



University at Buffalo
Faculty Senate
University Shared Governance
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2024
310 Silverman Library

Attendance: see Appendix 1

Call to Order

Chair called meeting to order at 3:03pm

Agenda Approved

- A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded. All approved.

Actionable Items

- [Minutes from 4/23/24](#) were unanimously approved.
- The Chair moved that the [Agenda for the May 14 Faculty Senate](#) meeting be approved. The motion was seconded. All approved.
- Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges committee amended [changes to UB CAPT](#) motion was seconded and all approved to go to Faculty Senate.
- Amendment to the [Executive Committee Standing Orders](#) around meeting days was seconded and all approved.
- Faculty Senate and Executive Committee [meetings for 2024-25](#) seconded and all approved.
- Resolution to support [the UB Faculty statement on police action on campus](#) approved 10 yes, 2 no, 2 abstain
 - Statement read by student at May 1st event. See Appendix 2
- Agenda for [Faculty Senate/Annual Voting Faculty May 14th meeting](#) seconded and all approved.
- [Advocacy question for student candidates to UB council](#) tabled until fall 2024.

Other Items

- President Tripathi delivered his report.
 - May 1st protest [President's Response](#).
 - Comments
 - Some faculty feel administration's actions were fine.
 - Faculty Senate has yet to pass any resolutions regarding the matter.
 - Who were the outside protesters?
 - Unknown
 - Jewish campus community had peaceful protest with death threats.
- Provost's statement
 - He is committed and concerned with issues the faculty raised in [their letter](#) to administration.

- The Chair delivered her [report](#).
 - Discussion on whether EC needs to suspend the rules to allow the Police Action resolution to go before the Faculty Senate. Does the resolution need to be before the Faculty Senate *at least* one week before the meeting. No, according to the Parliamentarian the EC can add agenda items all the way up to the start of the meeting.
- Discussion around the history of the membership of the executive committee as it relates to the COAL representative and the Chair of Professional Staff Senate. [Amendment](#) from 2016. [Supporting document](#) with links.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Cynthia Tysick
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Appendix 1: Attendance

CHAIR:
Suzanne Laychock - Present

SECRETARY:
Cynthia Tysick - Present

PARLIAMENTARIAN:
Pat Long - Present

ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:
Kerry Traynor – Present

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:
Swathi Karmacheti – Present
Sampson Lee Blair - Present
Sara Metcalf - Present
Liana Vardi - Present

DENTAL MEDICINE:
Michelle Visser - Present

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER:
Marsha Christiano - Present

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:
Sreyasee Das Battacheerjee - Absent
Weifeng Su - Present

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:
Omayra Munoz-Lorenzo - Absent

LAW:
Jorge Fabra-Zamora - Absent

MANAGEMENT:

Prasad Balkundi - Present

MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Margaret DeAngelis - Absent

Thomas Melendy - Present

David Shucard - Present

Phil Glick - Present

NURSING:

Meg Doerzbacher - Absent

PHARMACY:

Erin Slazak – Absent

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Katia Noyes - Absent

SOCIAL WORK:

Lisa Butler - Present

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

John Beatty - Present

SUNY SENATORS:

Amit Kandel - Absent

Kristin Stapleton - Present

Patrick Long - Present

R.J. Multari - Present

PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

Satish Tripathi - Present

PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

A. Scott Weber - Present

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP:
Tilman Baumstark - Present
Graham Hammill - Present

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Jessica Naish - Present
Turquessa Francis - Present
Fred Stoss - Present
Zanaya Hussain - Present
Jenna Diamico - Present
Tania Siddiqi - Present
Mylien Lai - Present
Marla Segol - Present

Appendix 2: Student statement

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

5/7/2024

My name is Zanaya Hussain, I am speaking to you as a graduating senior at the University at Buffalo. I am speaking in support of the proposed resolution to address the response to Wednesday's antiwar demonstration.

Our administration at University at Buffalo has claimed to be committed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and ensure student safety. But from what I have learned is that these are just words, they are just performances. UB can't claim to advocate for students, and support diversity while at the same time send more than 5 different police departments onto your students. UB can't claim to advocate for students and support diversity, when students are being ID'd; stalked; and having their hijabs be ripped off by the same officers our administration has unleashed.

I am well aware of the rhetoric that anti war demonstrations on Wednesday and the activism that has followed is being labeled as perpetuated by "outside community agitators." So is UB not committed to protecting outside community members? The same family and friends of students who were arrested that night? The same who were charged with persona non grata and cannot attend their child's graduation anymore, but are still expected to pay tuition. The same community members who put their bodies in front of students making maghrib prayer? The same students arrested were running away towards Capen Hall. As far as I am concerned, the only outside community agitators are the police departments of the Erie County Sheriff, the New York State Police, and the police departments of Amherst, Kenmore and the town of Tonawanda, and the City of Tonawanda that Tripathi sent to assault us. They were the ones who made us feel unsafe.

As students we learn about injustice and oppression in our classes, and then are expected to stay silent in the face of it. We are expected to comply when our first amendment rights are being violated right before our eyes, to comply with authority even when we believe them to be unreasonable.

Why doesn't our administration want us to be proud enough to shape our school in the way students feel they can be served? I am not proud to be a student at a university who doesn't care

for me. I have become involved at the University at Buffalo in every way I could. I am a Honors College Student a McNair Postbaccalaureate Scholar, I am an Outstanding Senior for my department, I am a College of Arts & Science Student Ambassador, I won the State Department's Critical Language Scholarship, I am a recent recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Students Excellence Award, I served as a TA and UBSA club leader. I've done so much for my university, and yet my administrator refuses to protect me and my fellow students. I am targeted when I wear a keffiyeh by cops who demanded to see my ID when I tried to use the bathroom at a peaceful vigil on Sunday, the same police who have been placing undercover cops wearing hijabs and niqabs at our rallies, and place police who keep circulating my car in the parking lot. I don't know what to do, I can't sleep, I can't focus on my exams, I keep waking up in the night. I keep thinking about my friend who with tears her eyes whispered to me before we began praying maghrib and as armed cops surrounded us and the building, "Zanaya I'm scared." I told her, "I'm scared too." My arms were shaking as I kneeled down to pray, because I knew the moment we finished our salaams at the end of prayer we would be pounced on. I don't know how many times to clarify this, what words I should use to communicate that we were just students sitting in a circle singing songs; making art; sharing food; giving speeches; and praying peacefully before the administration sent in police. Who is the agitator then, who inflicted violence? My friends didn't show up to school the next week, my friend whose head was bashed into the floor of Capen is struggling trying to get through his exams.

This is why I am here, as a practice of hope. Hope is not a feeling or an endless optimism, it is a discipline. Hope is what we must choose everyday through our actions. Hope is adding this resolution to the agenda at the faculty senate meeting so that at least we can attempt to treat our students with dignity and justice. While putting this resolution on the agenda cannot rectify the trauma of Wednesday that will never be forgotten, it is a step of hope.

Thank you all for your time.