



**Professional Employees Council**  
**Binghamton University**  
<http://pec.binghamton.edu/>

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**PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**

May 4, 2005 3:00 pm-4: 30 pm  
Couper Administration Building, AD 148

- Present:** R. Barron, J. Dorak, L. Gilroy, G. Guido, B. Jenson, C. Kester, L. Klein, N. Mabe, D. Martin, S. Santobuono, D. Stone, J. Walker, D. Wood, I. Fang WU, J. Yaples, V. Young
- Excused:** E. Abate, C. Altsmansberger, C. Fuller, G. Glover, D. Hawkins, M. Lennox, S. Lewis, R. Mess, T. Robinson,
- Absent:** L. MacKenzie
- Guests:** V.P. Sonnenfeld, S. DeClemente, K. Gregory, T. Partell, K. Riley, A. Wahl

**I. Approval of minutes:** April 20 minutes approved

**II. Announcements:** PEC Summer meeting time—to follow the University’s summer hour schedule, PEC will meet from 2:30 pm-4:00 pm. We will resume our regular meeting time of 3:00 pm at the start of the academic year.

**III. Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Communications:** Committee has begun to look at the issue of PEC’s identity. It seems that many across campus are unfamiliar with PEC, its’ mission and the role it fills at Binghamton. While the committee is charged with the responsibility of establishing a positive and visible image of PEC, it became evident that we must first identify what the current perception is. Therefore, a subcommittee has been established to investigate the university community’s opinion of PEC and submit recommendations on how to address the perceived misconceptions.
- b. Rules:** D. Wood reported that all newly elected council representatives have been notified and will be assuming their new role at the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- c. Professional Development:** Nothing to report.
- d. Distinguished Award Committee:** L. Gilroy reported that in addition to having the call for nominations posted on Dateline and the PEC homepage, paper copies have also been sent via the campus mail. The deadline for nominations is June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Old Business:** None

**V. New Business:**

**Meeting adjourned for Dr. Sonnefeld’s presentation.**

Dr. Sonnenfeld, Vice President for Research discussed their Mission which covers; supporting & enhancing research, economic development, enhance instruction and recognition through government relations; destination Discovery, research symposium, supports 21 research centers, new internal grants program, brown bag luncheons to develop proposals.

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES COUNCIL

### Minutes (cont'd)

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Economic Development: SBDC (Small Business Development Center) created 698 jobs \$10.3 million in 03-04. Trade Adjustment Assistant Center—contracted over \$53 million to over 1100 firms.

Government Relations: Participated in Advocacy Day, SUNY Date, Relationship Building, Federal Government is helpful also.

Is hoping for BU to set the trend for the future one way would be to bring in Industrial Partnerships---by marketing and advising researchers on viability of products or research (self-funded). Relationships with Cornell have been enhanced.

Staff development is going to be necessary. Part of which is flexibility and foster a campus culture of respect.

D. Stone asked about the plans for second building. Dr. Sonnenfeld said they are looking good but are still awaiting funding. Thanked our Senator's for lobbying for us.

D. Wood asked about bio-defense grant. Dr. Sonnenfeld explained how we could get a variety of people involved to help obtain the funding (one example; Medieval History Department faculty because of their knowledge of that era).

Research Foundation will help write grants. Stressed need to be persistent and not give up. L. Gilroy said to let them know what type of grant looking for---e-mail or call the office.

Returned to regular meeting:

### **Announcement:**

N. Mabe announced that she is returning to school as a Graduate Student in Watson and therefore will not be serving on PEC next year.

D. Stone announced the Information Commons is under construction; wiring and design work (in-house electrical work). Reference area is an example.

### **VI. Next Meeting**

The **next meeting** of the Professional Employees Council will be on Wednesday, May 18, 2005, 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM in **PSPC Room E/F**.

Motion to adjourn by L. Gilroy, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Guido