring practices, non-salary-related expenditures (OTPS spending constraints), and controls on capital project expenditures

Campus Operations

Custodial Services continues to implement a comprehensive cleaning and disinfecting plan that includes disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and focuses on preparations for cleaning when there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.

The Environment Health and Safety Office provides educational guidance and personal protective equipment to help maintain a safe campus community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Surveillance Testing of Employees

The offices of Human Resource Management, Events Management and Environmental Health and Safety are partnering with colleagues in Student Affairs to organize COVID-19 pool testing of Buffalo State faculty and staff members. In accordance with a recent directive from SUNY, the college will test, on a weekly basis, 100 percent of those employees required to report in person to campus to complete some or all of their work obligation.

Regular surveillance testing is being accomplished via self-administered saliva tests. Pool testing—combining samples from several people and conducting one laboratory test on the combined pool of samples—is used to quickly identify and address potential outbreaks within our campus population.

FACILITIES

Buffalo State proceeds with implementing its facilities master plan despite limitations necessitated by the COVID-19 environment. Projects of note include:

Dart Street Project

In 2019, Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown and President Katherine Conway-Turner announced that the college affiliate, BSCR Corporation, had been chosen as the designated developer for [166-170 Dart Street](#), the current site of the City of Buffalo Impound Lot. The site is located on the western campus border, adjacent to Buffalo State Building 50 and parking lot G-20. In fall of 2019, Buffalo State and the BSCR Corporation issued an RFP for development of the site.

During fall 2019 and winter 2019-20, the BSCR Corporation received and reviewed responses to an RFP requesting development plans for the site. Public aspects of the Dart Street project were paused temporarily due to COVID-19, but resumed with a [virtual public exhibition](#) on September 14. At this online event, RFP respondents described their [visions for development](#) of the Dart Street site. Feedback on the three proposals was collected from the campus and broader communities through October. Responses to [frequently asked questions](#) provide details about the project. Next steps include a final review of the proposals and a recommendation of the preferred concept. Final approval rests with President Conway-Turner.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the BSCR Corporation requested an extension to the original 18-month designated developer agreement (DDA) timeline for developing a plan for the 8.8-acre parcel and completing purchase of the property.

Science and Mathematics Complex

Buffalo State has completed an extensive renovation and construction project that has created the state-of-the-art Science and Mathematics Complex. This multi-phase, 10-year, \$100 million project has created classrooms, science teaching and research labs, a planetarium, a café, student lounge and study space, a greenhouse, faculty offices, a bright and welcoming atrium, an outdoor geo-garden and a bioretention garden.

The complex houses the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences and Science Education, Mathematics and Physics; and the Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS

The Student Accounts Office is nearing completion of the process to transfer delinquent collections operations from Mercantile Collections Bureau to the SUNY Student Loan Service Center.

UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The University Police Department (UPD) continues to play a major role in the campus response to COVID-19 through the Emergency Response Planning Group and the COVID19 Incident Management Team.

UPD Police and Criminal Justice Reform Training Initiatives

During January 2021 all UPD personnel were trained in this NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services course by UPD Officer Raven Harvey. Officer Harvey has been trained as a trainer in this curriculum. The training is being conducted by police departments throughout New York State.

The second phase of the course is intended for the campus community. Officer Harvey will develop the course and UPD will invite the Campus Safety and Community Policing Committee to participate. The curriculum covers the key topics of:

- Police legitimacy
- Community policing and engagement
- Goals in policing
- Fair and impartial policing
- Dignity and respect when interacting with campus community

In the past four months UPD personnel have been trained in:

- Communication strategies to reduce or eliminate the need for the use of force
- De-escalation in responding to calls that could escalate into a use of force situation
- The UPD de-escalation policy
- Crowd management and the Buffalo State Public Forum Policy
- Legal updates related to police and criminal justice reform
- Ethics training for police officers

Institutional Advancement

Divisional Highlights for President's Report to College Council
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Development Highlights

- \$3M pledged gift from Dr. Nancy A. Chicola who served as Elementary Education and Reading Department chair for seven years and, after retiring to half-time work, coordinated international initiatives for the School of Education. Her research and published work cover several areas including the internationalization of teacher education. She previously established two endowed funds in support of the International Professional Development Schools (IPDS) with 6-figure gifts.
- Secured a \$100,000 anonymous gift in to endow a Social Justice Faculty Externship Program.
- Renewed support from the Rich Family Foundation for our West Side Promise Neighborhood programs.
- A \$10,000 gift in support of this year's commencement speaker from Dr. Lee Ann Grace. Dr. Grace is associate professor emerita of Spanish at BSC. She served as associate dean of Arts and Humanities, director of international education, and assistant dean for international and exchange programs. She previously established an endowed fund in Music with a 6-figure gift.
- Successful Calendar year end appeal of \$105,000 with gifts from over 589 alumni.
- Secured over \$16,000 in donations received to date, with several hundred alumni stories collected through PCI or oral history project.

Alumni Highlights

- In collaboration with Institutional Advancement, Student Affairs and the Marketing & Communication Department launched the Oral History Project to collect the stories of alumni for inclusion in a commemorative publication for the 150th Anniversary - worked with the vendor on outreach to alumni and friends (web site, e-mail, mail, phone); **Collected 8,128 stories to date.**
- Hosted a virtual Trivia Night for alumni in the Dallas/Ft Worth area
- Created an e-newsletter for the Foundation Board of Directors
- Solicited Class Notes from alumni for inclusion in the next issue of the 1300 Elmwood magazine
- Promoted the Alma Mater competition to alumni via e-mail and social media

- Launched a new cohort in the mentoring program that matches current students to mentors who work at M&T Bank; created assessment tools to monitor the success of the program and evaluate expansion to other employers
- Reconfigured the Alumni & Visitor Center to meet current safety protocols; assisted the Weigel Health Center to convert Costello Hall into a pop-up Covid testing site

Equity and Campus Diversity

Divisional Highlights for President's Report to College Council
February 9, 2021

Social Justice Sub Committee Selected:

The newly formed Social Justice Sub Committee of the president's Equity & Campus Diversity has been successfully convened. The Co Chairs will be Yanick Jenkins, Director of Educational Opportunity Program and Laura Hill Rao, Director of Civic & Community Engagement. More info can e found here, including the list of the sub-committee members: [Social Justice Subcommittee Co-chairs | Daily Bulletin | SUNY Buffalo State College](#)

Diversity Dialogue

Our three-part Diversity Dialogue Series has gained a reputation for combining the use of interactive activities and dialogues as a means for participants to discuss issues of diversity, inclusion, conflict, and social justice. The Equity and Campus Diversity Dialogue Series has also been hailed for its ability to bring together Buffalo State's students, faculty, and staff.

Diversity Speaker Series Inaugural Event

Prior to COVID, President Conway-Turner indicated her desire to begin this important speaker series that would attract speakers to discuss pertinent topics in the area of Diversity & Inclusion. While we look forward to the day this will be an in-person event and attract members from both the campus and surrounding community, the inaugural event will be virtual. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, an Anti-Racist scholar who will join us for a conversation on "Confronting Racism in America"

Please register for this event by going here: [Equity and Diversity | SUNY Buffalo State College](#)

IDEA Award – Buffalo Business First

While diversity represents demographic differences such as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and disability, inclusion means a feeling of belonging and how well employees are valued, respected, accepted and encouraged to participate in an organization.

"Business First is pleased to continue to celebrate the people and organizations that promote diversity and inclusion in Western New York," said John Tebeau, president and publisher of Business First. "As you learn more about the honorees, we know you will agree that their stories are inspiring."

For more information about this recognition, please go here: [Winners announced for IDEA \(Inclusion Diversity Equity Awareness\) Awards - Buffalo Business First \(bizjournals.com\)](#)

Buffalo State's Chief Diversity Officer asked to sit on Burchfield Penney Art Center's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Collaborating with our community and campus partners in this area is important. I am honored to have been asked to sit on this committee and help them shape their mission vision and forward-facing plan in the area of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

Updates made to Title IX Training/Forms

2019-2020 saw many changes and updates in this area. Working in conjunction with Student Affairs and the Dean of Students, we have successfully updated forms, notifications, and complaint procedures. This brings us into compliance in this area and also streamlines the process making it easier to track and report incidents.

Implementation of SUNY Wide Campus Climate Survey for Faculty/Staff/Students

Required by New York State law and SUNY Board Resolutions, the [Biennial SUNY Uniform Campus Climate Survey](#) is a great example of a cooperative approach by dedicated professionals at System Administration and on SUNY campuses. The 2021 survey will follow the same process and use the same systems as the successful 2019 survey. The CDO's have been charged with implementing this process. In partnership with the Dean of Students and members from our IT department, we have begun implementation and will have a calendar of deadlines and responses to ensure full inclusion.

PRODiG

The State University of New York (SUNY) Comprehensive College Consortium is accepting applications for the PRODiG Fellowship. This two-year fellowship is designed to build a more robust pipeline into the professoriate at regional comprehensive campuses for historically under-represented minority faculty and women in STEM fields. Personalized mentoring is a key component of the program to develop fellows' pedagogical readiness for future faculty appointments in addition to support for their scholarship and research.

Successful applicants will be late-stage ABDs enrolled in an accredited doctoral program in the United States with an approved dissertation proposal at their home institution and be authorized to work in the U.S. without a visa. Recent post-doctoral applicants are also eligible and encouraged to apply.

For more information about the program and participating campuses please see <https://www.suny.edu/prodig/fellowship/>

CDO Completes Advanced Certificate in Diversity & Inclusion from Cornell University – March 2021

Diversity and inclusion has become a highly specialized profession and an increasingly essential core function in today's organizations that is vital to nearly every company's mission. In response to the growing complexity and depth of the field, the Advanced Diversity and

Inclusion Certificate is designed to help diversity and inclusion practitioners in a variety of functions gain in-depth knowledge of emerging trends in D&I and develop strong D&I strategies that drive organizational effectiveness and results.

Through this comprehensive series of live virtual courses, I am developing the skills needed to engage both employees and managers in initiatives that support diversity, inclusion, and belonging. I'm learning to create and enhance a culture of engagement and practice D&I not only as a means to increase business performance but also as a force for innovation and collaboration. The program has better equipped me to leverage D&I as a competitive advantage on multiple fronts.

MSI Designation

The CDO, along with VP Malcolm are in the process of applying for recognition as eligible for Titles III, V, and VII grant programs. Institutions that meet the requirements for eligibility (Core Expenses and Needy Students) of these grants, are designated as Minority Serving Institutions which in turn make us eligible for more funding to support our students.

Updated Name/Gender change Process procedure for both students and employees

The Registrar's Office recently announced two important expansions to the services provided regarding student names:

Additionally, HR put out its Name change process for employees. More information about these services as well as the new [Name Change Form](#) (PDF, 200 KB) can be found on the Registrar's [Forms and Services](#) web page.

[New Services Available to Students: Name Change Form | Daily Bulletin | SUNY Buffalo State College](#)

CDO to Develop Implicit Biased & Microaggression Training for Campus

I am excited to be developing this training for our campus, which is now required for PRODiG funding. College Council members are welcomed to participate.

Student Affairs

Divisional Highlights for the President's Report to the College Council
February 9, 2021

Student Affairs has created several informational videos to for students to welcome, inform, and engage students. Below are a sample of the videos:

- Vice President's Fall Exiting Message
<https://youtu.be/wSFld1AKrTc>
 - Vice President's Spring Welcome Message  [20210122_154428000_iOS.mov](#)
 - Dean of Students Spring Welcome Message  [20210119_211437000_iOS.MOV](#)
 - Residence Life Spring Check-in Message  [20210120_213455000_iOS.MOV](#)
-

3rd Quarter Unit Highlights

COVID-19 continues to create many new challenges for the division. As situations change and resources shift, divisional staff is assisting other areas in the college and division where possible.

ATHLETICS

- Provided over 2,200 hours of service to the college in support of COVID initiatives.
- Trained 3 athletic trainers in pool testing protocols and procedures.

RESIDENCE LIFE OFFICE

- Responded to more than 3000 emails.
- Supported 124 quarantine and isolation students.
- Held over 300 programs with 2,818 total student participants.



Problem solving is
scary.pdf

- Resident Assistants conducted over 900 intentional interactions conversations with residents.

DEAN OF STUDENTS

- "Support A Student Project". In conjunction with Academic Affairs, this care package project is designed to reach out and supports students while in quarantine.
<https://giving.buffalostate.edu/student-care-packages>
- Provided over \$27,000 to students in Emergency Relief funds
- Distributed an Election Week Program poster that listed several collaborative programs.
- Over 170 resource contacts, include 59 contacts related to the Emergency Relief Fund

- Care Team contacted 58 students regarding mental health and academic concerns
- Responded to over 360 student emails for assistance for Deans Office on various topic.
- Hosted 2 BSC Consent Convo workshops with students on the issue of positive consent.
- Assisted over 150 students in quarantine & isolation by answering their questions via phone or email. Delivering their meals, meeting student need by working with campus experts to adjust room the climate and conditions.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

- Over 6,000 social media engagements; @LifeatBuffState Engagement, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter
- Over 300,000 views of on-line content
- Over 1,225 messages posted to via social media.
- Nearly 100 programs are scheduled as part of our Virtual Programming/Weeks of Welcome Calendar for the Spring 2021.



- 276 students are registered for spring orientation.

DINING SERVICES (CHARTWELLS)

- Over 1,000 students have participated in the weekly virtual cooking class, Teacher Kitchen Tuesdays



- Delivered over 12,000 meals to quarantine students.
- Donated over \$6000 in the fall to Milligan's food pantry.
- The video below demonstrates how students can order meal delivery from their mobile app.



Buffalo State Dining
Meal Delivery Process

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

- Over 110 hours of staff training dedicated convert job, graduate, and internship fairs virtually.
- 864 hours for student Zoom drop-in hours. Converted all workshops to virtual.

WEIGEL WELLNESS

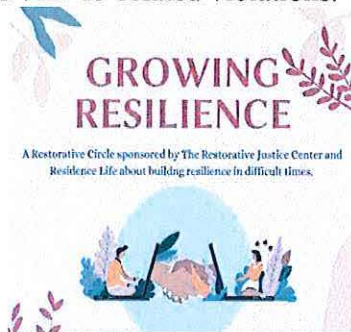
- There were 115,348 campus tracker responses completed and managed.
- The Counseling Center has made over 1,477 contacts with students; 500 telehealth video counseling appointments; and 650 daily wellness check-ins to students.
- In a recent survey of telehealth services in a fall 2020 satisfaction survey 88% of respondents endorsed a rating of very satisfied or satisfied.
- The Counseling Center started a YouTube channel to make programming more accessible for students engaged in online learning with pre-recorded workshops to assist students with adjusting to distance learning and COVID-related grief.

<https://youtu.be/mcxNP49Y4fM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyLRd6EzzVY>

STUDENT CONDUCT AND COMMUNITY STANDARDS

- Student Conduct and Community Standards had 5 Restorative Justice Circles for students. Topics included responses to violations, voting rights, and the Anne Frank Project.
- Followed up on 11 COVID-19 related violations.



Information Technology, Market & Communications

Divisional Highlights for President's Report to College Council

February 9, 2021

Information Technology

Enterprise Systems (ES)

Enterprise Systems staff are continuing to work with the Project Management Office in the conversion of paper-based forms to electronic, we continue in the development of the capability to upload financial aid documents via Banner Self Service, and we anticipate the implementation of an online change of major form sometime this quarter. During the last quarter, ES staff put together a 'forced survey' within Banner Self Service targeted to commuter students, and some tweaks needed to be made to the spring term version of that same survey.

We continue to work with PMO, Institutional Research and other teams on campus, participating in work related to the Data Warehouse project, the Banner 9 Self Service upgrade, and the Mongoose texting 'opt in' project. We also continue to provide reporting related to the recent Medcat Covid-19 implementation, and work continues with various upgrades to Microsoft SQL-server installations housed on campus.

Degree Works has been upgraded to version 5.0.4 in development (testing in progress), and we anticipate the production upgrade happening sometime in June. We are in the process of performing work related to the creation of the new School of Arts and Sciences. Our involvement will be primarily in making programmatic changes to Admissions, student, catalog and master schedule records within Banner, and we are working closely with staff from Academic Affairs, the Registrar's Office in order to ensure those updates are accurate.

On top of project work, operationally, on a daily basis, we continue to process and complete hundreds of requests and close incident reports, including ad hoc reporting requests, requests for patches and upgrades, account access requests, and changes to existing account access. This work is primarily related to Banner, but also related to access to other platforms such as Blackboard Learn, Degree Works, Slate and the Bengal Success Portal (Starfish).

Enterprise Information Systems

EIS continues to work with Facilities and the contractors to complete the final punch list items for the Phase IV construction of the Science & Math Center. We have started working with Facilities on the planning for the renovation of the Classroom Building. This initially involves the planning for the surge projects that will happen this spring and summer in Buckham Hall and Cassety Hall.

Our project to migrate all intrusion (burglar and panic) alarms to the current security software has continued with Moot Hall added to completion list. These upgrades will provide University Police with an updated and more reliable way to monitor these alarms across campus. We

continue to make many changes and updates to the access control system on campus to support the ongoing safety efforts during the pandemic.

We are continuing to work with University Police to upgrade their voice recording system that records all emergency phone calls and radio transmissions together with upgrading them to Voice over IP phones that will provide them with additional incoming call capacity. We have continued to add capacity to servers and systems to support the ongoing remote work and teaching as we plan for the spring semester.

We worked with Weigel Health Center and Human Resources to migrate the Faculty and Staff to the COVID-19 daily health checks system that the students have been using so there is a consistent platform across campus. Developed and implemented our return-to-work plan for the spring semester. Assisted with COVID-19 testing of students and faculty/staff. Will be assisting with the testing again during the spring semester.

Institutional Research

As part of the Enrollment Resource and Planning Taskforce, the Institutional Research Office Launched various tableau dashboards that are now available to Deans and Chairs in support of the 2021-22 Strategic Resource Planning Process.

There are two categories of dashboards for users - an Enrollment Metrics dashboard and a Financial Metrics dashboard.

The Office of Institutional Research is planning to work with the Provost's office to provide training to support users for these dashboards. A communication is expected to come from the Provost's office soon outlining the training offerings.

The Office assisted in the preparation of the Enrollment, Budget and Retention report to the college senate and all the affiliated committees (President Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Retention, the College Senate, the Budget and Staff Allocation Committee, the Enrollment Resource Planning Task Force and its two subcommittees (Financial and Enrollment Metrics).

The office continues the implementation of the A4Learn data warehouse and is making substantial progress. The integration of Banner and Blackboard is on-going with test data from fall 2012 to Spring 2021. Twelve super user accounts that were created for testing and validation of Blackboard analytic reports are discarded and was replaced approx. 112 network accounts for users to explore.

In Collaboration with Say Yes and its partners, the office of Institutional research will take part of a sub-award proposal entitled "Research Practice Partnership for Postsecondary Success Among English Language Learners and students with Education Improvement Plans (IEP) in high school." As a result, our office is a writing partner for the grant and the director will serve as a principal investigator for the college. The office also assisted in putting together a comprehensive 2 year \$400k budget disbursed across the partnership for this research grant. This includes a two-year continued partnership with (UB, BSC, Medaille, Villa Maria, Erie Community College and Buffalo Public Schools.

The office continues to provide technical support to the Office of Financial Aid from reconciliation of students that applied for the CARE Act Grant, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), Student Outcomes Tracking (SOT) to transitioning business intelligence to the staff. The CARES website and disclosures for final CARES grant disbursements was updated. Report for the SUNY CARES grant audit was created to list every applicant with specific data from the application, along with any paid amounts and the dates of the payments.

The Student Satisfaction Survey was administered to all fall 2020 enrolled students that were 18 years and older. The focus was class instruction mode, awareness and support for COVID-19 safety measures, plans to attend BSC in Spring 2021 and concerns with attending in-person classes. The survey was analyzed, and detailed report was shared with the CIO and summary was also created to be shared with the chair of the senate. The office generated various PIF Grant Analyses and Statistical Test (Summer Bridge, Peer Mentor Program for fall 2019 and Spring 2020.

Technology Support Services (TSS)

Provided support for numerous Remote Desktop tickets and training. Handled well over 120 registered in-person visits to the Helpdesk. TSS had a number of COVID test volunteers and will have more for the spring semester. Even though we do not officially support Zoom we have provided assistance when necessary. Worked on providing software for the spring semester. Continued to work on and refine software assessments. We can now track outside expenses using the Report an Asset/TechFee Expense ticket types. The Classroom Support office moved to Bulger 204. All areas of TSS created and edited Knowledge Base articles for the campus. Provided assistance on the 150 anniversary videos. We continue to upgrade operating systems all over campus. Continue to work on the O365 project while also implementing the SCCM Cloud Management Gateway. Updated numerous software licenses and server applications.

Admissions

Throughout the past quarter we have followed the approved 2020-21 Recruitment Plan. We have implemented new admissions practices and scholarship policies in Slate to accommodate the test-optional mandate issued by SUNY for 2020 and 2021. Currently applications to the SUNY system are down approximately -16% for fall and -14% for spring.

For much of the past 8 weeks our priority has been on our spring applicants. We release decisions daily for this group and have opened additional times to connect via virtual appointments. We held 817 virtual events this quarter and met with 2,831 students over the course of these programs. The events ranged from admissions presentations, virtual open house programming, virtual college fairs, school visits, events for transfers, as well as one-on-one appointments with admissions and our ambassador team. Admissions trained and supported Orientation to host Virtual Orientation through Slate. Numerous enhancements have been realized through this collaboration. The Slate-Banner integration with Constituo has been completed. We trained, tested and deployed the AI Chatbot in late December. Additionally we have developed two new API based integrations between Slate and Capture and our Chatbot vendor to automate file delivery and upload.

During this past quarter our office went from operating on campus, transitioned to fully remote post-Thanksgiving and now back to operating out of our offices as of January 11. Our spring recruitment and yield efforts are underway as we bring a close to the spring application cycle.

Financial Aid

During this review period, the Financial Aid Office (FAO) completed the following business processes:

- Due to changes in Campus-based aid regulations, transferred \$215K FWS to FSEOG to ensure that the College could deplete all 20-21 Campus-based allocations; thereby, preventing allocation reductions in future academic years.
- Assisted VP&CIO with the implementation of the new Pathway to Finishing Scholarship. This funding source is designed to help eligible students register for the upcoming semester by paying their outstanding balance down to \$499. The scholarship opened on 1/5/21 via CAPS; to-date, we have awarded 62 students totaling \$113K (rounded).
- Completed the final reconciliation steps required by the College to fully close out the Federal Program Review audit with ED.

Completed the CARES Student sections of the HEERF annual report due on 2/1/21. Provided detailed answers and supporting data files for the CARES Student audit being conducted by SUNY Audit.

Registrar

1. Completed Testing of new setup process for adding minors/Micro Credential plans into Banner. This new process was required for setup of new Qualtrics form. Completed setups in Banner PROD and updated processing documentation. Staff will begin processing student requests for adding a minor or micro credential form under new process on February 1st.
2. Developed a new process to send Unofficial transcripts to Graduate School so they can attach the transcript to graduate student applications. This will allow current Buffalo State students the ability to apply to graduate school without paying for a transcript.
3. Fall 2020 degree review and awarding was completed on December 30th, two days after end of term processing. 446 student records were reviewed, and 383 degrees have been conferred.
4. Completed testing for the Registrar's Office's piece of the Combined Pathways concept for the Graduate School's CP pilot initiative, to make sure we could accomplish this in Banner and Degree Works. Needed to determine:
 - a. What forms in Banner need to be adjusted to accommodate the CP initiative?
 - b. Can Banner apply both UG and GR level credit to students participating in Combined Pathways, and have those credits apply to both UG & GR degree programs?

- c. Also, does the GPA calculate a grad course along w/ug courses correctly for the term that both levels of coursework are taken?
- d. Does Banner create both UG and GR transcripts for the Combined Pathways courses?
- e. Can Degree Works appropriately show Combined Pathways students?

**The Registrar's Office testing was successful, and we feel confident that we are ready to implement this initiative whenever the green light is given.

- 5. Assisted with the Cohort updates to student records for students that participated in the Online Summer Engagement Program. The list of 1,062 students was provided by Agnes Zak-Moskal, director of First Year Student Success (Nov 2020)

Marketing and Communications

As the college closed out an unprecedented fall semester and prepared to return for the spring 2021 semester, the Marketing and Communications Office continued its central role in communicating essential information related to Buffalo State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to regular updates to the Coronavirus Information site and the college's COVID-19 dashboard (which is updated by our Web Team daily, including holidays), MarComm staff disseminated multiple messages across platforms related to exit testing and the operational impacts of Erie County's Orange Microcluster Designation. In January, staff worked closely with the Incident Management Team, Human Resources, and Student Affairs to develop informational communications to prepare for a safe return to campus this spring.

In December, MarComm's Creative Services unit collaborated in new ways to produce the President's annual holiday cards (print and video). The [video](#), which featured an incredible performance of "What a Wonderful World" by students in the college's music program, was widely praised on and off campus. Design elements were consistent across the video production, print card, web presence, social posts, and e-blast.

MarComm also continued its enhanced support of undergraduate and graduate recruitment efforts, including web updates, email template and publication designs, digital advertising, social media marketing, and writing/editing support. MarComm has worked closely with undergraduate admissions in recent months to revamp elements of the admitted student comm plan. Additionally, collaboration has increased with the Graduate School, most notably on preparations for marketing efforts related to two new programs: Business Management and Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

Preparations are also underway in advance of the college's 150th anniversary celebration in 21-22. As a preview, MarComm's video team produced a [new video](#) to generate excitement for the celebration. The video was debuted across the college's social channels in January. The 150th will also be previewed in the next issue of *1300 Elmwood*, which is currently in the final stages of production (mailboxes in mid-to-late February).

MarComm has also written and produced a number of stories and posts to celebrate and highlight the college and its community, including the [Fall 2020 Dean's List](#), [faculty expert commentary on the January 6 Capitol Insurrection](#), [the new dean in the School of Arts and Sciences](#), [a top-40](#)

[national ranking on the Social Mobility Index](#), and [a preview to the upcoming virtual lecture with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi](#). Additionally, MarComm found creative ways to show Buffalo State's support for our beloved Buffalo Bills. Feature stories were written about the [psychology of fandom and how the Bills season has uplifted our community](#), as well as [a profile of Del Reid](#), a 2004 Buffalo State graduate and co-founder of the #BillsMafia. And on social media, [Benji](#) [donned a Bills jersey around the City of Buffalo](#) ahead of the AFC Championship game, marking one of the college's most-liked Instagram posts over the years.

Project Management

The team continues to work on multiple IT projects, while adopting new ways to manage campus software contracts. Thorough assessment of each project request has proven to be an effective tool in finding broken business processes and software that does not work as expected.

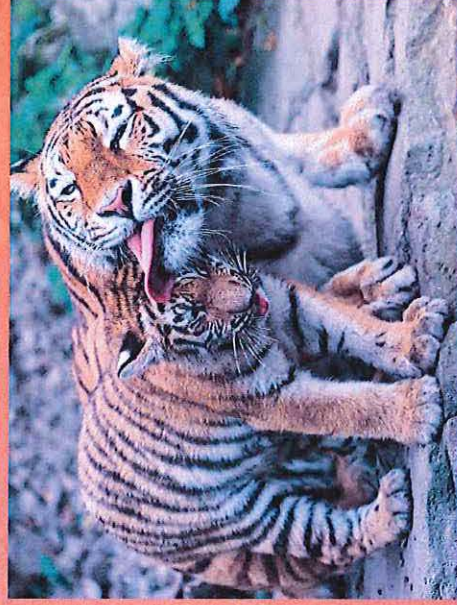
The Wufoo migration project helped us discover a great need for an online payment solution. Having a centralized payment system would ease the financial audit process and allow departments bring in extra revenue. We are working with Finance and Management to make this happen. The software assessment process (Starfish, Kissflow) helped us empower the non-IT stakeholders by providing everything they need to make an informed decision to renew or not to renew the contracts.

Lastly, we continue to collaborate with CIS by hiring a new intern for Spring 2021.

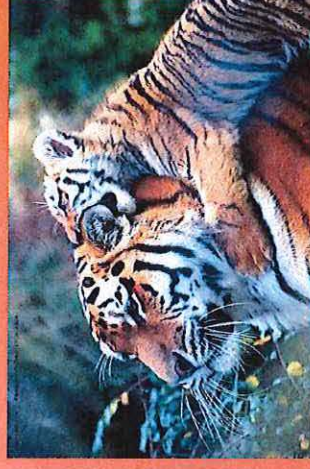
Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Conway-Turner, Ph.D.

Supporting students through Covid19:



#team nosleep



Efforts by the numbers

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

Cleveland Hall 513 studentaffairs.buffalostate.edu

Since March of 2020, the Division of Student Affairs (and others at the college) have been working to support students through the pandemic.

What does it really require and mean to do this?



STUDENT AFFAIRS
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} *believe. inspire. achieve.*

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

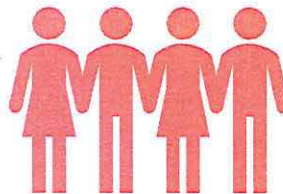


Inaugural E sports team
engaging **142** students and
80 hours of staff planning
and support



Weekly Spin2Win on-line weekly game
show with over **4,000** viewers

Student Engagement



2,200 work hours for
Athletics staff t in support
of COVID responses



73 Bengal Ambush
programs with over **8,300**
student engagements



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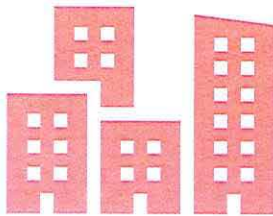
} *believe. inspire. achieve.*

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

Student Engagement (con't)

Checked in over **1,600**
residents into the
residence halls



5 Restorative
Justice Circles.



Over **1,000** students have
participated in the weekly
virtual cooking classes,
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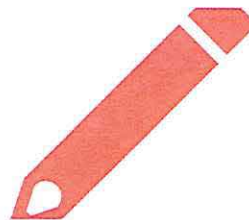
Student Affairs

Student Engagement (con't)



Coordinated and assisted over **150** students in the quarantining & isolation on campus.

400 students participated in Virtual **1,000** Thanks & Giving Program to recognize and appreciate staff and students



300 programs to by RAs and over **900** intentional interactions conversations with residents



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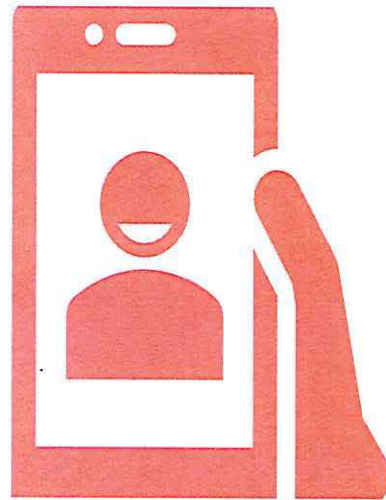
BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

Student Engagement (con't)

Over **370** graduate students participated in the Virtual Graduate and Professional School Fair, in collaboration with SUNY Fredonia

150 students and **18** employers participated in The Virtual Luau for Part-time Jobs and Paid Internship Job Fair



83 student teacher candidates participated in Career Development Day for Student Teachers

99 programs scheduled as part of our Virtual Programming/Weeks of Welcome Calendar for Spring 2021



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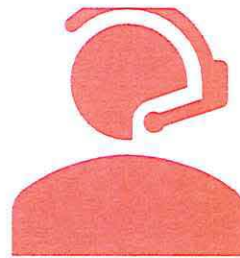
Student Affairs

Supporting Students

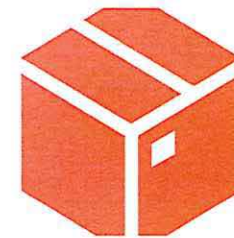


Over **12,000** meals
delivered to quarantined
and isolated students

500 telehealth
video counseling
appointments



Over **115,348** campus
trackers completed



“Support A Student Project”.
In conjunction with
Academic Affairs, **51**
faculty/staff donated over
132 care packages designed
to reach out and supports
students while in quarantine



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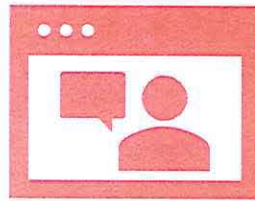
BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

Supporting Students (con't)

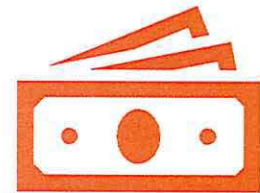


650 daily wellness
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58 students contacts
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and academic concerns
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\$27,000 to
students in
Emergency Relief
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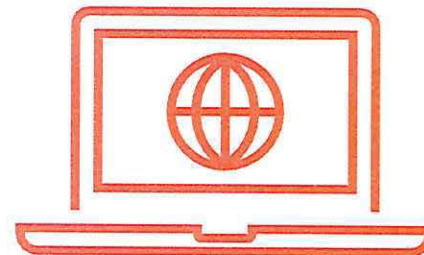
Student Affairs

Social Media



6,000 social media
engagements;
@LifeatBuffState
Engagement,
Facebook, Instagram,
Twitter

Over **300,000** views of on-
line media content



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BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Student Affairs

Questions



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BUFFALO STATE

The State University of New York

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Timothy W. Gordon, Ph.D.
Vice President, Student Affairs

Student Affairs
Vice President's Office
1300 Elmwood Avenue, CLEV 513
Buffalo, NY 14222-1095
Tel: 716-878-4704

College Council Student Affairs Committee
Committee Report for meeting of January 19, 2021
Held via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/94736776659?pwd=VlAyZVA1OXF1ZE5UVm1lOE9PUVBrZz09>

ATTENDING: C. Naughton (Chair), T. Gordon (Staff), M. Hairston, C. Odom, J. Mauk
Meeting Began at 8:05a and adjourned at 8:35a

1. COVID-19 Updates

Dr. Gordon shared update the requirements for residential/those take in person courses/student returning for the spring semester including: 7 day off campus quarantine; proof of negative PCR Covid19 test; completion of tracker and phased return of residential students. He also shared the plan to test 100% of students weekly.

A question was raised by C. Naughton about if the college would be offering vaccine and/or serving as a site shared that many campus members fall in the 1a or 1b category though the student body is not yet included and the state continues to ration vaccine and the college has not been able to receive it's initial allocation

2. Athletics

Gordon shared that no decision at conference level has been made and practice, per NCAA guidelines, was Proposed in the campus spring restart program.

3. Dean of Students

It was shared the Dean of Students office continues to work with student in crisis and to provide emergency funds for those that qualify. Gordon shared that a renewal gift of 50K was issued though the foundation has indicated that they will discontinue gifts of this type to institutions after this year.

4. Residence Life

Gordon shared the Tower 3 renovation was awarded LEED silver status and is another example of the campus doing renovation in sustainable ways.

6. Student Leadership and Engagement

Gordon shared that the committee can view scheduled virtual events on the SLE website and that once again a series of programs is planned for February and exploring the breadth of the African American and African Diaspora.

7. 150th Reminder

The alma mater competition and special features in 1300 Elmwood were highlighted to remind the committee of the approach of the 150th celebration in September 2021

8. Other Items

Naughton took the time to again recognize the breath of planning and work being done by the team at Buffalo State and the high level of quality and effort.

9. Adjourn at 8:35a

Facilities Report to the College Council

February 9, 2021

<http://facilities.buffalostate.edu/>

The Facilities Committee of the College Council met on December 1, 2020, to review the status of Buffalo State construction projects. The committee discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on facilities planning, design and construction, as follows:

- In March 2020 Buffalo State was subject to Governor Cuomo's halting of non-essential construction in New York State. Buffalo State coordinated with the State University Construction Fund, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York and SUNY on plans for restarting projects as appropriate.
- In April 2020, the New York State Division of the Budget (DOB) issued a bulletin preventing new contracts for capital projects, except to remedy imminent threats to health and safety. Currently there are 12 projects on hold, awaiting approval from DOB.
- Projects in the construction phase are proceeding when they will protect health and safety, or when they are nearly complete.

The current status of projects in as follows:

Projects in Planning and Design during Fall 2020



166-170 Dart Street

The BSCR Corporation, a college affiliate, has been chosen as the designated developer for **166-170 Dart Street**, the current site of the City of Buffalo Auto Impound Lot. The property is located on the western campus border, adjacent to Building 50 and parking lot G-20.

During fall 2019 and winter 2019-20, the BSCR Corporation received and reviewed responses to an RFP requesting development plans for the site. Public aspects of the Dart Street project were paused temporarily due to COVID-19, but resumed with a virtual public exhibition on September 14, 2020. At this online event, RFP respondents described their visions for development of the Dart Street site. Feedback on the three proposals was collected from the campus and broader communities through October. Responses to [frequently asked questions](#) provide details about the project.

Next steps include a final review of the proposals and a recommendation of the preferred concept. Final approval rests with the Buffalo State College President.



University Police and Campus Operations Center

Building 50 was built in the 1950s and acquired by the campus in 2003. It was constructed for manufacturing but has been used by Buffalo State as a storage facility. This 92,000 square foot building is in great need of rehabilitation.

This renovation will provide appropriately designed space to accommodate the University Police Department and the custodial, grounds, moving operations and property control and sustainable programs units; renovate warehouse and dock space to add much-needed storage for several departments; and create a better link to the main campus pedestrian spine and designated visitor parking areas. The completion of this \$14.8 million project will make possible the re-use of Moore Hall for much-needed student life and dining functions.

Construction is under way on a storage structure to house road salt currently being held in Building 50.



Program Study for Moore Hall

Moore Hall was built as a dining hall to serve Moore Complex and the Towers. Currently the building is being used by the custodial services and property control and sustainable programs offices, which will relocate to Building 50 once that facility is renovated.

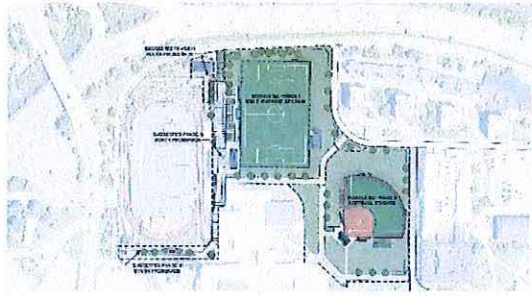

The facility and housing master plans indicate that Moore Hall should be returned to student life use. The campus has performed a program study to determine the best uses for this building. These may include, but are not limited to, food service, multipurpose programming space, lounge space, and a convenience store.




Classroom Building

The Classroom Building, built in 1972, retains most of its original systems and its space configuration. These no longer meet the needs of our students and faculty.

This project will provide study and lounge space for students and address the teaching needs of our academic departments. It will add an identifiable south entrance to the building, increase natural light, improve wayfinding and replace building systems and finishes. A deep energy retrofit (an energy conservation measure in an existing building that improves building performance) will be addressed. This will be a phased renovation with a total budget of \$78 million.

	<p>Before construction can begin, all building occupants must be relocated. Surge space will be designed and built in Buckham Hall A-Wing and Cassety Hall. All occupants are expected to be relocated in August 2021, before the start of the fall semester.</p> <p>Phase 1 construction, including demolition, abatement and the exterior envelope, is expected to begin in September 2021.</p>
 <p>CIA Buffalo State College Athletic Field Replacement Study Preliminary Concept Phasing Plan March 10, 2021</p>	<p><i>Athletic Field Study</i></p> <p>During construction of the Science and Mathematics Complex, the campus gave up an outdoor competition field temporarily. Buffalo State has recently conducted a comprehensive study to determine the best location for the NCAA-regulation replacement field. The broader objective of the study was to envision a destination outdoor athletic and recreation complex.</p> <p>Phase 1 construction will replace the lost field. It will include a press box, bleachers, scoreboard, sound system, lighting and concessions.</p>
	<p><i>Civic and Community Engagement Center</i></p> <p>Originally an attendants' home at the Buffalo Psychiatric Center, NYS Office of Mental Health Building 15 is currently mothballed. Ideally located near Rockwell Road, the Burchfield Penney Art Center and Hotel Henry, it is envisioned as the future home of Buffalo State's Civic and Community Engagement Center.</p> <p>The college has developed a business case and program scope for the civic and community engagement building concept; the next step is to determine how the concept would fit in Building 15. A study will determine project scope and costs for renovations.</p>

Projects in Construction during Fall 2020

	<p><i>Iroquois Drive Reconstruction</i></p> <p>This project is reconstructing the roadway, curbs and underground drainage of Iroquois Drive. The concrete retaining wall is being repaired along a portion of the north side. Improvements include new site lighting, storm water retention and treatment, a continuous sidewalk, high visibility crosswalks, sharrows for bicycles and improvements to the green area on the north side of Moore Complex. This is a \$7.9 million project.</p> <p>Delays caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency have pushed back the completion date of this project to summer 2021.</p>
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Projects in Construction during Fall 2020 (continued)



Central Heating Plant Reconstruction, Phase 1

Buffalo State's steam plant is at the end of its life cycle. This project will replace boilers and associated equipment with new and more efficient versions. This will save costs for fuel, operation and maintenance; reduce harmful emissions and potential for harmful fuel leaks; provide a more reliable source of heat and hot water for the campus; and potentially clear space in the building for other service uses.

Projects Recently Completed



Science and Mathematics Complex, Phase 4

Phase 4 has substantially completed this comprehensive, multi-year project with the addition of the spherical, stand-alone Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium, greenhouse, lecture hall, classrooms, offices and labs. The cost was \$35.5 million.



Academic Commons, Butler Library

As part of its Academic Improvement Plan, Buffalo State has co-located and centralized academic support services in Butler Library. The resulting Academic Commons includes academic advising, tutoring, the Writing Center, the Math Center, the EOP Academic Center for Excellence, and Student Accessibility Services. Areas of the first and second floors of the library have been reconfigured and upgraded in this \$15.3 million project.

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
TO THE BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE COUNCIL
February 2021**

The Governmental Relations committee met Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 9:00am to discuss the status of state and federal advocacy. Attending the meeting were Chairman Linda Dobmeier and Council member Cindy Odom.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dobmeier at 9:03am. The committee briefly discussed the results of the recent elections at the state and federal levels and the corresponding potential impact on the SUNY budget. Changes in party control at the federal level, as well as larger majorities for the control in the state legislature, lead to an evolving political landscape for advocacy.

Most importantly, the intersection of federal and state advocacy has never been more significant for SUNY and Buffalo State. There are always issues of significance at both levels of government for higher education. However, given the year-long pandemic and its corresponding impact on the economy, individual student finances; and the subsequent increased costs to the campus and downward pressure on enrollment, the relationship between proposed federal stimulus and the state and campus budgets is particularly vital.

The situation at the federal level has been constantly shifting and evolving over the past few weeks, but we expect that Congress is likely to pass a COVID relief package similar to what was proposed by President Biden. That package, if passed as proposed, would contain significant relief for State and Local governments to make up for losses related to the pandemic.

In anticipation of that relief, the Governor released a state budget on January 19th that was significantly 'better' for SUNY than earlier projections. While estimates last Fall suggested state budget reductions to SUNY could be well in excess of \$300 Million, the Executive Budget proposed an approximately \$69 Million reduction in direct state tax support. This was predicated on the assumption of the receipt of \$6 Billion in federal funding through the COVID relief legislation. At the same time, the Executive Budget restores the previous 20% holdback on campuses.

The Executive Budget also contains a number of key provisions to hold tuition assistance and opportunity programs harmless, extend a predictable funding plan for SUNY including predictable tuition and state maintenance of effort language, enhanced flexibility for some level of differential tuition by sector, continued flexibility with procurement and streamlined program approval. In addition, capital funding is maintained at current levels, divided between campus allocations and system-wide critical maintenance pools.

Of course, this version of the state budget is predicated on the receipt of federal funds, and the impact on the SUNY budget (and by extension the campus budget) could improve or worsen depending on the level of funding that is received by the state.

For this reason, we continue to closely monitor the federal efforts and continue advocacy for a robust COVID relief package, while also reaching out to state legislators to preserve the elements of the Executive Budget as a baseline for moving forward as the State Budget is finalized before April 1st.

Once the budgetary picture is clearer, advocacy may focus on funding for individual projects and initiatives, while coordinating efforts with SUNY advocacy efforts in Albany and Washington, DC.

Submitted by Linda Dobmeier, Chair