

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

November 17, 2023

Present from Council:

Chair Kathryn Grant Madigan, Linda Biemer, Dennis McCabe, Nora Monasheri, James Orband (via Zoom), and Maureen Wilson

Present from the Community:

President Stenger, Professor Beedle, Ms. Bello, Mr. Blakeslee, Mr. Brhel (via Zoom)

contentions between students we also have to make sure that those events are as safe as possible. It has been challenging, but considering the circumstances, we have done a good job.

Last month we had a \_\_\_\_\_ s to report yet, but we remain confident about our chances for the \$160 million in funding.

After our October meeting, we received great news that the New Energy New York (NENY) project named Binghamton University one of 31 Regional Tech Hubs across the nation by the

different focus, and Binghamton \_\_\_\_\_ s on batteries. Because the Tech Hub is led by the Department of Commerce, all other federal agencies and industry leaders around the world will look to Binghamton as the experts in battery technology. This is a big win for Binghamton University. Senator Schumer was instrumental in helping us achieve this designation, and we also thank Distinguished Professor M. Stanley Whittingham, Dr. Per Stromhaug, and Olga Petrova for leading the way for this designation.

Professor KD Kang from the Department of Computer Science recently received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to improve real-time data services that support smart transportation, healthcare, manufacturing, and more. Professor Kang is researching new techniques to make computer processing speeds faster and consume less energy.

Associate Professor John Zhang and his research team in Electrical and Computer Engineering recently received a \$1.2 million grant from NSF to study the stability of power grids. This research is critical as we move toward renewable energies and how to store energy generated by wind and solar to keep the power grids stable.

Assistant Professor Shiqi Zhang in Computer Science is working with students to develop a robotic seeing-eye dog that will benefit the visually impaired community. Training real seeing-eye dogs is very expensive and only 50% of trained dogs pass, so this will be a huge breakthrough in support of the visually impaired.

Associate Professor Molly Patterson, in the Earth Sciences Department, will be headed to Antarctica next year to study the Ross Ice Shelf. She will be learning about the melting of the ice shelf, and the impact it will have on the elevation of our oceans, and the impact global warming will have on it.

The Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences started to enroll students in their first cohort of students for the Doctor of Physical Therapy, the Doctor of Occupational Therapy, and in the \_\_\_\_\_ Pathology program, renovations to build a Speech and Pathology Clinic in the Gannett building are underway. The Decker Foundation has provided a grant of over \$1 million for the project which, when combined with our funds, will complete the project. The Speech and Pathology

Congratulations to Dean Nagaraju and Professor Hoffman, from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science, who recently received FDA approval for a drug, Agamree, that treats Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). This drug will be used to ease the symptoms of DMD for individuals age 2 and older.

in spite of the difficult situation. The mental health packet that the former student representative to Council worked on has been printed. The packet includes all of the resources that students can resort to when needed. There is also a Mental Health Resource Advisory/Oversight Board that is being established with help from Daniel Croce from the Student Association (SA), Vice President Rose, and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Health and Wellness Officer, Johann Fiore-Conte. The new Board will include representatives from the CARE team, the University Counseling Center, and other pertinent areas. The Graduate Student Organization is also working on their own advisory board. We care for our students at Binghamton and hope to never experience another tragedy like that on campus again.

left at the campus memorial  
be collected. The items were brought to a Day of Caring event held on campus last Friday. It was  
Ampitheater for tabling by mental health advocates, food, musical performances, art stations, and a bonfire.

Representatives from each of the big 4 SUNY schools (Buffalo, Stony Brook, Albany, and Binghamton) have come together to lobby for more funding from the SUNY SA to support mental health resources and funding.

Stress-Free Binghamton, hosted by the Dean of Students Office, is offering over 50 events on campus in November and December. Events such as goat yoga, free chair massages, and pet-a-pooch are aimed at providing fun and stress-reducing activities, events, and food for students as they prepare for finals. There is something for everyone.

At the October Council meeting it was reported that the SA passed a resolution, Commitment to Combatting Anti- A Congress recently passed two more resolutions. One resolution was firming

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 AM.

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