

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 1, 2014, IT 225

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

Present: C. Bolton, J. Brown, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, J. Coleman, S. Dar, D. Elseth, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. Leahy, J. Livadas, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, G. Melendez, C. Miller, R. Mink, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Rosero, R. Spetka, M. Thomas, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, and J. Woodrow.
Student Senator: R. Marsden and S. Teater.
Absent/Excused: J. Baumann, A. Colucci, S. Frisbee, D. Ianno, B. Molinaro, R. Pucine, J. Yager, and President R. VanWagoner.
Guests: S. Engel, Ms. Ngo Thi Kim Hoa, D. Katz, J. Myers, and T. Squires.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. S. Engel introduced Ms. Hoa, the sixth visiting Vietnamese professor. Ms. Hoa gave a small speech and sang a song in Vietnamese. The Senate sang two songs, "You Are My Sunshine" and "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

R. Spetka moved, and L. Charbonneau seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2014 meeting, with 7 corrections. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly encouraged everyone to take the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE). He reminded everyone that committees' annual reports are due by the end of the semester. He announced that the second Senate meeting in May will be held on Monday, May 19th, at 2:00 in IT 225. He and K. Hartman will review the bylaws, goals, and objectives for any updates/changes and will report to the Senate at the May meeting. The Academic Policies and Standards Committee is still working on the two questions that the Senate sent to it. D. Kelly announced that he will be attending the spring plenary meeting of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges at the end of this week.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

S. Teater stated that the physical education courses issue will not be discussed at the Student Assembly Conference this weekend. Though the Student Congress requested it be placed on the agenda, it was not done. The Student Congress will be amending its constitution regarding the Vice President position at the Rome campus to ensure that the Vice President can attend relevant Rome meetings. W. Perrotti suggested that the Rome student Vice President should be on the Senate. S. Teater will recommend that to the Student Congress.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

T. Squires discussed projects that are going on now and that will be going on this summer. The locker rooms and offices in the Jorgensen Center will be done by the end of April or May, which will complete the work that needs to be done on that building. The Payne Hall overhang, from which pieces are falling, will be rid of loose

material and then treated so that the concrete does not disintegrate further. The podium around Payne Hall will also be replaced, since there is no good way to patch it. Work should start on that a week or so after graduation. Large jackhammers will be used to break up the concrete, which should take one week per side. New concrete will then be poured. Renovations will also take place on the first floor of Payne Hall to create a waiting room in financial aid. This work will begin after graduation. Payroll will be moved to one office that can be locked. The entryways and walkways to the Academic Building and the College Center building will be fixed, as they are starting to deteriorate. The conceptual drawings for the Rome Campus renovations should be available in a couple of months. Some extra money in the budget will be applied to new signage for both campuses.

T. Squires also reported on the budget. He has met with most of the budget managers. The projected enrollment for the coming academic year is down 2%, which makes it about level with last year's budget. The state will give us an increase of \$75 per full time enrolled student. The college is looking to raise full-time tuition by \$100 and part-time tuition by \$5. He reviewed the budget as it currently exists, and stated that some things are not in the budget yet, including new position requests and a possible increase in the fee for taking StrengthsQuest. MVCC received \$139,000 in performance-based funding for ranking sixth out of 30 community colleges in the state. The county will give MVCC \$125,000 for three years for implementing Achieving the Dream. D. Kelly thanked T. Squires for attending the Senate meetings and providing budget updates.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz and D. Kelly will attend the spring plenary this weekend. Topics of discussion at the plenary will include the Voluntary Framework of Accountability, in which all community colleges are required to participate, seamless transfer, and the 64-credit limit for programs. The FCCC had asked the state for a \$150 per FTE increase in assistance but, as T. Squires stated, we got \$75 per FTE. Discussion groups for the disciplines ended yesterday, and their reports are due in to SUNY today.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating and Elections Committee: J. Rahn stated that the committee is gathering information on openings in the Senate and on committees and will send out a call for nominations soon.

Achieving the Dream: D. Kelly presented the handouts on Achieving the Dream sent by Jill Heintz. Jill has asked the Senate to review the information and provide feedback to her by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8. Comments can be sent by Sunday, April 6th, to D. Kelly, who will then compile them and send them to Jill, or individuals can send their comments directly to Jill, providing they identify themselves as a Senator and cc D. Kelly. W. Perrotti asked if anyone else besides the Senate will be asked for feedback. That is not known. D. Kelly stated that the Achieving the Dream process begins by examining data, by assessing how MVCC measures up to Achieving the Dream's five principles, and by compiling our strengths and weaknesses relative to the five principles. Until that data is compiled and examined, MVCC will not know what we will get out of this program and how we will implement it. It is a data-driven process. W. Perrotti felt that the core team does not have enough faculty members, and contains no part-time/adjunct members. He felt that if we are working toward more students completing college then more faculty members should be on the team. J. Livadas felt that adjunct faculty should be part of the team. D. Kelly stated that the current core team is gathering and examining data. When that process is complete, more teams may be created for implementation or more individuals may be asked to join the team.

M. Leahy asked what the college is doing about the reluctance of faculty and staff to criticize the college and respond to surveys. She also asked who is responsible for ensuring that representation on committees and councils is fair and equitable. D. Kelly will take M. Leahy's concerns to the Think Tank.

NEW BUSINESS

Safety and Security Committee report: D. Kelly asked if there were any comments or questions on the Safety and Security Committee's Fall 2013 report. D. Kelly has asked Dave Amico to report at the May meeting on the results of the recent core workshops on emergency preparedness. Since the committee would like their recommendations endorsed by the Senate, therefore these will be brought forward at the May meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Bolton moved, and J. Woodrow seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next College Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, April 28, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senate Recording Secretary