

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 6, 2007, PH 300

Present: F. Armstrong, S. Bice, D. Bogan, A. Broski, T. Capraro, C. Domser, A. Doughtie, T. Fournier, K. Hartman, D. Hoffman, D. Ianno, R. Jubenville, B. Judycki, D. Katz, M. Kohl, J. Maio, W. Perrotti, R. Pucine, M. Radlowski, T. Schink, S. Selden, S. Senior, J. Smrtic, R. Spetka, R. Stempien, J. Wells-Tsiatsos, D. Willner, J. Zegarelli, and R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: N. Lawrence and A. Salisbury.

Excused: D. Boyce and R. Thomas.

Absent: A. Marchio.

Guests: J. Andrek, R. Cantor, T. Carbone, E. Dailey, S. Frisbee, P. Katchmar, D. McDermott, N. Rosero, and E. Searles.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:36 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The consent agenda consisted of: a revised list of Senate members and Senate Committee members, the minutes of the October 2, 2007, meeting, three FCCC resolutions and a report from the FCCC President, the chairperson's report, and a Staff Development Committee progress report. The latter was deferred until the December meeting because the Committee will be doing further work on it.

Chairperson Perrotti provided an oral rather than a written chairperson's report. He announced that Senator Richard Thomas has resigned, and with the death of Senator David Ferdon there is now a need for two replacements on the Senate. He met with Eileen Dailey to work on the wording of the bylaws concerning elections and membership. He met with Norayne Rosero concerning the study group's revised portion of the Self-Study on the Senate and Sue Bice's revision. Chairperson Perrotti also met with the President about proposed cell phone policy.

S. Bice moved, and R. Stempien seconded, to accept the consent agenda. The motion carried by common consensus.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President VanWagoner asked Paul Katchmar to speak about communication within the college. Katchmar reported that the college has been upgrading their network from Sisco to Nortel. Beginning January 3rd, 560 new telephones will be installed and the old telephones removed. The new telephones will be activated on Friday, February 4, and will operate through the same lines as the Internet. Training on use of the new phones will be offered during the week of January 28th. Everyone will have the same phone number. Question was raised as to what would happen to the phones if the power went out or the server went down. The reply was that the phone system would be down. Katchmar said that the benefit of this new system is that various services and features could be added on later.

President VanWagoner then reported that he had met with the Strategic Planning Committee, who are in the process of updating the college's strategic plan to make it more strategic and less operational. In the spring sub-plans, such as a technology plan, will be formulated. He then reported that Governor Spitzer's Senior Adviser, Lloyd Constantine, visited MVCC the previous week (he is in the process of visiting all SUNY campuses). Topics/problems discussed included: improving the ease of transfer between SUNY campuses with common course numbering and other changes; funding, especially more from the state for capital projects, as county funding is often lacking; making it easier for students to college part-time by eliminating the full-time student bias for TAP; and speeding up approval of new curriculum. A draft of the compiled recommendations from his visit to all campuses will be out by December 1st, with the final recommendations appearing by June 1st.

The President announced that he received 71 volunteers for the new advisory group representing different employee statuses. He will now formulate the group, which will be meeting before the end of the month.

He then reported that he will be taking the Senate membership changes (specifically, the Vice President positions changing to at-large positions) to the Board at the next meeting. Before taking the cell phone policy approved by the Senate last May to the Board, he wanted input from the Senate as to why this was not a student code of conduct/classroom management problem. The Senators stated in the ensuing discussion that the policy is needed in order to support classroom management and enforce student conduct.

REPORT OF STUDENT CONGRESS

N. Lawrence introduced Ashley Salisbury, and announced that Amber Rudwall is the new Student Congress President, with B. Burns having been elected the new Vice President of Governmental Affairs. With Selma Mujevic leaving, a new Student Trustee will be elected after Thanksgiving, during the first week of December. They will be looking at amending the bylaws so that a person can run in their second semester at MV for an office that begins in their second year. Finally, on Friday, November 9, at 1:00 in ACC 212 the Student Congress will present President VanWagoner with a large white apron signed by the students.

OLD BUSINESS

Senate Bylaws, Appendix 6: College Senate and Senate Committee Election Procedures: This item was deferred until the December meeting.

2008-09 Academic Calendar: The College-Wide Calendar Committee presented a draft of the 2008-2009 Academic Calendar. R. Jubenville pointed out that many summer students at MV are transfer students, and expressed concern that such an early start to the summer semester would not allow students time to transfer and start classes, resulting in a loss of students. D. Willner also pointed out that the calendar does not allow enough time to process grades in the spring and summer semesters. D. Katz moved to change the date that grades are due in Spring 2009 from Wednesday, May 13, at noon to Thursday, May 14, at noon, and to change Tuesday, May 12 from a study day/snow day to a snow day. The motion was seconded by D. Willner. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions. D. Katz then moved, and N. Lawrence seconded, to approve the revised calendar. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

Reaction to the Middle States Self-Study references to the Senate: A rewrite of the portion of the Middle States Self-Study relating to the Senate was presented. S. Bice stated that this

second draft is worded as offensively and inaccurately as the first draft. S. Bice felt that her rewrite of this portion is a more accurate reflection of the current state of the Senate. S. Bice moved to request the Steering Committee to substitute her rewrite for what is in the Self-Study; A. Broski seconded. The motion carried, with 3 abstentions and none opposed.

Promotion decision appeal policy: Deferred until the December meeting.

College smoking policy: Deferred until the December meeting.

Future College Forum Topics: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed abolishment of the College Senate Committee for Services to Students with Disabilities: Due to the absence of Lynn Igoe, this item was tabled until the December meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Diversity and Global View Committee: At the Senate meeting of Tuesday, May 8, the Senate approved a Student Plan for advancing diversity/global view at MVCC, provided that a support letter be generated from the chairs of the College-Wide Curriculum and General Education Committees. Such letters of support have been written by Stephen Frisbee, Chair of the College-Wide Curriculum Committee, and Colleen Bolton, Chair of the General Education Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

D. Katz moved, and B. Judycki seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned by common consensus at 4:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be Tuesday, **December 4, 2007**, at **2:30 p.m.** in PH 300.

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be on Monday, November 19, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 104F.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senator and Recording Secretary