## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

November 19, 2021

Present from Council:

Chair Kathryn Grant Madigan, Linda Biemer, Jennifer Lesko,

BU Council November 19, 2021 Page 2

announced a scholarship program for nurses which will help to grow the number of nurses in the state.

Vaccination on campus has been very effective with more than 99% of our students, and approximately 85% of faculty and staff, fully vaccinated. As a result, our infection rates are exceptionally low. We have three students that are currently in isolation housing, with 175 isolation beds available. Two of the three will likely still be in isolation housing over Thanksgiving break. We will be staffed to provide meals for the isolated students over the break.

Ι

Regional Economic Development Council, and for more than \$133 million in state funding that we received for the Health Sciences Campus in Johnson City. Those funds have been a catalyst for additional, private support for these projects. We are adding new programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language pathology, and expect an additional 350 students when the programs are fully enrolled. We are hiring new faculty and staff in anticipation of the new students and have already hired 25 new faculty and staff. We expect around 450 total new faculty, staff, and students, bringing the total number of people associated with the Johnson City campus to around 2,500. This is a great thing for Johnson City.

We are creating information about what we are doing in Johnson City. Last week, I gave a presentation with

City. The goal was to show them our idea to create a greenway between Corliss Avenue and Main Street, where students would find it safe, attractive, and well-lit to walk one block from the Nursing and Pharmacy Schools to Main Street. This will bring additional foot traffic and business activities to Main Street, and eventually will bring more tax revenue to Johnson City.

At the end of October, the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies held their 46<sup>th</sup> annual

campus, and with several other scholars from around the world participating online. The focus was about how communities created cultural understanding and conceptions of heritage in the medieval world.

The School of Management hosted its 28<sup>th</sup> annual Briloff Lecture on Accountability and Society at the end of October. Alumnus and current CEO of Unysis Corporation, Peter Altabef, was the

conflicts between competing demands of privacy and security.

Congratulations to Professor S.B. Park, of Watson Department of Mechanical Engineering, who was named a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in recognition of three decades of work in electronics packaging. Being named a Fellow is an honor reserved for the top 3% of members of the Association and reflects on the quality of work conducted by Professor Park.

We also learned this month that Chemistry Professor Eriks Rozners received a two-year \$428,330 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to look at how to

BU Council November 19, 2021 BU Council November 19, 2021 Page 4

would mean Binghamton is competitive with salaries offered through SUNY Buffalo and SUNY Stony Brook.

In the past week or so, students have been increasingly concerned about the impact of COVID on Broome County, with the New York Times COVID tracking map indicating Broome County as an area of higher risk. Although there was a dip in the number of students utilizing the asymptomatic testing options offered through the University last month, I think there will be an increase in the number of patients tested in Old Union Hall, especially as UHS lines become longer with Deinger (Stealth Graphic BeGide: J4 (pastell Ona) dias State St