

**The Academic-Student Life Committee  
meeting of the Board of Trustees was held  
on March 5, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.  
in the Robert Michael Sdao Memorial Board Room  
at SUNY Niagara  
and via ZOOM**

**Academic-Student Life Committee Board Members**

Ms. Sheila Smith, Chairperson  
Mr. David Haylett, Jr. Vice Chairperson  
Mr. E. Bryan DalPorto  
Mr. Jacob Fleming, Jr. (ZOOM)

**Board Member Excused**

Mr. Kevin Clark

**Administration Present**

President Lloyd A. Holmes, Ph.D.  
Dr. Maher Ghalayini, Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Ms. Tammy Bruno, Interim Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs

Committee Chairperson Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.  
A roll call acknowledged the following trustees were present: Trustees David Haylett, Jr., E. Bryan DalPorto, Jacob Fleming, Jr. and Sheila Smith.

Chairperson Smith began the meeting with a welcome to the new committee member, Trustee E. Bryan DalPorto. A welcome was also extended to the new Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Maher Ghalayini.

**Academic-Student Life Committee Minutes**

Committee Chairperson Smith asked if anyone had questions on the minutes of February 5, 2025. There were none. A motion was made by Chairperson Smith and seconded by Trustee DalPorto to approve the Academic Student Life Committee meeting minutes of February 5, 2025 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Student Services Updates**

President Holmes updated the committee on the Vice President of Student Services search. The position has been offered to a candidate and currently in negotiations. President Holmes is confident the announcement of the new Vice President of Student Services will be made at next week's board meeting held on March 11, 2025. The projected start date of the new vice president will be April 7, 2025.

President Holmes provided updates on SUNY grant awarded to SUNY Niagara to support adult learners totaling \$50,000. SUNY Niagara was one of 22 institutions that applied for the grant. The grant will be used for recruitment of adult learners ages 22-55 following the governor's initiative. In addition to recruitment purposes, it will support credit for prior learning, the purchase of a new platform to orient adult learners to campus, special apps designed for vets and parents of current students, an upgrade to the computers in Academic Center for Excellence, expansion of the child care offerings into the evening, and creation of an overall sense of belonging on campus for adult learners.

**Academic Affairs Updates**

Emeritus Acknowledgement: Dr. Julie Woodworth

Dr. Julie Woodworth received the Distinguished Professor appointment in 2017 from SUNY. Per the SUNY Policies and Procedures for Distinguished Ranks Faculty Ranks (pg. 3), Dr. Woodworth automatically receives Emeritus status upon retirement. Supporting documentation was provided to the committee members.

New Program Proposal: Magnetic Resonance Imaging Certificate: Interim Assistant Vice President Bruno discussed the proposed Magnetic Resonance Imaging Certificate program. The program will be unique to the local area. The only other institution offering a similar program is Alfred State. The certificate program would be 31 credit hours to be completed over the course of 3 semesters beginning in the summer. This certificate program would be ideal for our graduating Radiologic Technology students as a way to continue education with a certificate in this specialized area thus resulting in higher salary in the field.

A motion to approve the certificate program was made by Chairperson Smith and seconded by Trustee Haylett. Motion carried. This agenda item will move to the full board.

New Program Proposal: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Certificate: Interim Assistant Vice President Bruno discussed the proposed Diagnostic Medical Sonography Certificate program. The program will be unique to the local area. The only other institution offering a similar program is Alfred State. The certificate program would be 35 credits to be completed over 4 semesters. There is a substantial investment required from the campus and facilities to support this certificate program. A SUNY grant acquired will cover these requirements.

Chairperson Smith requested clarification in the job description regarding the integration of technology integration to support classroom learning and student/instructor communication. Interim Assistant Vice President Bruno will make the clarification in the document.

A motion to approve the certificate program was made by Chairperson Smith and seconded by Trustee DalPorto. Motion carried. This agenda item will move to the full board.

Interim Assistant Vice President Bruno added an update on the TA partnerships beginning at Bloneva Bond in Niagara Falls, NY. An orientation will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup> with classes beginning on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The partnership will offer college level courses to employees and parents. A summer boot camp will also be held for the TA certification as a prep for the exam.

The next meeting scheduled is on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in the Robert Michael Sdao Memorial Board Room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

Kristin Leszkowicz  
Assistant to the President