

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 4, and Tuesday, November 11, 2008, ACC 116

Tuesday, November 4:

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 11th, 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.

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

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

Students: none.

Absent/excused: A. Dean, K. Capuana, N. Chrisman, R. Day, D. Hoffman, B. Judycki, C. Miller, R. Pucine, T. Stong, C. Svoboda, and J. Zegarelli.

Guests: D. DiGiorgio, R. Feola, N. Gerzonich, D. Gibbons, N. Gioppo, N. Rosero, and E. Searles.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner reported that he is part of a United Way committee and will let the Senate know more about their refocusing of what the money collected will go for. He spoke about the projected impact of the New York State budget cuts, stating that we should "maintain an air of creativity," using it as an opportunity to examine how we do things. He appealed to the Senators as leaders to take a no tolerance approach to incivility in the workplace, for which he has a low tolerance. This includes losing tempers in front of students and colleagues and also via emails. He feels that it goes against the college's core value of collaboration. He met with the Hiring Design Team, and asked Senators to review the recommendations for comments and consideration at the December Senate meeting. Concerning the calendar, President VanWagoner pointed out that Presidents' Day is not a recognized holiday in the list of contract-negotiated holidays, and that recognizing Good Friday as a holiday conflicts with diversity and global view. He hoped that the calendar decided upon will serve as a template for the next few years.

OLD BUSINESS

College Calendar: A. Doughty moved, and D. Bogan seconded to accept the proposed compromise calendar presented at last week's Senate meeting, with the amendment of eliminating Presidents' Day and Good Friday as holidays. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions. A. Broski

requested that students be informed that they won't be able to see their grades until after commencement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affirmative Action Committee revised report on hiring: Dennis Gibbons reviewed the Hiring Design Team's recommended phases in the hiring process. Search committees will be called screening committees. MVCC seems to be the only college without an online application, which is required to be filled out along with the provision of an electronically submitted resume and cover letter. Candidates will be informed as to their status at each phase of the process. Hiring would be approved two levels up, mostly by the V.P.s, who can veto candidates, though dialogue about this will be encouraged. Suggestions for revisions should be sent to Dennis; Senators are encouraged to share this with their constituencies. Dennis will bring the revised document to the December Senate meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Academic Advisement/Reporting: tabled.

ADJOURNMENT

J. Maio moved, and D. Katz seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned by common consensus at 4:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at 2:30 p.m.**, place TBA.

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, December 1, at 3:00 p.m., place TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senator and Recording Secretary