

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

*University Council*

Minutes  
May 18, 2012

A regular meeting of the University Council was held on May 18, 2012 in University Hall, Room 306. Members present were: Daniel Tomson (Vice Chair/Presiding Officer), Pierre Alric, Robert Balachandran, Patricia Caldwell, James Clancy, John Fallon (by teleconference), James Jackson, Abner JeanPierre, Michael Stein and Student Member Tremayne Price; also Nicholas Fahrenkopf (Graduate Student Representative), Andi Lyons (Faculty Representative), and Canon Kay Hotaling (Alumni Representative).

Also present were: President George Philip, Vice Presidents Susan Phillips, Stephen Beditz, and Fardin Sanai; and John Giarrusso (Associate Vice President for Finance & Business), John Reilly (Senior Counsel, SUNY), Vincent Delio (Chief of Staff) and Gary Roth, the new Graduate Student Representative

Mr. Tomson called the meeting to order at 2:00pm and called for a review of the March 9 minutes. Mr. JeanPierre noted a typographical error in the starting time of the meeting. The Secretary said that a correction would be made to note the correct time – 2:05pm. Upon motion duly made and seconded (Fallon/Caldwell), the minutes were approved with one typographical correction.

Moving to the President's Report, President Philip noted that President Obama had visited the NanoTech Complex and expressed strong support for its work and noted the University and its overall mission. Mr. Philip reported the success of the SEED Program which assists small businesses with loans, primarily funded through SEFCU and working with the School of Business and its related units. He commented on several student research programs and national awards which our students have garnered.

Continuing his report, he pointed to the work being done at the Center for Women in Government and other campus units that have received national recognition including several athletic teams that have achieved success in their national competition. He reported that ground had been broken for the new sports complex and the plan to name the football field for long-time coach Bob Ford. He was pleased to announce that the New York Giants football team will return to campus for their summer camp. He concluded his report by calling attention to the Graduate graduation to be held on Saturday, May 19 and the Undergraduate on Sunday, May 20.

Moving to the Student Report, Mr. Price highlighted a successful Park Fest Concert that raised over \$40,000 for local charities. He also commented on several other student-sponsored programs which support community organizations and the volunteer work that many students undertake for such organizations. He also noted that student elections had taken place with the

election of new Student Association officers. He said that his Council member replacement for next year would be Arthur Rushforth. In conclusion, he noted that this would be his last meeting since he will graduate and said that he felt his service was a wonderful experience. In response, the Council applauded its recognition.

Moving to the Faculty Report, Professor Lyons said that there continued to be faculty interest in the Presidential Search. She reported a new streamlined version of the GenEd requirements had been approved and, in response to a question, said that the new version will make it easier for students to graduate in four years. She noted several issues under consideration by the Senate Executive Committee.

Moving to the Graduate Student Report, Mr. Fahrenkopf introduced Gary Roth, who will serve as the representative next year and noted that GSO elections had taken place and new officers had been elected. As he concluded his report, President Philip commended him for his numerous contributions to the University through his Council service and other campus initiatives.

Moving to the Alumni Report, Canon Hotaling distributed the 2011-12 Alumni Association printed report and highlighted numerous activities that were included. She spoke about several alumni-sponsored events that were held throughout the year, including those that are linked with admissions and development programs. As she concluded her report, Vice President Sanai added comment on the important role the alumni play in bolstering the development program.

Mr. Tomson expressed appreciation to Mr. Price for his service as the Student Member to the Council and upon motion duly made and seconded (Balachandran/Caldwell) a Resolution of his service was adopted with an appropriate certificate presented

Mr. Tomson expressed appreciation to Professor Lyons for her service on the Council and upon motion duly made and seconded (Stein/JeanPierre) a Resolution of her service was adopted with an appropriate certificate presented.

Mr. Tomson expressed appreciation to Mr. Fahrenkopf for his service on the Council and upon motion duly made and seconded (Alric/Balachandran) a Resolution of his service was adopted with an appropriate certificate presented.

Moving to New Business, Vice President Sanai reported several major gifts including a \$250,000 commitment for students in the School of Business and two \$100,000 contributions. He commented on the spring issue of UAlbany magazine which produced some 28,000 copies along with a full on-line copy. He highlighted several alumni/development programs held in recent months across the country and overseas including Korea and Cyprus noting that there were about 150 alumni in Cyprus.

In concluding his report, he asked the Council to adopt a proposal relative to the gift level required for naming the new University Field (copies previously distributed). After brief discussion and upon motion duly made a seconded (Balachandran/Caldwell) the proposal was approved.

Moving to the next agenda item, Mr Alric introduced a proposal for the Council to adopt By-Laws noting that copies had been distributed prior to the meeting. He noted that Mr. Fahrenkopf and Mr. JeanPierre had offered revisions which were included in the current copy. Mr JeanPierre said that the B-Laws at Stony Brook and Cobleskill served as guidance in preparing the document. A brief discussion ensued with a change suggested in the wording of the first sentence of Article V.2. Instead of "The president of the University Senate," it will read "The Representative of the University Senate." Upon motion duly made and seconded (Balachandran/Caldwell), the By-Laws were adopted.

Moving to the next agenda item, Mr. Alric offered a brief report on ACT activities noting that they, too, were reviewing their By-Laws. He noted that the coming ACT Annual Conference will be held on October 10-11 and that all Council members will be receiving invitations. Ms. Caldwell and Mr. Stein added comment.

Moving to the final agenda item, Ms. Caldwell summarized the status of the Presidential Search. She called attention to the Presidential Search website, which provides updated information. She said that the committee had reviewed numerous resumes of candidates and that an additional review will take place at the next committee meeting with the goal of narrowing the pool of qualified individuals to those to be preliminarily interviewed. In response to questions and comments by Mr. JeanPierre, Mr, Balachandran, and Mr. Price, Mr. Tomson said that there was no set date to conclude the search. In addition, with regard to the fact that the current student members of the Search Committee were graduating, Mr. Tomson said that consideration would be given to inviting student replacements.

Mr. Alric moved that the Council convene in executive session in accordance with section 105(h) of the Open Meetings Law to consider the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property. Seconded by Mr. Balachandran and unanimously endorsed, the Council moved into executive session at 3:08pm. Executive session concluded at 3:23pm and the regular meeting returned to session. There being no further business and upon motion duly made and seconded (Balachandran/Alric), the Council meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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