Pursuant to a notice of a meeting duly given on April 29, 2019, the Research and Economic Development Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York held a meeting on May 8, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. at SUNY Geneseo, Geneseo New York.

Committee Members present:
Trustee Courtney Burke, Acting Chair
Trustee Robert Duffy
Trustee Gwen Kay
Trustee Stan Litow
Trustee Cary Staller
Trustee Nina Tamrowski

Committee Members not present:
Trustee Angelo Fatta, Chair

Other Trustees present:
Chairman H. Carl McCall
Vice Chairman Merryl Tisch

Others present:
Chancellor Kristina Johnson
Grace Wang, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
Tod Laursen, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
Elizabeth Garvey, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel
Ricardo Azziz, Chief Officer, Academic Health & Hospital Affairs
Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline
Robert Haeleen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Capital Facilities & General Manager of the Construction Fund
Teresa Miller, Senior Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Chief Diversity Officers
Terrance Pratt, Secretary of the University
Marina Blanton, Professor, University at Buffalo (Guest Speaker)

Meeting Convened
Trustee Burke called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m., welcoming attendees and asking those around the table to introduce themselves.

Approval of the Minutes
Trustee Burke noted that a quorum of Committee members was present.

- Trustee Burke called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2018 meeting.

  A motion was made, and a second was received.
The minutes were approved unanimously.

The discussions that followed were accompanied by two PowerPoint presentations. A copy of each is on file in the Office of the Secretary of the University.

Dr. Marina Blanton began with an introduction of blockchain technologies. Blockchain can be used for applications that include supply chain, financial services, contracts, government, insurance, and potentially healthcare. Concerns related to blockchain include security and privacy, the energy consumed in block mining, and scalability as the rate with which blocks are issued is often limited. Dr. Blanton concluded that blockchain has been a disruptive technology and more research is needed to understand what properties are achievable.

Dr. Wang then presented an overview of research and economic development activities during this academic year.

I. Build Research Partnerships

Based on the research strengths on the SUNY campuses, the needs of New York State in areas of research and workforce development, and federal research priorities, eight strategic areas of research priorities were identified for the next five to ten years including Artificial Intelligence (AI), next generation computing and communication, medicine and biomedical research, clean energy, aging, substance addiction, resilience of community and critical infrastructure, environmental health and water.

Dr. Wang discussed a strategic partnership with IBM called SUNY-IBM Collaborative Research Alliance, focusing on research in AI. Dr. Wang reported that, in November 2018, SUNY announced a strategic research partnership with Applied Materials (AMAT) for next generation computing and communication technologies. The SUNY Applied Materials Research Institute – or SAMRI – leadership council includes Dr. Wang and Dr. Om Nalamasu, CTO of AMAT. They have appointed Dr. Nate Cady, Professor at SUNY Poly, as executive director, and created a six-member Scientific Advisory Council to provide oversight and direction over the next seven years. Additionally, in January 2019, the Chancellor announced a partnership with the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) Information Directorate focusing on quantum information science and engineering.

II. Advance Faculty and Student Research Capacity

Dr. Wang then discussed a few SUNY initiatives to advance the research capacity of faculty and students.

To support partnership building and convergent research at large scale, the SUNY Center Scale Planning Program has been established. To date, the Program has received 40 proposals and made 20 awards. These 20 awards have resulted in 21 proposals submitted to major funding agencies, and two of them have received awards.

Dr. Wang said that, to help faculty compete for NSF’s CAREER Awards, SUNY hosted the first NSF CAREER Proposal Writing Workshop to instruct candidates on effective proposal writing. Seventy-five SUNY early-career professors from 10 campuses participated, and it was very successful. Planning is underway for the next workshop. Trustee Tisch asked why we focus primarily on the research universities for participation. Dr. Wang responded that we will engage more campuses in future events.

On June 27, 2018, SUNY held the first SUNY DOD Day. Twenty-five DOD senior leaders and program managers, and 86 SUNY faculty members had over 300 one-on-one meetings to share information on research and funding opportunities and make connections. Next SUNY DOD day is June 13 and 14 in Arlington, VA. Research areas of focus will include physical sciences, engineering, life sciences and medical research.
III. Stimulate Entrepreneurship

Dr. Wang discussed activities to stimulate entrepreneurship across SUNY campuses. A new pilot called *SUNY Startup Summer School* will help start-ups understand the true market needs and how to develop viable products that meet them. SUNY entrepreneurs will also have the opportunity to connect with the federal agency SBIR program managers in the *SBIR Road Tour* that is coming to Albany in September.

The SUNY Technology Accelerator Fund has invested over $2.6 million since its inception. Of the 48 projects funded, 40% have formed partnerships or licensed their technologies and 13 start-ups have been formed. Collectively $14.6 million in external funding has been attracted to date.

Dr. Wang mentioned that in 2019 NYS business Plan competition, 8 out of the 18 winning teams were from SUNY campuses.

Next steps include continuing to build partnerships, support faculty and students and launch more entrepreneurial activities. Trustee Staller thanked Dr. Wang and said that this was one of the most compelling meetings the Committee has had. He further congratulated Dr. Wang and the team for all they have done to advance research.

*Executive Session*

- Trustee Burke called for a motion at 10:05 a.m. to convene an Executive Session in order to seek legal advice pursuant to section 108 of the public officer’s law.
  A motion was made and second received.
  No action was taken during the Executive Session.

*Adjournment*

- Trustee Burke thanked Drs. Wang and Blanton, and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m.
  A motion was made and second received.
  The meeting was adjourned.