

**MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Utica and Rome, New York

**COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, November 4, ACC 116

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**Present:** D. Bogan, D. Boyce, A. Broski, T. Capraro, N. Chrisman, C. Domser, A. Doughtie, S. Frisbee, H. Gagnon-Lambert, S. Getchell, K. Hartman, D. Horton, D. Ianno, R. Jubenville, B. Judycki, D. Katz, J. Smrtic, D. McDermott, J. Maio, W. Perrotti, R. Pucine, B. Quist, M. Radlowski, T. Schink, S. Selden, S. Senior, R. Spetka, C. Svoboda, C. Way, D. Willner, and J. Zegarelli.

**Students:** R. Day and T. Stong.

**Absent/excused:** A. Dean, K. Capuana, D. Hoffman, C. Miller, M. Tretter, and R. VanWagoner.

**Guests:** J. Bullis, R. Cantor, P. Fox, N. Gioppo, N. Rosero, and E. Searles.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of October 7, 2008, were approved by common consensus.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

W. Perrotti thanked Margaret Decker for making the name signs. He announced that there would be a rollover meeting the following Tuesday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, and outlined which agenda items would be dealt with at that time. He is still lacking student members to committees, and recently discovered that the students were under the impression that only Student Congress members could serve. He will try to have a list soon. W. Perrotti also met with the President and V.P. Eannace on sustainability and attended the Student Congress meeting. He was unable to attend the Board of Trustees meeting.

**STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT**

R. Day reported that the call will go out soon for volunteers for the Red Kettle campaign for the Salvation Army.

**SPECIAL REPORTS**

Vice President for Administrative Services: Ralph Feola reported that he attended a business meeting of community colleges to discuss the New York State budget. He stated that 66% of the state's \$53 million budget goes to K-12, health, and higher education. Capital funding is separate from operational funding, and so is not affected by the economic downturn. He also announced that IT has new software called On Base, which will be used to produce paperless records, and new datamining software. IT is planning the upgrade of Banner 8. Lastly, he reported that the college will purchase an electronic sign for the Utica campus, to be placed at the Sherman Drive entrance by the Parkway.

North American Council on Staff and Program Organization Development (NCSPOD): D. Katz described the NCSPOD conference he attended. He plans to attend staff and department meetings to determine what college employees want to learn for staff development.

Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) & MVCC transfer status: R. Jubenville presented a resolution developed by the FCCC stating that the community colleges would like a seamless transfer of first and second year courses with no questions, and would like a SUNY committee formed to develop this. He asked for the Senate's endorsement of this resolution. J. Maio moved, and D. Katz seconded, to endorse. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions. J. Maio added that the transfer problems are all within SUNY; private colleges present no problem.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Promotion Review Task Force: C. Domser announced that the Task Force will meet this coming Thursday (Nov. 6) to discuss internal processes rather than any collective bargaining issues.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

College calendar: Nick Gioppo described two changes made in the proposed college calendar since the last Senate meeting: Columbus Day is no longer a Professional Development day, and the last two dates in the summer 2010 session were changed to July 22 (8 week session end) and July 27 (8 week grades due). Question was raised by J. Smrtic as to the possibility of increasing the length of classes. R. Cantor pointed out the need to appeal to students who aren't yet attending MVCC by offering classes at non-traditional times, such as evenings and possibly Saturdays. W. Perrotti pointed out that the college calendar can be used as a marketing tool; therefore, we need an overriding vision of what we want the calendar to do. D. Katz stated that there might be an ecological advantage to having a break in February and shutting the campus down. He also mentioned that President VanWagoner feels the campus needs to be more accessible to non-traditional students. R. Spetka moved, and K. Hartman seconded, to accept the proposed calendar changes as outlined by Nick. The motion carried, with none opposed and three (3) abstentions. T. Capraro moved, and D. Willner seconded, to accept the proposed calendar. The motion failed, with 19 opposed, 5 in favor, and 6 abstentions.

N. Gioppo then pulled out two alternate calendars, one patterned the same as the one we currently have, and one that compromises. The compromise calendar includes a March break, three days for finals, President's Day and Good Friday off, and a week off before the summer semester starts. D. Katz moved, and D. Willner seconded, to consider this calendar. B. Quist felt the calendar could not use the term "Good Friday" because it would be considered religious discrimination, and suggested that the word "Good" be taken out. After further discussion, D. Katz moved, and R. Jubenville seconded, to accept the change. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions. T. Schink moved, and D. Katz seconded, to approve the revised compromise version. The motion carried, with two (2) opposed and two (2) abstentions.

It was felt that the Calendar Committee be directed to use the rest of the semester to consider suggestions for new approaches to the calendar and to get data on how best to serve the students. D. Katz felt that the Senate's overarching view should be that the calendar should support students'

needs. A motion for the Calendar Committee to look at approaches to the calendar including altering the length of classes in order to best serve the needs of the students and to maximize accessibility was moved by K. Hartman and seconded by D. Bogan. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions. It was decided that the Committee could report on their findings at the March Senate meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

S. Frisbee moved, and K. Hartman seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned by common consensus at 4:30 p.m.