

Mohawk Valley Community College

MVCC Senate Faculty Caucus

Tuesday, August 25, 2015

2 pm—PH 300

Present: C. Miller (Chair), R. Labuz, C. Bolton, R. Mink, J. Roberts, A. Haines-Stephan, A. Radlowski, D. Kelly, A. Doughtie, J. Brown, A. Fried, N. Gioppo, G. Searles, N. Rosero, D. Ayers-Darling, J. Bauman, A. Miller, M. Reilly, D. Thomas, M. Barlett

Guests: President VanWagoner, VP Eannace

1. Faculty Caucus Chair Christine Miller welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order.
2. The first order of business was to determine a note-taker for meeting minutes. The general consensus was that the responsibility of note-taker would rotate among the faculty senate members.
3. The minutes of the April 21st Faculty Caucus meeting were approved (C. Bolton moved, A. Haines-Stephan seconded; minutes approved unanimously).
4. President VanWagoner, accompanied by VP Eannace, presented information on SUNY Excels. He gave the timeline in which SUNY presented the initial idea of SUNY Excels (November, 2013), the various iterations of SUNY Excels, and a timeline in which SUNY expects colleges to choose its top five of the seventeen items within the five “buckets” (Access, Completion, Success, Inquiry, and Engagement) of SUNY Excels. The MVCC Board of Trustees would need to approve the top five by their September 21st meeting, and the College would need to respond to SUNY by October, 2015.

Pres. VanWagoner and VP Eannace proposed a survey that would be distributed to all areas of the College (Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Administrative Services) to solicit feedback on our preferences of, requests for clarification on, and/or our own definitions for the seventeen items.

Pres. VanWagoner believes these will not be the criteria for performance-based funding, but in the language of SUNY, “these are the metrics that we [will] commit to focus on.”

5. The topic of finding a better place for syllabi statements was discussed and several options were presented. The one which seemed to have the most interest was an electronic version which would require a student’s acceptance (similar to the alert system on SIRS). Related questions ensued: Who requires which statements in syllabi? Is it necessary to distribute hard copies of syllabi? Is there consistency across campus in the type (hard or electronic) of syllabus students receive?

6. In the open forum portion of the agenda, the following topics/questions arose:

- Are there any limitations on the number of copies we can make at the copiers? (It was suggested that the only limitation is per job—that a person couldn’t make more than 40 copies of a certain job.)
- Why do all new access cards say “Employee”? Some feel that the elimination of the “Faculty” designation devalues the faculty.

- While the Interlude has closed, there is still general interest in a faculty space/lounge and faculty would like to remain on the list for space and to be involved in the selection of a space.
- The idea of having an alternate meeting room and alternate meeting times for the Faculty Caucus was discussed. While meeting room space on campus is limited, the Chair will investigate the possibility of changing the meeting location. The meeting time was originally set at 2 pm on Tuesdays to accommodate faculty senators. The Chair will investigate the possibility of varying the meeting days and times.
- The next Faculty Caucus meeting will be on Tuesday, September 22nd, at 2:00 p.m. in PH 300.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Doughtie