

COUNCIL MINUTES

April 15, 2022

Present from Council:

Chair Kathryn Grant Madigan, Linda Biemer, Anthony Fiala (via Zoom), Jennifer Lesko, Dennis McCabe, James Orband, Matthew Salanger (via Zoom), Caroline Sandleitner, and Maureen Wilson

Present from the Community:

President Stenger, Mr. Benzaken, Mr. Brhel (via Zoom), Dr. Bodur, Ms. Curtin, Ms. Doyle (via Zoom), Ms. Ellis, Ms. Fauci, Chief Faughnan (via Zoom), Ms. Gahring (via Zoom), Mr. Hubeny, Ms. Johnson, Vice President Jones, Ms. Legette (via Zoom), Professor Mischen (via Zoom), Vice President Navarro, Provost Nieman, Chief Pelletier, Ms. Reuther, Vice President Rose, Vice President Sammakia, Dr. Smith, Ms. Thornley (via Zoom), and Mr. Yarosh

CALL TO ORDER

The Binghamton University Council meeting was called to order at 9:23 a.m. on Friday, April 15, 2022 by Chair Madigan.

The minutes of the March 11, 2022 Binghamton University Council meeting were approved.

President Stenger reported that

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Sandleitner reported that this is her last report to the BU Council as the Student Representative for 2021-2022. Joining today via Zoom is incoming BU Council Representative for 2022-2023, Avery Benzaken. Avery will be a graduate student in the MBA program in the fall, and the Student Representative to Council position will be in good hands.

This semester has been particularly difficult. The campus community is mourning the recent loss of Robert Martin, who was a goalie on the Binghamton University D1 Lacrosse Team. Robert's friends describe him as "unapologetically himself," "passionate," "caring," and he brought a positive energy to any room he was in. It's truly a loss, and my heart goes out to his family, friends, and teammates during this time.

When a significant loss like this occurs on campus, it's difficult for students. Recently there has been a sense of heaviness around campus, even if unspoken. For students grappling with mental health issues, especially during these tough times, the University is usually the first and sometimes the only place where students can afford to receive therapeutic counseling. The conversation around mental health resources on campus has further developed over the past few weeks, and many students are concerned about the effectiveness of the university's mental health resources given how many students need to be treated. Students have expressed that when they need to book an appointment on campus, there isn't necessarily a therapist available. For other students who need long-term treatment, the option to continue with the same therapist for multiple weeks really isn't an option. With so many Binghamton students coming from low-income households, many of which are under the federal poverty line, bolstering these mental health services and streamlining the intake process, when students are willing to consider therapy, is a necessary next step.

Our community really does turn to one another for support. Through the difficult times over the past month, students have continued programming to better their communities outside of the

event set for April 30. Gunna is a well-established rap artist and Social House is famous for their hit, "Magic in the Hamptons." It is safe to say that students are very excited about these performances and all of the Spring Fling activities that are being planned. The SAPB has successfully put on many events over the past 8 months, but most recently presented Jaboukie Young-White and Pat Regan at a comedy show in the Mandela Room.

On the legislative side, the Student Association Congress has called for an on-campus early voting site to be offered for students during the midterm elections this fall. This interest is truly a testament to the civic engagement of the student body, and such a site would allow for students to attend classes and ensure that their voices are heard in these important elections. Another piece of legislation was passed this past Tuesday expressing collective interest in Binghamton having off for the Lunar New Year each year. With endorsements from nearly every Asian Multicultural organization on campus, the idea passed with unanimous support from Congress.

There has been an uptick in the reporting of off campus violence including shootings by Recreation Park in Binghamton and on Baldwin Street by the Nursing Building, which happened just yesterday. From the students that I've spoken with since the event at Baldwin Street, the students were happy the University responded so promptly with a B-Alert which described the situation and also told students how to respond. Similarly, when the suspect was caught, students were notified through B-Alert. This level of communication is really important to facilitate trust between students and administrators especially when crises happen off campus.

After attending the Campaign Launch, I am so proud of where the University is today and where it is heading in the future. I spoke with so many alumni and was genuinely happy to share my experience as a student at Binghamton.

Thank you for welcoming me as a student leader to the BU Council for 2021-2022! I am so happy that I had the opportunity, and got to know many of you here today.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

Mr. Brian Rose, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Ms. Jazell Johnson, Director of Student Conduct, presented the proposed changes to the Code of Student Conduct.

The proposed changes were unanimously approved by Council.

PROPOSED PARKING FEES AND FINES FOR 2022-2023

Mr. Brian Rose, Vice President for Student Affairs, presented the proposed changes to parking fees and fines for 2022-2023.

The proposed changes were unanimously approved by Council.

