



The State University
of New York

Office of the Chancellor

State University Plaza
Albany, NY 12246

www.suny.edu

June 5, 2018

Dr. Gwen Kay
President, University Faculty Senate
State University Plaza
Albany, New York 12246

Dear Gwen:

Thank you for your recent letter sharing University Faculty Senate (UFS) resolutions adopted at the Spring plenary in Buffalo. I was glad to join you via video and appreciate the efforts of you and the University at Buffalo in accommodating what was an unexpected change for all of us in my remote location!

It was great to learn that the presentations from System Administration were well received. I know that my leadership team appreciates the opportunity to engage with the UFS and that they benefit from hearing your input and feedback.

I am pleased to respond to the April 2018 resolutions below:

- **179-01-01 & 179-02-01: Resolutions to Include Non-Tenured and Non-Tenure Track Faculty for the Chancellor's Award in Faculty Service & the Chancellor's Award in Scholarship and Creative Activities**

My thanks to UFS for bringing this matter to my attention. As non-tenured and non-tenure track faculty continue to make important contributions on our campuses, and as qualified individuals with this status are already eligible for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, I am pleased to extend their eligibility for recognition in the award categories of Faculty Service and Scholarship and Creative Activities. Interim Provost Wang will make the appropriate modifications to the program policies and procedures before the next call for nominations.

- **179-03-01: Resolution to Create a SUNY-wide Commencement Policy when Announcing the Names of those who Hold Current United States Military Rank at their Commencement Ceremonies**

I recognize and appreciate the ongoing support the UFS has shown for our students who are currently serving in the military or who come to us having already served. I too celebrate the selfless commitment that these individuals have made in deciding to serve our country. The request to have their military rank read or recognized at commencement, however, is a decision up to each student and up to each campus. I encourage local campus governance leaders to discuss the matter with their respective

student and campus leaders. I know that the good work done by the UFS Student Life Committee will help to inform these conversations.

- **179-04-01: Resolution to Establish the University Faculty Senate Communications Committee**

I want to commend the UFS for its commitment to increasing communication across its membership and beyond.

My thanks to you for your continued leadership and service.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristina M. Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kristina M. Johnson, PhD
Chancellor