

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 2, 2014, IT 225

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

Present: C. Bolton, K. Capone, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, A. Doughtie, D. Elseth, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, M. Henningsen, D. Ianno, L. Kahler, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. Leahy, R. Mink, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Spetka, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, J. Woodrow, and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: E. Sharrow.

Absent/Excused: J. Baumann, J. Brown, N. Chrisman, J. Coleman, S. Dar, J. Livadas, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, M. Radlowski, R. Rosero, M. Taverne, and M. Tyoe.

Guests: J. Boulanger, J. DeWeerth, S. Engel, P. Fess, J. Heintz, D. Katz, S. McCall, S. Reynolds, and T. Squires.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

J. Wilcox moved, and C. Bolton seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2014, meeting. The motion passed with no objections and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Before the meeting began, D. Kelly requested that Senators remember to speak up so that everyone can hear them and to refrain from carrying on side conversations during the meeting.

D. Kelly thanked K. Hartman for her work on updating the Senate web page. Reports of standing Senate committees are due and should be sent to K. Hartman and D. Kelly. K. Hartman will be doing some quality control on the reports.

Three weeks ago, on November 11, Faculty Council of Community Colleges President Tina Good paid a visit to our campus and met with the Senate Advisory Committee, the Curriculum Committee, academic deans, and faculty as well as with the President and Senate Chair. She recommended that the Senate think about its role as either participating in college operations or in the development of college policies, and review our bylaws to determine if they adequately describe the roles of the Senate. Based on this governance review, Senate Chair Kelly and the Senate Advisory Committee will recommend that Senate committees look at their structures, compositions, and roles and revise their charters, if necessary, after asking themselves a number of questions, such as: Is there a need for the committee to exist? Does this committee need to be a Senate committee? Is the membership appropriate for business to be conducted effectively? Is this committee doing what its charter says it should? Should this committee be doing more? D. Kelly will ask Senate committees to do this as part of the triennial review of the Senate bylaws, which the Senate will be conducting in the spring. The Senate will also be looking at how tasks are assigned to committees and how committees report to the Senate.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

E. Sharrow reported that Student Congress has made two policy and procedures changes concerning clubs and organizations. First, for safety reasons there will be no travel outside of the continental U.S. (in other words, no international travel). Second, all Student Congress funding will be administered through Auxiliary Services. E. Sharrow also stated that he and Rachel Dominic still have not gathered enough student opinions on campus smoking to bring their proposed smoking policy to the Senate. They will have an event in February to gather more information.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner stated that work is progressing on the development of the next Strategic Plan. Community interviews were conducted in the summer and fall, and meetings with faculty and staff, including Senate Advisory Committee members, will be held on Monday, December 8, and Monday, December 15. Results of these meetings will be presented to the Strategic Planning Council. The Achieving the Dream Core and Data Teams will hold an activity for the college on Thursday, January 15, to look at the data they have collected.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

T. Squires reported on the various sources of funding for student expenses. State and federal grants pay over half, with the rest paid out of the students' pockets. Since the college gets more aid than it bills the students, the excess is refunded to the students.

T. Squires also commented that the college budgeted for a 2% decrease in enrollment but that enrollment is actually down 9.4%. This creates a revenue gap of \$1.2 million, and there is no fund balance that can be used to cover this shortfall. To make up for this, the college will hold off on the purchase of new phone system equipment and will freeze some renovation funding. The college will also look at teaching fewer sections and at position vacancies. A \$75 FTE increase from the state and a 3% increase from the county are assumed. The process and timeline of developing the 2015-16 budget will be essentially the same as last year's.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz stated that the FCCC has asked for the opportunity for more faculty input in the development of SUNY Excels, the process that will be used to determine eligibility for performance-based funding. He will have more to report on this at the February Senate meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Employee Engagement Transcript: D. Katz presented a sample of what the Employee Engagement Transcript would look like for mandatory workshops. It will be accessed via a password-protected SIRS account. The entire IT staff has currently been added. Based on Senate input, this electronic transcript will be used to keep track of mandated and expected training only. Employees may use it to keep track of their other trainings, but this will be strictly voluntary. D. Katz asked Senators to talk to their constituencies about what kinds of categories of data the college should be collecting for these mandatory workshops/occupational trainings.

Establishment of SUNY Shared Governance Award: D. Katz asked Senators if they felt the college should apply for the SUNY Shared Governance Award. If so, a SUNY Shared Governance Award Committee must be established to compile statistics to prove that MVCC deserves the award and submit the application to SUNY.

K. Capone asked if SUNY has exemplars. D. Katz replied that he can find a list of past winners. R. Labuz moved, and W. Perrotti seconded, to establish the committee. The motion carried, with three abstentions and none opposed. D. Katz will find the charge and membership composition, which SUNY defines. Question was raised as to whether MVCC could apply more than once. R. Labuz moved, and W. Perrotti seconded, for D. Katz to report again on this at the February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of resolutions: Three Senate resolutions were drafted by Ron Labuz and wordsmithed by the committee, and presented for Senate endorsement. 1) The first resolution was to rescind the 64-credit limit for AAS and AOS degrees. W. Perrotti moved, and A. Doughtie seconded, to approve the resolution. The motion carried, with 22 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention. 2) The second resolution was in support of a waiver appeals process and justification for waiver denials for the seamless transfer initiative. A. Doughtie moved, and K. Capuana seconded, to approve the resolution. The motion carried, with 23 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. 3) The third resolution was to restore funding in support of college child care centers. L. Kahler moved, and M. Henningsen seconded, to approve the resolution. The motion passed, with 23 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. D. Kelly will send the first 2 resolutions to SUNY and the third one to Tina Good.

OTHER BUSINESS

D. Kelly announced that this would be Senator W. Perrotti's last Senate meeting, as he is retiring. He praised Bill's good work as a senator and Senate chair. Bill's parting comments included praise for D. Kelly's professionalism as Senate Chair and expression of several concerns.

- 1) Wal-Mart: Part of the MVCC mission is "a sense of service," but this does not match Walmart's vision. Wal-Mart has never done anything to help our students, and they pay poorly and offer low benefits. Bill feels that the college should not give them business and should not have a Walmart credit card.
- 2) Bill feels that the role of faculty in campus governance is declining precipitously due to the demise of departments. Faculty feel like everything is out of their control. Bill would like the college to consider re-establishing academic departments.
- 3) Bill feels that there should be more faculty members on the Senate.

President VanWagoner stated that good governance comes from good debate, and "Bill has brought that 'in spades'". He thanked Bill for his years of service to MVCC.

L. Kahler moved, and K. Capuana seconded, to formally thank Bill for his years of service on the Senate and his devotion to shared governance. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Bolton moved, and M. Henningsen seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, February 3, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, January 26, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary