

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 2, 2010, IT 225

Present: D. Boyce, A. Broski, N. Chrisman, J. DeWeerth, C. Domser, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, K. Hartman, D. Hoffman, D. Ianno, D. Katz, A. Light, J. Maio, D. McDermott, C. Miller, R. Musante, J. Palmer, M. Parry, R. Pucine, B. Quist, M. Radlowski, T. Schink, E. Searles, S. Senior, R. Spetka, R. Thomas, C. Way, D. Willner, J. Yager, and President R. Van Wagoner.

Student Senators: D. Nekritz, J. Shumway, and M. Vogt

Absent/Excused: T. Barber, K. Capuana, S. Getchell, B. Judycki, S. Perry-Zasa, S. Selden, D. Skibitski, J. Smrtic, and C. Svoboda.

Guests: R. Cantor, T. Capraro, T. Carbone, M. Chauvin, D. DiGiorgio, A. Doughtie, M. Eannace, R. Feola, P. Fox, R. Haubert, R. Jubenville, D. Kelly, N. Rosero, B. Shaw, M. Snyder, and S. Zohne.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

R. Thomas moved, and M. Vogt seconded, to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2009, meeting. The motion carried by common consensus.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Katz introduced Allen Light, who will replace Deborah Bogan as the Senator representing the Rome campus, new student Senator Jared Shumway, and Carolyn Spohn, who will sit in for Donna Skibitski for this session.

D. Katz attended the Board of Trustees meeting in December and reported the highlights to the Senate. Enrollment is up 14% over this time last year. The intervention program flagged 1,200 students for lack of academic progress, and many of these students attended workshops to help them during the intersession. Spring Institute was a success, with some 400 attendees throughout the ten workshops and plenary session. There was a 48% return rate on surveys assessing the Spring Institute workshops. D. Katz also reported that the President's Cabinet did not revise the Emeritus process. D. Katz then reviewed the process by which the Senate Committee charters would be revised by the individual committees using a template form, and then reviewed by the Senate Advisory Committee before being brought before the Senate for approval. He also announced that the Senate would be receiving Board of Trustees policies to review, and emphasized that this is important work which Senators should be sure to read over.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

M. Vogt reported that she met with VP DiGiorgio about the proposed smoking policy for the student handbook. With some rewording by VP DiGiorgio, it will go to the Board for approval in February. R. Thomas asked why we should have a policy that the college does not have enough manpower to enforce. R. Feola responded that it will be up to everyone to enforce it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner awarded the Heart of the Hawk to Tom Capraro, and the Pride of the Hawk to Brandon Shaw.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Eannace reported that as of February 2 there is a 77% fill rate on classes, based on a 5% class size increase over last spring. She also reported that over 3,000 seats were filled from the wait list this semester, an indication that it is functioning well. R. Thomas requested that M. Eannace put out a call for comments from faculty on how it worked, as he experienced problems. M. Eannace also reported that last fall 3 full-time tenure-track faculty positions were

filled, with 21 more full-time tenure-track faculty positions and one full-time teaching assistant position to be filled this semester. Many of us will be called upon to serve on screening committees for these positions. The innovation team leaders have made great headway. Frank Przybycien has moved into his new office on the corner of Elizabeth Street. M. Eannace also announced that a new visitor from Vietnam would be on campus this semester. She also announced that PH 304 will be renovated, with an art gallery. Linda Suskie from Middle States will be coming to campus on April 8 and 9 to give workshops in Middle States assessment. The respiratory therapy program was re-accredited with flying colors; TAC-ABET also passed. Lastly, an employee climate survey will be done in April.

FCCC REPORT

E. Searles will attend the plenary meeting in March in Buffalo, to which governance leaders have also been invited (therefore, D. Katz will also be attending). There is an ongoing discussion about GEAR (General Education Assessment Review) and how it affects transfer, and also about a new state law which requires that students be told which textbooks they will need at the time of registration for classes. She also encouraged faculty to the SUNY Strategic Plan web site (<http://www.suny.edu/strategicplan/>) and, under "Conversations," answer questions on the topics presented.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Changes to SUNY Assessment Initiative for fall 2010: M. Radlowski reported that there is now an emphasis on student mobility within SUNY. Students must now complete 30 credits for a baccalaureate degree and demonstrate knowledge and skills in 7 silos (formerly 10) and 2 competencies. Two silos, communications and math, are required. This will make it easier for our students to transfer to a SUNY four-year college. SUNY is also asking every college to list its transferrable courses on its web site. M. Radlowski also reported that there is talk of neither the SUNY nor the Middle States assessment being the driving force behind the college's general education requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

GEAR update: M. Radlowski presented the triennial update report for the General Education Assessment Review, which he needed the Senate's approval before sending in. R. Spetka moved, and D. Boyce seconded, to approve the report. The motion carried with none opposed and one (1) abstention.

Board policies: P. Fox explained that the Board of Trustees is revising its policies. The new manual will consist of policies referring to already established procedures. All Board policies will go to the Senate Advisory Committee and those which have a major impact will come to the Senate for perusal. P. Fox presented three (3) for Senate input: travel, purchasing, and meeting refreshment reimbursement.

Senate Bylaws changes to reflect new composition: K. Hartman presented changes in Articles 3 and 5 of the Bylaws to reflect the new post-reorganization composition. After discussion, it was decided to do further work on wording and bring it back to the Senate at the March meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Spetka moved, and D. McDermott seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned by common consensus at 4:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next College Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, March 2nd**, at **2:30 p.m.** in **IT 225**.

The next College Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, February 22, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senator and Recording Secretary