

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 4, 2011, IT 225

College Senate web page: <http://www.mvcc.edu/senate/senate-home>

Present: L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, S. Cummings, S. Dar, J. Dewan, J. DeWeerth, D. Elseth, L. Flynt, S. Frisbee, E. Hantsch, D. Horton, D. Hydellund, D. Katz, D. Kelly, A. Light, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, G. Melendez, J. Mihevc, B. Molinaro, M. Parry, B. Quist, M. Radlowski, J. Smrtic, M. Sorrentino, R. Spetka, M. Syed, C. Way, J. Wilcox, J. Woodrow, and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: J. Coleman.

Absent/Excused: D. Boyce, R. Fish, P. Katchmar, D. Nekritz, R. Pucine, J. Roberts, G. Searles, J. Yager, and W. Zogby.

Guests: J. Bullis, M. Buttenschon, L. Doherty, A. Doughtie, M. Eannace, K. Evans-Dame, R. Feola, P. Fox, K. Hartman, R. Haubert, J. Maio, J. Myers, W. Perrotti, S. Reynolds, N. Rosero, M. Snyder, and S. Zohne.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

M. Parry moved, and J. Wilcox seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2011 meeting. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Katz reported on Senate issues to the Cabinet on September 13th and to the Board of Trustees on September 19th. He delivered an open workshop on civility on both the Utica and Rome campuses on September 28 as part of the spring forum. Seventy five students attended the Utica campus workshop. He attended the FCCC fall plenary for governance leaders on September 23rd and 24th, which B. Quist helped organize at Hotel Utica. In response to MVCC's Pledge to Complete commitment, he attended the program featuring storyteller Shane Meeker from Proctor & Gamble on September 16th and the SHN follow-up on September 29th and 30th with Dick and Pat Carter. D. Katz announced that N. Chrisman and J. Woodrow would be the Senate representatives on the Evaluation and Review Design Team, and that S. Dar and Nick Gioppo would serve on the Calendar Work Group.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

J. Coleman reported there was an executive retreat on October 10th. Club advisor training is coming up. He also reported that students have voiced concerns about smoking; they have requested another smoking area and smoking gazebo. D. Kelly interjected that the Safety and Security Committee did a Survey Monkey survey with the students on this issue, and will be presenting recommendations to the Senate Advisory Committee for the November Senate meeting. J. Coleman stated that an online forum for students has been created for discussion of the issue. He added that security seems to enforce the current rules at night but not during the day.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner reported that he briefly attended the FCCC fall plenary for governance leaders on September 24. He also attended a workshop to explore the elements of design thinking. The workshop

was attended by members of the Senate Advisory Committee. The idea is that our current economy is not a “down” economy but a new economy. Performance-based funding, based on student outcomes and college completion, is being introduced in some states. Several Senators expressed concerns that this type of funding was targeting community colleges. President VanWagoner also stated that Kristen Bowers presented the Wellness Design Team recommendations to the Cabinet. The final results of that report will be presented in November. The President also noted that his office now has one door rather than two, giving Toni Carbone’s successor, Jill Heintz, more privacy, as her job is a combination of Toni’s and Eileen Dailey’s jobs. President VanWagoner then presented the Heart of the Hawk Award to Sarah Coleman and the Pride of the Hawk Award to Liz Doherty.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

V.P. Eannace’s report is appended at the end of these minutes.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

B. Quist stated that at a Senate meeting in 2009 our Senate endorsed the opposition to the publication of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement on the grounds that it violated students’ privacy, that it may be used to compare colleges and programs, and that it violates SUNY policy. SUNY is no longer paying for it; therefore, MVCC will not be doing the CCSSE in 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

Safety and Security Committee charter: D. Kelly, on behalf of the committee, requested a change in the committee’s membership, taking out one representative position and thereby reducing the total number of members to 15. K. Hartman pointed out that, according to the state regulation that mandated the committee, the membership must be half male and half female. Since a total of 15 members could never be half male and half female, it would imply to anyone from the state who might be checking that the committee is not trying to follow the regulations. It is understood that, in practical terms, it is seldom possible for the composition to consist of exactly half men and half women, but it is important for the committee to appear to be complying by at least making it possible with an even number of members. B. Quist moved to send the charter back to the committee for further consideration. J. Wilcox seconded the motion. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

Bundling of textbooks with access codes to online resources: A complaint was registered to the Senate Advisory Committee that some instructors require students to purchase textbook bundles that include access codes that they pay for but then end up never using. These access codes are often separate from the textbook and are an additional cost. It was felt that instructors have the responsibility to use the online resources if they’re requiring their students to purchase the access codes to it. A discussion then ensued as to the problem of the high cost of textbooks. J. Dewan noted that in mathematics it is not appropriate to allow students to use older editions of the current textbook, because enough is changed or rearranged so that it would be difficult and confusing trying to find the same assigned problem in the different editions. However, in other disciplines, the changes in text from one edition to another may make it feasible for students who cannot afford a new text to use a cheaper older edition. J. Coleman pointed out that Syracuse University uses ebooks and book rentals with great success. J. Coleman moved, and M. Radlowski seconded, to form an ad hoc committee on the textbook problem. The motion carried with none opposed and one abstention. It was suggested that Lynn Igoe and George Goerner as well as someone from the bookstore be included in this committee. J. Coleman, D. McDermott, K. Hartman, J. Wilcox, G. Melendez, and J. Woodrow volunteered to serve on the committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Faculty credentials in the college catalog: W. Perrotti felt that the college catalog should contain a list of faculty and staff with their credentials. He also remarked that the creation of centers has pushed faculty

farther apart rather than bringing them together. B. Quist supported his comments. J. Smrtic moved that in the future faculty and staff should be included in the college catalog. D. Horton also recommended that the Faculty/Staff Directory on the college web site be kept up to date. B. Quist agreed that the web site needs much more timely updating. J. Smrtic moved that faculty and staff, along with their credentials, be included in future editions of the college catalog, and that the directory on the web site be updated more often. D. McDermott seconded. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

Responsibilities of club advisors: D. Elseth asked if there were a list of the responsibilities of a club advisor. It was asked why club advisors must now accompany any off-campus club outings. J. Coleman replied that it is for liability and safety reasons, as well as to insure accountability for the expenditure of funds. He added that club advisor training is a one-time event; once trained, you need not take it again. M. Snyder asked if there was a student travel design team at some point in the past. S. Cummings replied that she thought there was, but did not know the outcome of it. S. Reynolds added that club advisors only need to accompany off-campus outings if they are official, college-sponsored events. If club members meet off-campus unofficially, advisors need not go. S. Cummings felt there should be two advisors per club, so that if one advisor cannot accompany a club to an off-campus event the other advisor can.

Business before the Senate: J. Coleman wanted to know what concerns are appropriate to bring before the Senate and what aren't. D. Katz replied that concerns should be brought before the Senate Advisory Committee, who then determines if they should come before the entire Senate. D. Katz said he would put out a call for concerns from the campus community via email before each Senate Advisory Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

J. Coleman moved, and R. Spetka seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 4:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, October 24, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 391.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary

APPENDIX: VP EANNACE'S REPORT TO THE SENATE

Learning and Academic Affairs Unit Update

October 2011

Dear Colleagues,

As we near the halfway point of our Fall Semester, it does seem that so many of our projects, hopes and aspirations are coming to fruition. Following are some of our quests for this academic year and some of the rewards we are in the process of reaping from the work we all have done up to this point.

All about completion! And All about Academic Excellence! It is so gratifying this semester and moving forward, that so much of our energy will be focused on how we work *with* students on the nationally-developed and locally-embraced ***Commitment to Completion!*** Our Phi Theta Kappa students are leading the movement and you may have taken part in 'signing the wall' to support students' commitment to completing their academic goals in a timely manner. Our role continues to include mentoring, encouraging, facilitating our students' quests—and equally, to maintain (and even improve) our academic excellence. It is not incidental that the extent to which we are all successful on this quest will also have a real effect on our future funding, as Federal and State directions are clearly set on evaluating colleges on completion.

Academic Annual Plan Ready! Thank you to so many in the Learning and Academic Affairs Unit for the feedback, thoughtful ideas and suggestions on our first Annual Academic Plan! Please see the results of your handiwork by linking to [Click to access the Academic Plan](#) (This is a temporary site until we develop a permanent home for the Plan.) You will see that the Design Teams' work of 2009-2010 and 2010-11 is reflected in the priorities of the new plan. For more info on Design Team actions already taken and for new Design Team Charters, please [Click to access Design Teams](#). (Note that you need to hold down Ctrl and click on the link.)

Speaking of Design Teams... You will notice in the Academic Plan that there is reference to both Design Teams and Workgroups. The difference might be loosely defined as the Design Teams working on major research and design of best practices as applied to ways of our taking major steps forward in how we do our work. The Workgroups tend to be more focused on the ways of implementing changes, the nuts and bolts of making things run better. If you haven't tested the water yet on participating in Design Teams or Workgroups, please do consider serving! Just let Rich Pucine know of your interest.

Currently in action are two Design Teams—Service Learning and Internships. Soon to be launched is an Honors Program Design Team. The Dean Team is working to spread out the scheduling of the various Design Teams and Workgroups so that the work isn't overwhelming and so that we can be more agile in following up on the recommendations.

And speaking of conversations... I am pleased to invite any and all members of the Academic Unit to informal chats with me on November 2 and November 10 at 3pm in PH394 in Utica. (Please r.s.v.p. with Mary Noti.) I would also like to schedule a conversation in Rome. Would our Rome

colleagues please let Mary know what times might be good in early November? Should there be interest, I am more than happy to schedule additional times!

Building Our College Community We are currently in search or have just completed searches for ten new colleagues and we are holding back on two additional searches that will wait until some of the new folks are in place. Thanks to all who help in this critical process!

New Program approval has been received from SUNY and State Ed on our Geospatial Technology AAS Degree! We anticipate a first graduate this May!

We survived and even thrived in our first outing with DegreeWorks! Huzzah! We'll get better as we go forward. Likewise, our new search software, PeopleAdmin is proving to be *really* useful in the search process—despite a recent glitch that 'assigned' folks to committees, rather than *inviting* participation. (We don't assign...we only invite!)

Thanks for reading! Please come by and chat. The coffee is almost always on! (And I recently acquired one of those instant hot water pots that will allow for tea as well!) And thanks for all you do to make this the wonderful place it is!

Fondly,

Maryrose