

**University at Albany**  
**State University of New York**

***University Council***

Minutes

September 24, 2010

A regular meeting of the University Council of the State University of New York at Albany was held on Friday, September 24, 2010 in the *Edward & Frances Gildea George Education Center* on the East Campus in East Greenbush, New York. Members present were: Daniel Tomson (Vice Chair), Pierre Alric, Robert Balachandran, Patricia Caldwell (conference call), John Fallon, James Jackson, Abner JeanPierre, Michael Stein, and Stephen Guarneri, Jr. (Student Representative); Professor Susanna Fessler (Faculty Representative) and Nicholas Fahrenkopf (Graduate Student Representative).

Also attending were: University President George Philip, Vice Presidents Susan Phillips and Fardin Sanai, Interim Vice Presidents Stephen Beditz and James Dias, Vice Provost Wayne Locust, Vincent Delio (Chief of Staff) and Professor David McCaffrey.

Mr. Tomson called the meeting to order at 1:45pm. He introduced the new student representative to the Council as well as the new faculty and graduate student representatives. Upon motion duly made and seconded (Alric/Balachandran), the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2010 were approved as submitted.

Upon motion duly made a seconded (Fallon/Stein) the Council entered Executive Session at 1:55pm re: Personnel matters. Upon motion duly made and seconded (Alric/JeanPierre) the Council adjourned Executive Session and returned to the regular meeting at 2:36pm.

Moving to the President's report, Mr. Philip noted the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the School of Public Health, which led to holding the Council meeting on the East Campus in the George Education Center to share in the celebration. He observed that \$7 million in new grants had been awarded to the School and highlighted their outstanding accomplishments. He spoke about the Strategic Planning Initiative under the direction of Provost Phillips and commented on the University's Re-accreditation process which led to a very positive report by the accreditation body.

Continuing with his report, he commented on the new Institute for Financial Market Regulation headed by Professor David McCaffrey and the RNA Institute headed by Dr. Paul Agris. He reported that construction of the new student housing project was underway and that other major projects were about to be launched including the School of Business building and the Campus Center expansion. He spoke briefly about the New York Giants Summer Camp at the University and noted that six UAlbany faculty had been named Fulbright Scholars for 2011.

Mr. Tomson acknowledged the accomplishments of the School of Public Health over the years and the development of the East Campus as a biotech center with the construction of the Cancer Research Center. He encouraged Council members to become engaged in the breadth of new institutional initiatives such as these.

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In providing a brief student report, Mr. Guarneri said that students valued the quality of the education they were receiving at UAlbany. He mentioned the World Within Reach Speaker Series which is sponsored by the Student Association and invited the members of the Council to attend the Reception for Barbara Walters, this year's speaker, on October 9 in the SEFCU Arena.

Moving to New Business, Mr. Alric introduced James Dias, Interim Vice President for Research who provided a powerpoint presentation on the University's various Centers and Institutes. Dr. Dias described the purposes of these types of entities and their funding sources, the breadth of their focus and their organizational structures, their relationships to the various academic units on campus and the extent of their fiscal impact on the institution. Questions and comments were offered by Mr. Stein, Mr. Balachandran, President Philip, Mr. JeanPierre, Mr. Tomson, Dr. McCaffrey, and Mr. Fahrenkopf.

Moving to the next agenda item, Mr. Locust reported on the student profile for 2010-11. Referring to handouts, he compared the data with the prior year in describing the data reflecting the incoming classes of freshmen and transfer students. He reported that applications remained high as did quality measures. He also provided data on graduate student enrollment which was close to target. Comments and questions were offered by Mr. Tomson, Mr. Stein, Dr. Jackson, President Philip, Mr. Balachandran, and Mr. JeanPierre.

Moving to the next item, Mr. Alric called attention to the upcoming ACT meeting in Albany and noted that the Council members had received the information and he encouraged the members to attend. Noting that he has been a member of the campus NCAA accreditation committee, Mr. Alric asked that Dr. McElroy be invited to provide a report on athletic activities at an early 2011 Council meeting.

Moving to the final agenda item, Mr. Tomson noted the resolution honoring James Doellefeld, the former Secretary to the Council, and commented on Jim's fine work with both the Council's regular activities and with the Presidential Search. Upon motion duly made and seconded (Stein/Balachandran) the resolution was adopted.

As the meeting came to conclusion, Dr. Chesin called to the attention of the Council members the proposed parking regulations that were provided for informational purposes so that the Council could consider action at the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. President Philip called to the attention of the Council various activities on campus in the coming weeks and highlighted the Citizen Laureate dinner on October 20 and Homecoming Weekend on October 8-10.

Upon motion duly made and seconded (Balachandran/Fallon) the meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sorrell E. Chesin, Ph.D.  
Secretary to the University Council