

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
1101 Sherman Drive, Utica, NY 13501

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2007

Present S. Bice, D. Boyce, A. Broski, T. Capraro, E. Dailey, D. DiGiorgio, C. Domser, A. Doughtie, R. Feola, T. Fournier, T. Haroon, R. Jubenville, D. Katz, D. Larson, J. Maio, M. Pearson, W. Perrotti, B. Quist, N. Rutishauser, S. Selden, S. Senior, G. Slade, J. Smrtic, R. Spetka, R. Stempien, R. Thomas, D. Willner, and J. Zegarelli. M. Schafer, College President

Guests J. Andrek, F. Armstrong, R. Cantor, M. Radlowski, N. Rosero, and E. Searles

Absent/Excused C. Amato, G. Donato, R. Doolen, A. Glidden, K. Hartman, B. Judycki, A. Marchio, and D. McDermott.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Perrotti at 2:31 p.m. W. Perrotti briefly explained the new operating rules including the implementation of a consent agenda.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

R. Jubenville moved and S. Bice seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: Senate Meeting Minutes of 12/3/06, the Chairperson's Report, and the following Special Reports: Faculty Council of Community Colleges (Tally of SCBA and FCCC representation on SUNY Board of Trustees resolutions, Table of Community Colleges use of final exam week, Twigg Project, SCBA funding, and proposed Chancellor's Award for Support Personnel), Strategic Planning Committee Fall 2006 Summary Report (College Strategic Goals/Objectives, SPC membership and SPC work groups), College Catalog Content Task Force report, Green Campus Task Force report, MVCC BOT summary of activities September to December 2006, and State of the Union "Success: Higher Education for All" – *National Journal*, January 19, 2007.

All of the above items can be found under the College Senate's Public Folder.

Motion carried.

PRESIDENT SCHAFFER'S REPORT

President Schafer provided a report on the budget process for 2007-2008. Governor Spitzer has recommended a \$100 increase in base aid (reduced from \$192/FTE). No additional monies were recommended for high cost/high needs programs. The Community College Presidents will begin to build consensus to negotiate for additional monies to be approved. President Schafer also reported that funding for students under the Ability to Benefit program has also been eliminated. The Community College

Presidents are collaborating with NYSED and CUNY to present a common message. Their goals will include an increase in base aid of an additional \$92, additional funding for high cost/high needs programs, and funding for those students eligible under Ability to Benefit. A copy of the SUNY 2007-2008 Executive Budget Summary was distributed to those Senators in attendance.

R. Thomas asked if the College, through the Foundation could “adopt” these students to provide the necessary funding for their education. President Schafer responded that this could certainly be looked into. President Schafer then directed D. DiGiorgio and R. Spetka to identify how many students would qualify under the Ability to Benefit rules. It was noted that all such students must take the Ability to Benefit test.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

No report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

D. Larson, VPI, provided a memorandum on the Future Academic Direction for the College. This document can be found under the College Senate’s Public Folder. D. Larson welcomed any questions. Much discussion followed regarding dual credit. Is there a need? Should MVCC be providing dual credit? Shouldn’t “we” send a message to the high schools regarding doing a better job in preparing students for college in the high schools?

D. Larson responded that there is a need and if MVCC doesn’t offer dual credit there are several other colleges willing to. He would rather have MVCC continue to have control of the quality and integrity of the courses being offered. R. Spetka remarked that students must take MVCC’s Placement Test as a requirement before being allowed to take dual credit courses. D. Willner remarked that there is an initiative being considered that would have high schools administer a placement test in the students’ junior year allowing the students time to address any shortcomings prior to graduation.

R. Jubenville stated that the FCCC is also looking at dual credit. They may be recommending to SUNY Administration that only dual credit accredited colleges be allowed to offer dual credit education.

MVCC is still moving forward with the accreditation process. Shane McGovern will be invited to provide the College Senate with an update.

D. Larson’s report was approved by common consensus.

NEW BUSINESS

Academic Policy Committee – The APC recommended seven policy changes to be included in the College Catalog effective Fall 2007.

Recommendation #1 clarifies the Policy on Academic Integrity by adding the word “head” after department. Motion was made (S. Bice) and seconded (N. Rutishauser). Motion carried.

Recommendation #2 also clarifies the Policy on Academic Integrity by changing computer center to computer labs, internship to internship sites and changing learning sites to environments. Motion was made (C. Domser) seconded (R. Spetka); the motion carried.

Recommendation #3 is a grammatical change from students cannot to students are not permitted to. Motion was made (S. Bice), seconded (D. Willner); the motion carried.

Recommendation #4 further clarified the Policy on Academic Integrity by adding research after another person’s and adding or creative work. An additional sentence was added to read: “All sources must be properly credited.” Motion was made (C. Domser) and seconded (A. Broski); the motion carried.

Recommendation #5 further defined policies regarding matriculation and re-matriculation. Motion was made (D.Larson) and seconded (D. Katz); the motion carried.

Discussion concerning the need to add an exception for veterans took place. W. Perrotti will refer this to the APC and ask that a recommendation be submitted for the March 6th College Senate meeting.

Recommendation #6 addressed withdrawal from a course. To maintain consistency a withdrawal must now occur prior to the official last date as established by the Registrar. Also, students can now withdraw from a course without approval from their academic department head or academic advisor. A motion was made (R. Jubenville) and seconded (D. Katz); the motion carried.

Recommendation #7 addressed establishing a glossary of terms at the back of the College Catalog rather than defining terms throughout the Catalog. A motion was made (A. Broski) and seconded by (A. Doughtie); the motion carried.

Student Opinion Survey results – W. Perrotti opened the discussion by stating that the results are embarrassing and asking what can be done to improve them particularly as they pertain to instruction. A lengthy discussion took place. R. Jubenville remarked that the results were not all bad news. R. Feola remarked that progress had been made in some areas and that many were already working to improve services.

It was ultimately determined that “we” all needed to re-commit to excellence. The College Senate proposes the following initial steps:

- Direct the Strategic Planning Committee to develop a specific initiative to address the results of any surveys of this nature.

- The College Senate supports the investigation into an outside qualitative research firm for marketing and other purposes as discussed by J. Andrek.
 - The College Senate will conduct a series of student/faculty/staff forums to discuss how “we” can improve.
 - The College Senate will encourage more faculty involvement on Strategic Planning Committee Work Groups.
- * S. Bice, C. Domser, D. Katz and B. Quist volunteered to draft a proclamation regarding a re-commitment to excellence. A draft will be available for review/discussion at the March 6th College Senate meeting.

Senate Representation on the SPC - A motion was made (R. Thomas) and seconded by (T. Haroon) to re-appoint Rich Stempien and Marie Kohl. The motion carried.

Implications of the 2007-2008 (15/0) Academic Calendar – Due to the lateness of the hour this agenda item is tabled until the March 6th meeting of the College Senate.

College Senate Bylaws review/revision – Due to the lateness of the hour this agenda item is tabled until the March 6th meeting of the College Senate.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

D. Willner moved and S. Bice seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be Tuesday, March 6, 2007, @ 2:30 p.m. in PH 300.

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting: Monday, February 19, 2007, @ 2:00 p.m., place TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bice, Senator and
Acting Recording Secretary