

• COLLEGE SENATE MEETING •

SMS SENATE MEETING SUMMARY-draft

November 14, 2014 Butler 210, 3:00 p.m.

- **Call to Order: meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m.**
- **Senator Carson** spoke to the Senate about the passing of **Associate Professor William Raffel**. He then invited **Senator Marren** up to the podium to give a brief eulogy in honor of his colleague and former Senator. There was a moment of silence before the eulogy closed.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- The Senate meeting agenda was amended to remove BSAC from Committee Reports. **Senator Carson** then asked for the adoption of the amended agenda. **Senator Marren** moved and **Senator Grinnell** seconded. The agenda was approved

3. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of 10/10/14 were presented. **Senator Carson** had two pieces of dialogue/responses on pp. 12 and 13 that needed correcting and clarification from **Provost Ponton** and **VP Payne**. Once this was clarified, **Senator Carson** then asked for the approval of the corrected minutes. **Senator White** moved and **Senator Grinnell** seconded. The Minutes of October 10th 2014 were approved.

4. Year of the Innovator-(YOTI)

- **Dr. Rita Zientek**, Dean of the School of the Professions introduced student and entrepreneur, **James Flemming**, a US Navy Veteran, and Hospitality major. **James** started his own photo booth for events and outings. He explained the concept of his business and other things he is involved in that relates to his major. He also currently works at the Mansion on Delaware Avenue.

4. Remarks of the President

- **President Conway-Turner** gave her report. **Dr. Conway-Turner** briefed the Senate that Buffalo State recently participated in a diversity conference this week.
 - The president also noted that a Town Hall Meetings was planned for December 5th 2014 in the Science and Math Complex (SAMC) in room 272. This meeting will focus on the water issues in the building, as consultants will be on hand to answer questions and discuss ongoing efforts.
 - **Dr. Conway Turner** also said that following other reports on Enrollment and the UPD Margolis Healy report, she would respond to some previous Constituent Questions. The president will also brief the Senate on the recent SUNY Conference.
 - The Public Safety Management report (Margolis-Healy) has been finalized **Dr. Karen Clinton-Jones** gave a brief report/update PowerPoint on the outcome of the report, which is now available online to the entire campus. There was extensive discussion from the Senate floor, and **Dr. Clinton-Jones** responded to all. Following the discussion, **Senator Carson** advised the Senate should read the entire report, and bring back discussion at the December 12th Senate meeting.

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- **Vice President Payne** gave several updates:
 - Reported on enrollment. Gave comparing totals from 2013 and Fall 2104.
 - **VP Payne** also gave enrollment for Graduate students, which are down from 2013.
 - Record number of freshman enrolled this year; 40% more than Fall 2013
 - Final total enrollment: 1,875 vs. 1,348 in 2103.
 - Transfer students are down 5.97%
 - New graduate students are down 2.46%
 - Total Full time student enrollment is: 9,079 Fall 2104. Vs. 9,203 Fall 2013. Holding level unlike Fall 2011 and 2012 where there was a major enrollment decline.
 - There are 261 more students in residence halls.
 - Updated the Senate on the SAT scores and high school tests averages
 - Full report will be available online next week, and more detailed meeting information will be in the full complete Senate Minutes.
 - There was extensive shared discussion from the Senate floor.
 - **President Conway-Turner** also commented on the need to focus on the entire student population, especially the Graduate students. **Provost Ponton** is working with the Graduate School, and looking at the Honors Program
 - This journey to make changes has started, and will be an ongoing process, not getting it all completed in one year.
 - There was further discussion from the Senate floor.
 - **President Conway-Turner** then responded to a couple of Constituent Questions from the previous Senate meeting. She asked Interim CIO of the ISAS Office, **Dr. Bradley Fuster** to respond to the CQ on the recent decoupling of the director position of Butler Library. **Dr. Fuster** stated that an interim director is about to be appointed of a UUP employee. There will be a national search once there is a permanent CIO of ISAS and a new Provost, as **Dr. Ponton** will be retiring. There was extensive discussion from the Senate floor. **Dr. Fuster** responded to all focusing on the original CQ that was asked.
 - **President Conway-Turner** then gave a detailed explanation on the recent SUNY Conference in NYC.

6. Remarks of the Chair, Dr. David Carson (full remarks in the full Senate Minutes)

- **Senator Carson** emphasized that shared governance was necessary, and that any actions that affect the future of Buffalo State are not solely on just one person but a shared alliance.

7. Committee Reports-full details will be in the full Senate Minutes

- **Academic Plan Committee, Senator Jason Grinnell, Chair**
 - Committee work update: “What should a Buffalo State graduate know?”
 - Student Connection, Academic distinctiveness.
- **College Senate Curriculum Committee (CSCC), Senator Karen Sands O’Connor, Chair**
 - Increased interest in developing Minors; DOPS/Minor Policy shown on screen. Currently there are only two lower level classes allowed in a Minor. If there are more exceptions than rules, a change may be needed to the policy. **Senator Sands O’Connor** asked the Senate to email her with any suggestions.

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- **Faculty and Staff Welfare, Senator Amy McMillan, Chair**
 - Committee work update:
 - DOPS policies on Extra Service and on Mid-semester appraisal of student progress
 - Tobacco-free campus, SAMC water
 - Faculty mentoring, satisfaction, etc.
 - Staff mentoring, satisfaction, etc.

- **Instruction & Research Committee (I&R), Senator Kevin Williams, Chair**
 - Committee work update:
 - Also looking at DOPS policies
 - Looking at '721' Graduate class.
 - I&R will have one motion for the Senate at the December Senate meeting.

8. Unfinished Business

- None.

9. New Business

- **UFS Senators Joe Marren and Scott Goodman**
 - Gave report from the recent UFS 168th Fall Plenary meeting.
 - The full report will be in the full Senate minutes and posted to the Senate website. The Senate was also mailed the entire report prior to the Senate meeting.

10. Constituent Questions

- There were several Constituent Questions Senator Carson provided in advance to the president.
 - *Who is in charge of online education?*
 - Yesterday afternoon I received a set of questions about the directorship of Butler Library: *These were addressed in the President's Remarks under Dr. Fuster's report; which will be in the full Senate minutes.*
1. *The internal search process for the interim library director included submission of a vita and letter of interest, a presentation to the campus, a question/answer period, and a feedback form requesting input on the candidates from the campus. The interim CIO was the only person involved in the selection of a candidate.*
 2. *The first question is: Why is it that, in many cases, interims are just appointed without vetting (as with the current interim CIO) while for this interim library director position, essentially a full search was conducted?*
 3. *The second question is: While the reason given for this process was transparency, there has been no justification given for the process followed nor is it clear that it was transparent. There*

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was no search committee and campus feedback was not shared, so how can we be sure the process was transparent?

4. *The third question is: The selection of a candidate for this position was made by a music faculty with no background in the area. Feedback specifically from the library staff (those who would know best) for the process and for the candidates was not solicited. Again, is this the definition of transparent?*

- **President Conway-Turner** stated that full report/answers for the CQ's will be given at the December Senate meeting.
- **11. Adjournment-** The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next Senate Meeting: Friday, December 12th at 2 pm*, in Butler 210. *PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING BEGINS ONE HOUR EARLIER.