Professional Staff Senate
General Membership Meeting – March 28, 2013

Agenda
1. Report of the Chair
2. Report of the Vice Chair
3. Guest Speaker: Thomas B Burrows, Executive Director, The Center for the Arts
4. Guest Speakers:
   - Yasmine El-Gohary, Co-Event Chair, Relay For Life - UB Against Cancer
   - Julie Smith, Advisor for UB Against Cancer (UB Employee)
   - Kristina Groff, American Cancer Society Staff Partner
5. Old/New Business
6. Adjournment

Meeting Minutes

1. Report of the Chair

   - Ann Marie wanted to share some Great News --- the University Police received National Accreditation in Erie County. University at Buffalo Police earned the approval of the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Authorities (CALEA), becoming the only police department in Erie County and one of five in the state to receive national accreditation.

   Schoenle praised Lt. Scott Marciszewski, UB’s accreditation manager, who Schoenle said steered the department through the process, complying with all of the required standards representing the best policies and practices in law enforcement. Marciszewski and Assistant Chief Chris Bartolomei accepted the award on behalf of the department at the CALEA conference on March 23 in Charleston, S.C.

   The CALEA committee doing the assessment described UB’s Police Department as “well-prepared” for this inspection. They found agency files “well-organized and well-documented.”

   “The assessor found the agency to be in compliance with all applicable standards,” the report summary stated. “Performance activities were carried out in a timely manner and required reports and analyses were thorough and concise. Agency personnel were observed to be knowledgeable and professional at all times.”

   “The assessment team found the University at Buffalo Police department to be an excellent example of professional law enforcement. Agency personnel demonstrated this in every facet of their operations.”

   The University at Buffalo Police was the first SUNY Police Department to become New York State accredited in 2007 and now is the only university police department to achieve national accreditation through CALEA in New York State.

   - News from SUNY - As a result of work within SUNY’s Strategic Planning process, Chancellor Zimpher has launched SUNY Voices; an initiative focusing on:
     1. Increasing visibility of SUNY’s unique commitment to system-wide shared governance.
     2. Improving communication and shared decision-making processes throughout SUNY.
     3. Strengthening shared governance within SUNY through short-term and long-term strategies that will promote information-sharing, collegiality, and shared decision-making.
Implementation of SUNY Voices will include holding a workshop for campus governance leaders (CGLs) across the SUNY system. We have 2 CGS’s from UB, Ezra Zubrow – chair of the Faculty Senate and myself.

• **Other SUNY News** – Associate Provost Carey Hatch came to campus on March 21st to talk about SUNY’s Online Environment which is referred to as Open SUNY. The average SUNY student takes 4.4 years to graduate with a bachelor’s degree. One of the goals is to improve the graduation rate thru expansion of online course offerings and a full scale up of OPEN SUNY– SUNY is turning online education on its head. They want to build out capacity for online learning, meaning all online courses will be available across the system, using a universal set of tools and platforms (SUNY Learning Network – Online Course Finder) it will include a financial aid consortium that will allow students to receive support regardless of where they earn their credits. They are opening the same course platform to all 64 SUNY campuses and 34,000 faculty. The official launching date is looking at 2014. They will add 10 online bachelor’s degree programs that meet high-need career demands, piloting three of them this fall. Another goal is to look at credit assessment of prior learning experiences and credit validation for online offerings from high profile, accredited institutions. Online and distance education is here to stay as a major initiative for the next several years. After the May Plenary, I should have more information to share with you on this. Next SUNY Plenary is May 2-4th in Update Medical in Syracuse NY.

• **Bring your kids to work day – April 19**th The official date is April 25, but as this falls on a mandatory NYS Department of Education testing date for grades 3 - 8 we have decided to have this year's event one week prior!

• **Realizing UB 2020** is still being worked on. In January there were two open forums. The feedback from these was given to the provost. He is reading all the feedback to put into the next report. When the next document is ready to be distributed, PSS will continue to review it and provide feedback on it. I will keep you informed. We thought next time we could have both senate bodies come together for the feedback session.

2. **Report of the Vice Chair**

**UBuddy**
The UBuddy committee is currently working on its 1000 points of light map. This is a map of resources particularly for new employees, but that all new employees can use!

**Continuous Improvement Committee**
The Continuous Improvement Committee has launched (confirm with Ann Marie that she sent it) our survey of resources within PSS that have an interest in, or experience with, Continuous Improvement. Encourage everyone to respond.

We are also working on a section of the PSS Website that will house “all information on the work of the committee as well as resources for those interested”.

**Diversity Committee**
Working on a date for an ice cream social.

**Elections Committee**
The call for PSS Senatorial Nominations for 2013/14 will be distributed by email to the membership on Monday, April 8 with a return date of April 29.
The call will be distributed to all five areas with each area’s membership attached. We are asking that before anyone nominates an individual to be make sure that individual is willing to run for this position.

**Staff Development Committee**
This committee will be holding a “Public Speaking” seminar on May 1st (Reading day) in Clemens. A speaker from Toastmasters Cindy Kilburn is the current VP of Education at UB Toastmasters Club. She has been a member of TI within UB Toastmasters Club for 3 years and have also filled the offices of VP of Membership and Public Relations. Within those years, she has won Area 3 and District 65 Western Division contests in Humorous and Tall Tales.
competitions. These opportunities along with years as a public school teacher and corporate trainer allowed her to assure a worthwhile and productive session. We will have lunch; I am estimating a cost of $10 to attend.”

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- Area 1 – Health Sciences Academic Units needs 14
- Area 2 – Core Campus Academic Units needs 25
- Area 3 – Student Support Services Units needs 11
- Area 4 – University Support Service Units needs 5
- Area 5 – University Admin and Operations Units needs 10

If you are interested in knowing what a senator does go to the PSS website under Senators/then click on the Senators Resource Page. The guidelines and responsibilities are listed there.

The only change will be an additional obligation to welcome new employees to PSS and help them adjust to working at UB. That’s what the UB Buddy program is intended for and Kat Kielar is developing a nice outline for buddies to help new employees. It should be ready this summer.

**We are holding the Annual Awards Ceremonies** where we celebrate the winners of the Chancellors awards and the Outstanding Service awards on June 6th this year which is later than we usually have it. Please mark your calendars and attend this event. We are reformatting the entire event to be more exciting and eventful!

3. **Guest presenters:** Thomas B Burrows, Executive Director, The Center for the Arts – giving us an overview and background and current activities of the Center for the Arts. Dave Wedekindt Director of Marketing Center for the Arts - University at Buffalo

Tom began by offering a brief back story on the Center. In its 19 years of operation The Center for the Arts has greatly expanded its activities, including significant growth in programming, rental activity, development, and new initiatives. The Center is to many the public face of the University, and has established a strong identity and presence at UB and within the larger Western New York cultural community. The Center is primarily a stand-alone organization with an annual operating budget of $3.9M. Earned revenues account for approximately 68% of all funding and include ticket sales, rental activity, technical & media services. In addition, there are playbill ad sales, concessions & merchandise sales, and summer program registration fees.

The Center opened its doors in 1994 to a good deal of fanfare and support from the University and, at the time, the Faculty of Arts & Letters. However, within a little more than a year its fortunes changed when a budget shortfall within Arts & Letters resulted in the elimination of the Center’s six-figure programming budget. The Center was also experiencing a good amount of resistance from people who feared the Center would damage established cultural institutions by drawing audiences away from downtown Buffalo.

To borrow a theatrical term, the then Director of the Center soon thereafter exited stage left. When I was selected as the new Executive Director in 1996, Tom came into an organization that was not on stable financial footing and was struggling to identify its place and purpose both within UB and the community at large.

Tom was pleased to report that as of now, the center is in it’s 19th season, the Center is well established, ever evolving, and has enjoyed consistent break-even seasons. But for all the changes and innovations made, the primary mission of the Center has not wavered. This mission is to present a wide range of high quality performing and visual arts for the University, the State and the region, and enhance and augment the academic activities of the fine and performing arts departments at UB. The center is also a multi-purpose facility, providing an appropriate setting for many diverse University and community events. When you factor in rentals, outside production service and video production services, our professional staff plays a role in more than 800 events on campus annually. The outreach activities further enhance UB’s engagement within the community.
Through initiatives such as the Arts in Healthcare Program, the Center serves as a catalyst for cross-disciplinary academic collaboration and scholarly research, while engaging medical professionals and members of the broader community. I will share more details on this Program later on, along with some background on our ongoing Professional Dance Residency Program and School Time Adventure Series.

Throughout the United States and Canada there are very few, if any, examples of university performing arts centers that successfully integrate the academic experience of visual and performing arts students with the reality of professional production, performance and presentation. The Center benefits its resident academic departments: Media Study, Visual Studies, and, principally, Theatre & Dance, while establishing a highly regarded professional presentation series, strong outreach programs, and more. Training, student employment and internship opportunities at the Center enrich the educational experience of our UB students. To the majority of our community, the Center is viewed primarily as a venue for performances. The Center typically presents 35 to 40 programs each season that includes Broadway; pop, rock, blues & jazz music; dance; children's programs; comedy; speakers and international events. Our programming is by design intentionally diverse, eclectic and continuously evolving to meet the needs and interests of our audiences. Our presentation season consistently achieves breakeven or moderate surplus status. This permits programming to be self-sustaining and has become a revenue source for the University.

For many members of the community, attendance at an event may serve as their first introduction to the campus. Opportunities also exist to utilize events to engage alumni and entertain donors and prospects. A robust presentation season also contributes to UB’s positive image both in the community and beyond. I mentioned earlier that the Center has not received a programming budget from UB. UB since the mid ’90sAwe also provides programming without the support of student activity fees. And while about 60% of our staff salaries are funded by the State, the Center must run the balance of its operation on earned revenue from ticket sales, advertising, rentals and other revenue generating activities. Rental activity has grown substantially. Events range in size from small receptions to large-scale local and touring productions. The Center is always pleased to be the primary venue for major University events. Rental activity accounts for a significant percentage of the Center’s operating budget. When our presentation and rental events are combined, we welcome over 120,000 people on an annual basis. A more recent addition to our service portfolio is our Video Production Group. We are now the University's primary professional video content Producer. The Center fully launched the initiative in 2005 through the creation of the original award-winning arts series, Music is Art LIVE @ the Center, which promoted community collaboration, artistic engagement and an extensive internship program for University students. The series of 41 TV episodes, which featured Buffalo musicians and visual artists, ran for several seasons on WNE%' s Thinkbright channel and was shown statewide on the New York Network. The Center discovered that its campus partners were considerably underserved and ill-equipped to meet the demand for well-produced videos. Our partners and colleagues now utilize our video work as a tool to engage alumni, recruit students, build support among donors, showcase faculty excellence, raise awareness and educate audiences about University activities and promote core strengths. By offering a superior product at a competitive rate, the Center has increased the demand for video production. Another aspect of our operation that has grown significantly is our Technical Production Services. The Center's production department has developed into the University's primary technical service provider and has transformed how University events in campus venues are operated, sound, look, and feel. Events are now consistent, have increased in scale and number, and have made us an integral resource that significantly benefits the University. As with video production services, the purpose of this technical support is to extend the Center's commitment to excellence in its service to the University, provide hands-on educational experiences for University students and contribute towards the generation of operating revenue. You will have experienced our production services in such major campus venues as the Stadium; Alumni Arena; Slee Hall; Student Union Theatre; Center of Excellence; Harriman Hall and the South Campus lawn at University events which include all Commencements; the Scholarship Gala; the President’s Community Address; Distinguished Speaker Series; Fall and Spring Fests; UB on the Green; and all athletic sporting events. We have evolved to the point where major events are all supported by the Center's participation, and the services we offer save the University an estimated 20-30% in costs compared to off-campus production entities.

UB has an outstanding dance program, and therefore dance presentation has always been a featured part of each season. A natural outgrowth of this focus on dance and dance training has been our annual Professional Dance Residency. Since 1997 the Center has conducted 17 professional dance residency outreach projects to provide arts education for more than 24,000 students at schools primarily in the City of Buffalo. Western New York public school
students have been afforded the opportunity to experience a live professional dance performance at their schools, free of charge, by some of the world’s finest companies. In addition, UB dance majors benefit from master classes with members of these professional dance companies. Visiting dance companies are typically in town for one week during the spring semester. Just last week we hosted River North Dance Chicago. This outstanding Company also happened to include two UB Dance program graduates.

Keeping with the theme of education, we also have a longstanding School Time Adventure Series. These' curriculum-based performances are presented to introduce area school children to the performing arts. To date, this IS-year series has served approximately 120,000 children. With funding for arts programming and education continually under pressure in public schools, these live theatre experiences help instill an appreciation for the arts at an early age.

A third major - and perhaps most comprehensive - outreach activity is the Arts in Healthcare Initiative. After gaining experience with presenting professional dance companies in nontraditional settings through the Center's Dance Residency program a new outreach opportunity emerged. The idea of bringing touring artists from the Center's own season to a population who, due to illness or injury, could not experience live performances was attractive and possible. After much research into similar programs nationally and the receipt of a three-year grant from the John R. Oishei Foundation, the Arts in Healthcare Initiative was established in August of 2008 to bring the performing and visual arts to the hospital environment. The Initiative is based in two partner hospitals, Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo and Roswell Park Cancer Institute. The arts in the hospital have a way of transforming the environment and the experience by creating opportunities for stress relief, encouraging physical and emotional well-being, self-expression, communication and distraction.

The Initiative is comprised of eleven professional artists-in-residence with extensive experience in writing, music, dance, theater and the visual arts. The Center for the Arts has also invited touring artists from its regular presenting season to visit the hospitals.

There is a lot of good being generated by the activities of the Center for the Arts. But there are also challenges as well. First - as the building approaches 20 years, it is beginning to show signs of age, wear and tear, and our equipment is becoming outdated. Not only does this affect what we can present, but it negatively impacts student learning experiences. Unfortunately, when the building opened, no provision was made for future improvements, repairs and replacements.

The need to generate revenue to sustain operations also has us running the building at nearly full capacity. It is a year round, seven day a week operation. Not only does this increase wear and tear on the physical plant, but on staff as well. And finally, the University's need to generate additional revenues to fund growth as well as compensate for lost State support has impacted all of us. The need to balance revenues and additional expenditures for plant maintenance and equipment forces an increase in ticket prices and shifts our programming focus to more commercial presentations, which come at greater financial risk. But as an arts organization, we know we must continue to evolve and adapt. We're very proud of what we've accomplished in these 19 years, and see many opportunities ahead.

Questions:
Are you looking for volunteers?
They have a list of volunteers and are using a lot of students and people interested in career choices, working with departments and research projects. General volunteers is something they’d like to see in the future. The thing they are looking for is consistency for the patients for Artists in Residence.

How can faculty and staff support your mission to help fulfill it?
Tom says that it’s awareness and talking about the things that the Center for the Arts offers. He would like to have staff feel their support and how they are doing. There is a belief that the Center is well funded, but unfortunately it is not. Staff could promote the Center for the programming that it offers the community.

They have ushering staff – about 300 on a regular basis, consisting of seniors who are scheduled 2-3 times a week. They are very committed.
Is the Arts program listed in SEFA as a donator? The Center for the Arts is listed in the SEFA catalog.

They welcome suggestions for artists to come to the Center.

The relationship between the Center for the Arts and the Art Galleries is that UB’s Center maintains the building separately. No direct relationship with the Art Galleries. They work with the galleries and partner with them occasionally. The Center focuses on Theatre and Dance, the galleries focus on art work.

Students come to the Center when they want to hang their artwork in the facility. They are hung on the atrium walls and one gallery on the lower level is a gallery for students. To see student work, there are display cases at the end of the Theatre. In November there is an art sale of students work. Usually around Thanksgiving time.

The Catherine Cornell Theatre – how does it fit in with the Center for the Arts? It has been turned over to the department of Theatre and Dance.

Next Presentation - Relay for Life
Donna Czaja - Works for Business Reporting Systems and is a part of Lockport Community Relay For Life
Yasmine El-Gohary, Co-Event Chair, Relay For Life - UB Against Cancer
Julie Smith, Advisor for UB Against Cancer (UB Employee)
Kristina Groff, American Cancer Society Staff Partner
Showed a video on what Relay for life is.

People stood up when asked if they were affected by cancer thru their friends, family etc. Most people in the room were standing.

The American Cancer Society provides the Relay for Life event held at the Alumni Arena on April 12th beginning at 6pm in the gym. There is a ceremony and a lot of entertainment/activities during the relay. Funds raised at all Relay For Life events benefit the American Cancer Society’s programs and services, provided at no cost to patients, including “life-saving research done right here in Western New York,” he event, whose goal is to raise funds to spread awareness and educate the public about cancer, will take place in the main gym in Alumni Arena, North Campus. Many activities have been planned for the 12-hour event. UB’s Relay For Life will open at 6 p.m. with the Survivors Lap, during which all cancer survivors at the event take the first lap around the track to celebrate their victory over cancer while being cheered on by the other participants.

The Luminaria Ceremony at 9 p.m. remembers those who lost their battles to cancer, honors those who have fought cancer in the past and supports those whose fight continues. Candles are lit and placed inside personalized bags; the bags are placed around the track as tributes to those whose lives have been affected by cancer.

The Fight Back Ceremony at 1 a.m. inspires participants to come together to fight the disease.

Smith says that in keeping with this year’s theme, “Wish upon a Cure,” a special wishing ceremony will take place at 11:11 p.m., during which members of the UB community can write their wishes on stars.

Information packets were available for people to take with them. Last year the event raised $86,000, this year they would like to surpass this. Last year UB received the Leader Cope award.

You can help by signing up for the event.

4. Old/New Business
Next Month – The April Meeting will have a presentation by Jim Reger on Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness. June 6th is the PSS Awards Ceremony.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday weekend. If you are celebrating, please enjoy yourselves and we will see you next month!

Motion for Adjournment was offered.
2012-2013 PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATORS
SIGN IN

March 28, 2013

AREA I – HEALTH SCIENCES

Jennifer Berryman
Fred Covelli (Alt.)
Matt Deck (EC)
Valerie Fatta
Shaun Hoppel
Theresa Kruse
Kimberly Krzemien
Vita Milisauskas
Candy Morris (EC)
Barbara Mulvenna
Jillian Reading
Sara Robinson

Jennifer Berryman
Fred Covelli
Val Fatta
Shaun Hoppel
Theresa Kruse
Kimberly Krzemien
Vita Milisauskas
Candy Morris (EC)
Barbara Mulvenna
Jillian Reading
Sara Robinson
AREA II – CORE CAMPUS ACADEMIC UNITS

Donna Banach (EC)
Michelle Chasse
Kate Doran
Ilene Fleischmann (Alt.)
Diane Holfelner
Domenic Licata
William McDonnell
Joseph Muscarella
Stephen Pusztay
Katherine Trapanovski (EC)
Danielle Vegas
AREA III - STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Elizabeth Colucci (Alt.)
Shanna Crump-Owens
Arlene Kaukus (EC)
Kathleen Kielar (EC)
Jeff Kujawa
Susan Mann Dolce
James Mauck
Eugene Pohancsek
James Ramsey
Laura Stevens
Amy Wlosinski
James Zielinski
AREA IV – UNIVERSITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Chris Cheung
Rita Ferri
David Foti
Jim Gordon (EC)
Janiece Jankowski (EC)
John Mondo
Amy Noworyta
Kathleen O’Brien (Alt.)
Pamela Rose
Cherie Williams
AREA V – UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Lydia Conroy
Donna Czaja
Christopher Decker
Deborah Hard
Kelli Hennessy
Hugh Jarvis
Katherine Kulpa (Alt.)
Erin Lawless
Louise Lougen
Donna Malecki
Amy Myszka (EC)
Sandra Pfohman
Michael Randall
Michele Sedor (EC)
James Simon
Susan Steck
OFFICERS

Laura Barnum

Mary Henesey

Ann Marie Landel

William H. Baumer
Parliamentarian

Daniel Ovadia
Student Rep.

Ezra Zubrow
Chair, Faculty Senate
### GUESTS

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<td>Chris Beaudon</td>
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<td>Lisa Martin</td>
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<td>Leslie McCusker</td>
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