



**BUFFALO STATE**  
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**College Senate**

***Meeting Agenda***

November 8, 2019 Bulger-423, 3:00 p.m.

**1. Call to Order**

- Senate Chair, **Joe Marren**

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**3. Presentation of Minutes**

- Minutes of 10/11/19

**4. Remarks of the President**

- Campus-wide.

**5. Remarks of the Chair**

**6. Standing Committee Reports**

- **(APC) Academic Plan Committee** – Jason Grinnell, Chair
  - Committee Update.
- **(CSCC) College Senate Curriculum Committee** – Bhakti Sharma, Chair
  - Introducing Resolution for DOPS Policy Number: IV: 09:00 Subject: Course Number Change
  - Introducing Resolution for DOPS Policy Number: IV: 10:00 Subject: Course Title Change
  - Introducing Resolution for DOPS Policy Number: IV: 11: 00 Subject: Adding, Replacing, and Removing Prerequisites from Courses

>OVER<

- **(I&R) Instruction & Research** – Arlesa Shephard, Chair
  - Returning with revised addendum language to the Online Hybrid DOPS Policy: *(for vote on the addendum language requested by the Administration. Further revisions were requested by the Senate, at the October 11<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. The vote is not on the entire previously approved policy, just on the additional language.)*
  - Introducing a new DOPS Policy on Approved Applied Learning for discussion. Prospective vote at the December Senate meeting.
- **(SWC) Student Welfare** – Chioma Nweke, Chair and Steve Macho, faculty Vice Chair
  - Roster will be presented for approval.

## 8. Unfinished Business

- **GEATFC-General Education Ad Hoc Task Force on Curriculum-Bhakti Sharma, Chair**
  - Updates

## 9. New Business

- **UFS Report from the 183<sup>rd</sup> Fall UFS Plenary in Albany**
  - Report will be presented by UFS Senators, Heather Maldonado, and Joe Marren.
- **UFS resolution to create (EID) Equity, Inclusion and Diversity, Senate Standing Committee**
  - Introduction of resolution to initiate the creation of a new standing committee—Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity (EID) Committee—as part of the Buffalo State College Senate

## 10. Constituent Questions

- *The following CQs were sent to the Chair of the College Senate in advance of the October 11<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. These CQs are addressed to the Administration.*
- **CQ-1-** *Data from loading reports provided by Buffalo State’s Office of Institutional Research show that less than half of the classes at Buffalo State are now taught by the full-time faculty, which is a significant change from just five years ago, when more than half of classes were taught by full-time faculty. Significantly, only 40% of lower-level, introductory courses were taught by full-time faculty in the most recent semester for which data has been made available, Fall 2018. In addition, the Vice President for Finance and Management has referred to tenure-track faculty as “liabilities”. Do you believe that our students are well served by having most classes taught by*

*part-time faculty? Is it your plan for Buffalo State to rely increasingly on poorly paid, contingent faculty for most teaching?*

- **CQ-2:** *What is being done to ensure a sustainable infrastructure for education on this campus? In order to recruit and retain students, faculty are encouraged to expose students to the latest technology and methods in their field and apply learning experiences through interactive labs that are intended to simulate the “real world”. Unfortunately, the campus has limited space for learning technology and building renovations are not designed to support growth (both student growth and infrastructure).*
- **Example 1:** Computers are playing an increasing role in curriculum across disciplines at Buffalo State, but in the last few years, there are fewer open computer labs available to students besides the EH Butler Library. With demand for computer access increasing, the computer lab limitations on campus are concerning.
- **Example 2:** The Technology building is only 6 years old and yet the infrastructure already requires upgrades. Earlier this year, I learned that the building’s electrical capacity must be upgraded to support computer software upgrades. This is a frustration to both faculty and students who have had to work in unreliable computer labs where many of the computers are no longer usable because the software is glitchy and no longer supported on the older hardware.
- **CQ-3: Related Question:** *Buffalo State competes with many nearby schools when recruiting and retaining students. Students now have access to industry technology at 4-year research institutions like UB, at community colleges, and at technology-focused high schools. It is important for Buffalo State to maintain adequate infrastructure for students to apply “real world” experiences on campus. Unfortunately, building renovations and new buildings are coming online with infrastructure problems from the start. This puts a strain on the facilities team who must “fix” the problems and often leads to labs that do not function properly (e.g. non-functioning conditioning labs in SAMC and TECH). What is being done to ensure that as new buildings come online (e.g. the new wing of SAMC and the library) that we as a campus do not need to continually sink funds and resources into maintaining buildings and labs that are less than 10 years old?*
- **CQ-4:** *In your recent address to the campus, you employed the banking industry as a model of modernization. A notable feature of the modernization of the banking industry is a significant reduction in number of tellers, i.e., employees who interact in a face-to-face way with clients. A*

*roughly equivalent change to higher education would see a significant reduction in the number of faculty who interact with students in classrooms. When you and your cabinet plan for Buffalo State's future, is this the vision of modernized education that you have in mind, that is, one with fewer or no classroom faculty?*

- **CQ-5:** *Traditionally, a long-term commitment to full-time, tenure-track faculty with expertise in face-to-face teaching has been viewed as a positive thing since it is an investment in a given college's or university's primary assets, that is, those who provide the institution's primary service of curriculum and education. Yet, if institutions of higher education are likely to move almost entirely online, in keeping with your banking analogy, such a commitment might be considered a liability; in other words, each new faculty hire is a thirty year commitment to an individual who will hinder the institution's ability to modernize. Do you or your cabinet have reservations about hiring tenure-track faculty because they might be an impediment to modernization?*

## II. Adjournment

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- **The final Fall 19' Senate meeting begins at 2 p.m. (one hour earlier) in BULG 215**
- **The UFS President, Gwen Kay from SUNY Administration will be in attendance for our final fall Senate meeting**
- **All Spring 2020 Senate meetings will be held in BULG 217**