

**COUNCIL MINUTES**

September 20, 2019

Present from Council:

Kathryn Grant Madigan, Linda Biemer, Anthony Fiala,  
Dennis McCabe,

work as a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, as well as for his continuing support for the University.

In August we welcomed approximately 2,900 freshmen, 1,000 transfer students and 1,600 new graduate students to the Binghamton University community. This class is exceptionally bright with SAT scores of around 1370 and high school GPAs of 89.5. This brings Binghamton's enrollment to approximately 17,900 students, up slightly from last year. Among our new students were 91 new members of our School of Pharmacy; shortly after they arrived, they participated in the traditional "White Coat" ceremony that marks their entry into clinical work.

We are working to increase our pipeline of international graduate students and enhance international research collaboration through agreements with several campuses around the world. Most recently we have signed MOUs with Vellore Institute of Technology in India, Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, and East China University in Shanghai.

be traveling to Belarus to serve as an English Language teaching assistant. Sociology student Michael Stephens will be traveling to Cartagena, Columbia to document LGBTQ tourism in the city. Brian Campbell,

These gifts are just a few examples of the generosity of our alumni and supporters, whose giving this year has increased significantly. This year, the University has received \$19.1 million in gift commitments.

As a result of failing to meet our enrollment targets last year, we imposed a hiring hold and slowed implementation of some of our campus initiatives. These changes, along with increased support from the state, have placed us in a better position as we enter this academic year. In particular, we hit our enrollment targets for this year and we have seen growth in our graduate programs. We are not completely out of the woods yet – state appropriations for negotiated salary increases aren't forthcoming – but we are in a place where we can begin to make necessary hires and move forward on initiatives that will strengthen the campus.

### **STUDENT REPORT**

Mr. Richards thanked Council Chair Kate Madigan, President Stenger, Vice President Rose and other administrators who made his transition very easy. He thanked the entire student body, both undergraduate and graduate students, for entrusting him with representing them on the Binghamton University Council. As this is his sixth and final year at Binghamton University, he hopes that with his experience, coupled with guidance and other student input, he can make positive changes to the Binghamton family. His predecessor, Harry Bittker, worked hard to establish a strong connection between the Graduate Student Organization, the Student Association, and the BU Council student representative position which allowed for a unified voice for the entire student body. John Santare, Student Association Vice President of Academic Affairs and Darren Yu, Assistant to the President of the Graduate Student Organization joined Mr. Richards at the meeting.

On the Graduate Student Organization side, the current interim executive board is currently hopes96 EMC P MCID 8BDC B27.75 Tm(c) P MCID 8BDC B27C P iore wstwn8miMm[connect3t()-9(c)MC

