

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 6, 2012, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, J. Brown, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, S. Cummings, S. Dar, J. Dewan, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, E. Hantsch, K. Hartman, J. Hicks, D. Ianno, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, A. Light, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, G. Melendez, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, R. Pucine, M. Radlowski, G. Searles, J. Smrtic, J. Wilcox, J. Yager and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators:

Absent/Excused: L. Flynt, D. Hyldelund, J. Livadas, J. Mihevc, C. Pulquerio, A. Rudder, C. Sleys, M. Sorrentino, R. Spetka, and W. Zogby.

Guests: J. Bullis, A. Doughtie, M. Eannace, S. Engel, R. Feola, J. Lynch, C. Pace, J. Palmer, R. Quest, S. Reynolds, N. Rosero, K. Skobla, and Gail Warchol.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

J. Wilcox moved, and L. Charbonneau seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2012, meeting, with two minor corrections. The motion carried by common consensus.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly reported on the three Senate ad hoc committees. The Emeritus Status Committee, consisting of N. Chrisman, R. Labuz, S. Frisbee, J. Brown, and J. Mihevc, has met several times and has submitted recommendations for today's meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee on Open Labs, consisting of C. Glod, K. Lince, S. Myalik, J. Yager, J. Palmer, P. Katchmar, and M. Pearson, has been formed and begun discussion but is not ready to report yet. The Ad Hoc Social Justice Committee has not yet been formed. Anyone interested in serving on this committee should submit their name to him.

The issue of Senate representation for the Deans was discussed at the last Senate Advisory Committee meeting, but the SAC is not yet ready to give a report.

The Safety and Security Committee would like to better define the issues surrounding the arming of peace officers before holding the open forum. Chief J. Palmer explained that the college currently has two peace officers per shift. Some are police officers; those who are not must take extensive training in order to qualify to bear a firearm (6 hours of daylight shooting practice and 2 hours of nighttime practice). It is felt that, if peace officers are expected to check cars on campus at night, like regular police do, then they should have all the same equipment. Right now they are armed with tasers, clubs, cuffs, and pepper spray. A question was raised as to the jurisdiction of the peace officers. J. Palmer responded that when on duty on campus their jurisdiction includes Sherman Drive, Armory Drive, and other streets adjoining the college. The plan is to arm only the peace officers, not the regular campus security officers, although the latter have been trained to assist the peace officers. As to whether or not, in the future, all campus security officers will be peace officers, J.

Palmer replied that, yes, by attrition, eventually they will all be peace officers. J. Baumann asked if most community colleges now arm their peace officers. J. Palmer replied that it's about half and half. J. Bullis added that, until recently, community colleges were the only campuses in the state prohibited from having armed police officers; now the law has changed. J. Bullis read off a list of questions he felt should be addressed in the forum, including:

- What exactly will arming mean?
- Will our officers be properly trained?
- Will our peace officers have special training to deal with the unique qualities of our campus?
- What will be done to maximize the engagement of our Safety Department with the rest of the campus?
- What programs will be planned to insure that our faculty and staff understand how an armed Safety Dept. will be different from one that is unarmed?

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

Student Sonia Tal will be attending Senate meetings regularly now.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner reported that emeritus/a status recommendations numbers 2 and 3, which were endorsed by the Senate at the October meeting, were viewed by the Board, who made no changes. They await the forwarding of the first recommendation. SUNY's Shared Services Committee, of which David Katz is a member, has been focused in the past on four-year schools with two-year schools participating in whatever was decided for four-year schools. The community colleges were more focused on at the last meeting. President VanWagoner also reported that most of our students still prefer face-to-face instruction, as opposed to the 10% who are taking online courses. President VanWagoner also pointed out a *Time* magazine article from October 29, 2012, entitled "College is Dead. Long Live College!" (<http://nation.time.com/2012/10/18/college-is-dead-long-live-college/>) about MOOCs (Massive Online Open Courses), which are free online college courses offered by for-profit companies. A big issue for us will be how we deal with transfer students from these programs.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

S. Reynolds reported that collaboration with Shane McGovern has produced over 1,000 dual credit registrations. A large LGBT committee chaired by Robert Chrisman and Mike Henningsen has been working on improving the campus environment for LGBT students. The ADA Compliance Team sponsored a compliance audit, the results from which we will have soon. The academic eligibility requirement for students entering our residence halls has positively affected the atmosphere in those halls. Nevertheless, problems still exist, for which security guards have been stationed at the doors. This fall 23 new international students joined our student body. The goal is for 75 new international students by 2014. The Healthy Lifestyle Workgroup will be focusing this academic year on topics such as alcohol, addictions, stress awareness, and eating disorders. S. Reynolds also announced that the college's mascot, Mo, has been launched.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES (FCCC) REPORT

R. Labuz announced that the FCCC has resolved to support the "Rational Revenue Plan," by which community colleges will be getting the \$55/FTE that they were shorted last year and \$215/FTE for the next three years. This is designed to bring the state to providing 33% of the college's funding, which the New York CCAP mandates. The state began cutting back in 2010, and their aid is 15% lower now than it was in 2009. W. Perrotti moved, and B. Molinaro seconded, to endorse the FCCC resolution. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

The FCCC Governance Committee has made a resolution to create a consultation/visitation procedure to handle situations that threaten to become a vote of no confidence. In the past ten years there have been three of these. R. Labuz also announced that the SUNY President has declared that a focus of this coming year will be philanthropy. There will be a conference in the spring on “systemness.” SUNY also wants to create a “smart track” so students will know what they will have to pay for a degree in total before they sign up for any courses. SUNY is also looking at “cradle to grave” initiatives, which are currently being carried on in Cincinnati and Rochester, during which everyone in the community is involved in the system to help at risk students succeed. Since this program was instituted in Rochester, 19% have received associate degrees. Finally, R. Labuz stated that the Board of Trustees will be getting a resolution from the SUNY Board of Provosts for seamless transfer. The transfer paths are named degrees approved by SUNY faculty. AA and AS programs would be restricted to 64 credits with certain exceptions (especially for programs which require accreditation). The SUNY-operated campuses would guarantee seamless transfer and the possibility of graduation without a total of four years. If programs exceeded 64 credits, community colleges would be required by the Resolution to reduce the number of credits, assuming no exception is granted. Faculty at the FCCC conference suggested that physical education and college seminar courses might be cut to reduce the number to 64 credits. J. Baumann felt that they would probably eliminate the remedial programs. G. Searles had heard that English 102 courses would be cut. W. Perrotti pointed out that students who work or who have children, which is a significant portion of our student body, cannot complete a degree program in two years anyway. The proposal does not take the realities of students’ situations into account. R. Labuz added that the proposal also does not indicate where students may transfer to.

OLD BUSINESS

Emeritus status: R. Labuz, of the Ad Hoc Emeritus Status Committee, reviewed the committee’s decision on honorary titles for retirees. W. Perrotti felt that Board members should be listed in paragraph 3, sentence 3, so that the same criteria apply to them. There was also question of the meaning of “meritorious” in paragraph 4, bullet 3. J. Brown replied that the word has the same roots as “emeritus” and seemed to fit. J. Brown felt that Board members should have their own set of criteria for emeritus/a. W. Perrotti proposed revising the last sentence in the last paragraph, to read: “Such nominations may be made immediately but will normally be made within three years of retirement.” B. Molinaro moved, and J. Brown seconded, to accept the committee’s report with the revision of the last sentence. The motion carried, with none opposed and one abstention.

Civility Committee Charter: D. Kelly presented the proposed charter and membership for the Senate’s Civility Committee. D. McDermott moved, and J. Dewan seconded, to accept the charter and membership. The motion carried, with none opposed and one abstention.

NEW BUSINESS

International Initiatives Committee report: C. Pace reported on the activities of the International Initiatives Committee so far this semester, which included the International Students Reception on September 12, as well as plans for future activities, including several International Cafes, the International Festival on April 10, and an IIC-sponsored discussion of the book *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini on April 16.

Distance Education Work Group report: J. Lynch stated that the Quality Standards Review was given four or five years ago. Its results were forwarded to Middle States but never were sent to the Senate. The criteria developed at the time were for online classes. J. Lynch presented the list of criteria as well as an evaluation form created for online classes which has already been seen by the Deans and Human Resources. K. Capuana moved, and D. Elseth seconded, to accept the criteria and evaluation form. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

Facilities Committee report: D. Kelly reviewed Brian Alguire's report to the Senate from the Facilities Committee. Included was a list of recommendations regarding classrooms. S. Dar pointed out that AB265 is not on the list. D. Kelly stated that the sound problems have been improved as much as they can be. W. Perrotti felt that the room was still difficult to teach in. P. Katchmar asked if there was a budget code for these improvements. He felt that a review of classrooms should be an annual process with a budget behind it. D. Kelly pointed out that that is the committee's first recommendation. He added that the college does not have a complete inventory of the type of classroom, furniture, and technology that each faculty person needs. There is also still no system for assigning classrooms according to needs or preferences. Many classrooms are built to house 40 of the tablet-type chairs; adding tables or bigger chairs will crowd the rooms. D. McDermott moved, and J. Dewan seconded, to accept the recommendations of the Facilities Committee. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

General Education Committee report: D. Kelly reviewed the report of the activities of the General Education Committee thus far in the semester.

ADJOURNMENT

M. McHarris moved, and K. Capuana seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next College Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, November 26, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 391.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary