

**MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UTICA AND ROME, NEW YORK**

**Strategic Planning Committee
Thursday, October 18, 2007
3:00 pm-PH 300 and PC 209**

Present: Joan Andrek, Franca Armstrong, Ron Cantor, Eileen Dailey, Denise DiGiorgio, Sandra Engel, Ralph Feola, Patty Fox, Paul Halko, Brian Judycki, Lewis Kahler, Paul Katchmar, Don Kelly, Denis Kennelty, Michael McHarris, Mary Noti, Samson Olaode, Beverly Quist, Mark Radlowski, Maria Ramos, Norayne Rosero, Randall VanWagoner, Donna Sawyer-White

Chair Eileen Dailey called the meeting to order at 3:04PM

1. Review/Approval of Agenda: On a motion by Denis Kennelty, seconded by Joan Andrek and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as submitted.
2. Public Comments: None
3. Review/Approval of the Minutes of the September 13, 2007 Meeting: On a motion by Mark Radlowski, seconded by Franca Armstrong, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the September 13 meeting were approved as submitted.
4. Board of Trustees Retreat: President Van Wagoner reported that he had conducted a one-day retreat with the Board of Trustees on October 11th, 2007. At the retreat, he summarized for the board the activities and results of the October 2-3 Strategic Planning Committee retreat. The president will continue to act as a facilitator between the SPC and the Board of Trustees on strategic planning.
5. Strategic Planning Committee Retreat: Since the October 2-3 SPC retreat, President Van Wagoner has sorted the issues developed in the SPOT matrix exercise portion of the retreat and has drafted a set of statements (Directions/Priorities/Initiatives) addressing the issues identified. He presented a draft of these statements to the committee. The statements reflect five-year (2008-2013) and one-year (2008-2009) time frames. Five "draft" Level I Directions have been identified: Student Success, Creative Partnerships, Academic Excellence, Vibrant Culture, and Leveraged Resources. For each Level I direction, two or three "draft" Level II Priorities have been identified for consideration during the 2008-2013 period. For the 2008-2009 planning period, "draft" Level III initiatives have been identified that provide more specific language for each of the priorities. A copy of this draft was provided to SPC members.

Eileen Dailey and Mark Radlowski reviewed the current (January 2007) Strategic Plan and identified common areas between the current and proposed approaches to planning. A copy of their report, "Crossroads for Strategic Planning," was provided. The review found that most of the objectives identified under the current plan's eight strategic goals

fit into one or more of the initiatives identified in the proposal. Six of the current objectives have no counterpart in the new initiatives.

President VanWagoner asked for reactions to the proposed plan. It was noted that the proposed plan provides directions while the existing plan is more prescriptive. The new proposal is more strategic while the present plan is more tactical in its approach. The new plan would tend to enhance interdepartmental cooperation rather than assigning objectives to specific single units of the college. The new direction and the new terminology may also encourage more participation from the college community.

Joan Andrek asked what impact the new planning initiative would have on existing work groups. Under the current plan, each of the eight college-wide goals is assigned to a work group, which contains members from the SPC as well as other members within and outside of the college. Under the proposed plan, these work groups would most likely no longer be assigned these responsibilities. Instead, temporary ad-hoc work groups would be assembled to work on specific initiatives and the groups would be dissolved at the completion of the task.

President VanWagoner discussed the proposed new planning model with Middle States representative Dr. Stuart Bounds, who will chair the evaluation team for the accreditation site visit next March. Dr. Bounds was supportive of the new approach and recommended that the Self Study Report identify the need for our strategic plan to become more strategic and show the shift in the direction of the plan.

Denis Kennelty asked whether this new planning model also would result in a revision to the college's mission and vision statements. President VanWagoner is considering development of a "Core" staff development class that would be completed by faculty and staff. The TLC is developing the curriculum for these classes. The class may be offered in Spring 2008 as a pilot. President VanWagoner suggested that this core class may be the appropriate time for the college community to revisit the issue of college mission, vision and core values as part of that curriculum.

6. Self Study Open Forums: A number of forums have been held. The Strategic Planning Committee needs to work on identifying effective means of communicating with the college community and to develop a strategy to achieve fuller communication.
7. Duties of Strategic Planning Committee Members: Patty Fox and Don Kelly prepared a description of SPC member duties that was scheduled for consideration at the May 2007 SPC meeting. Due to time constraints, this discussion was delayed until fall. The draft statement of duties is attached. Since the planning model and strategic planning committee membership will be changing, it was decided to table discussion of this topic.
8. Next Steps for the Strategic Planning Committee: President VanWagoner asked committee members to consider the draft Directions/Priorities/Initiatives list and Crossroads document prior to the next meeting and to provide feedback.

It was noted that changes in the membership and organization of the SPC may require changes in the bylaws of the committee.

Departments and faculty can use the existing strategic goals and objectives during the upcoming budget process.

The next meeting will be scheduled in 2-3 weeks to discuss a timeline for preparing for the Self Study process.

9. On a motion by Franca Armstrong, seconded by Denis Kennelty and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Kelly
Documentation Specialist