

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2014, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann , C. Bolton, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, J. Coleman, S. Dar, D. Elseth, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, D. Ianno, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. Leahy, J. Livadas, D. McDermott, C. Miller, R. Mink, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, , M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Spetka, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, J. Woodrow, and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: R. Marsden and S. Teater.

Absent/Excused: J. Brown, A. Colucci, A. Doughtie, M. Henningsen, M. McHarris, R. Pucine, R. Rosero, M. Sorrentino, M. Taverne, and J. Yager.

Guests: J. Boulanger, M. Eannace, S. McCall, J. Myers, S. Reynolds, N. Rosero, R. Santos, and T. Squires.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

R. Labuz moved, and A. Haines-Stephan seconded, to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2014, meeting. The motion passed with no objections and one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly announced that the majority of the Senate committees have turned in their reports. He will continue to elicit the remaining few. The Senate Advisory Committee and the President and Cabinet will meet in a retreat on Thursday, May 22.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner reported that the budget will be presented to the Board this afternoon. After approval by the trustees, it will go on to Oneida County and then to the state. The kickoff meeting for Achieving the Dream will take place in June. He also commented on the successes of the past academic year.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

S. Teater reported that Student Congress has decided that resolutions passed by the Student Assembly will continue to be presented to the College Senate, but that these resolutions do not require Senate endorsement, since Student Congress and the statewide Student Assembly are autonomous units of shared governance. The Senate thanked Star for her dedicated service to the college, Student Congress and the College Senate. Star thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to learn from serving on the Senate.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

See V.P. S. Reynolds' report appended at the end of these minutes.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Procedures for curricular changes: Earlier this semester, questions regarding procedures used for curricular changes were referred to the Academic Policies and Standards Committee. The committee's report was presented to the Senate on May 6 and Senators were asked to discuss the report with their respective constituencies. Based on the discussion at the May 19 Senate meeting, the Chair was authorized to establish an ad-hoc committee to collect information on how this process occurs in each of the academic centers and make recommendations on college-wide policies and procedures for proposing, evaluating and voting on curricular changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Senate officers: D. Ianno nominated D. Kelly as Senate Chair. W. Perrotti seconded the nomination. No other candidates were nominated. D. Kelly was elected Senate Chair with none opposed and no abstentions. J. Rahn indicated his desire to serve as Vice Chair again. R. Labuz moved, and J. Baumann seconded, to accept his self-nomination. No other candidates were nominated. J. Rahn was elected Senate Vice Chair with none opposed and no abstentions.

D. Kelly called for volunteers to serve on the Senate Advisory Committee. Those who volunteered were R. Rosero, R. Spetka, R. Mink, M. McHarris, M. Treis, C. Bolton, A. Haines-Stephan, and D. McDermott. The Senate voted to accept these volunteers as the new Senate Advisory Committee, along with D. Kelly, J. Rahn, and Secretary K. Hartman.

OTHER BUSINESS

J. Baumann pointed out that the two snow days that occurred this spring semester were both on a Wednesday, which caused some instructors to lose two weeks of instruction. What happened to the snow day? D. Kelly stated he would bring the question to the appropriate body.

ADJOURNMENT

K. Capuana moved, and S. Dar seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**
The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, August 25, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary

APPENDIX: V.P. STEPHANIE REYNOLDS' REPORT

Division of Student Affairs Senate Report May 2014

Although I sent a campus-wide email, I want to publicly acknowledge the incredible career of Zyn Jackiw and restate here that after 35 years of service he will be retiring from Mohawk Valley Community College on May 30th. Zyn has served this College and our veteran students in three capacities over that time period. He was the Veteran's Coordinator, then an Assistant Registrar and most recently the Veteran's Education Coordinator. He has served our students but particularly our veteran students with honor and commitment ensuring their ability to take advantage of well-earned benefits that facilitated an entry back into civilian life to pursue an education that has afforded productive careers for many. Tom Zenon has been hired on a part-time basis to shadow Zyn so that our service to veterans will go uninterrupted. The search will begin for the full-time replacement this week.

As a follow up to my last report, the Intercultural Conversation did continue on May 2, 2014. A group of 25 gathered and addressed further discussion on the strengths and opportunities for growth in five areas – Intercultural Activities, Campus Climate, Support for Campus Wide Intercultural Initiatives, Campus Leadership and Academic Integration. The consensus of this group was to suspend the dialogue until September allowing faculty to return and to be involved in the next steps which will be to determine our prioritization of the opportunities for growth.

The BERT Team has worked on our membership for this coming fall and while we have Academic Affairs representation currently on it, we felt it was important to have an Assistant Dean join us as well due to their role in supporting their faculty to manage classroom behavior. This will be assigned on a per semester basis and we look forward to having them join this important behavioral intervention team.

Student Affairs made a recent recommendation to Cabinet regarding our need to define a student. This came to be as a result of a recent infraction of the Student of Conduct and our inability to quickly determine the difference between a college student and a community member. The definition that was presented to Cabinet was modified slightly and then presented to the County attorney for final vetting. It will be included in the new iteration of the student handbook and is provide to you here as an FYI.

Student is defined as persons currently registered for credit courses at Mohawk Valley Community College, either full or part-time. Students are subject to all of the rules, regulations and procedures of the College including but not limited to the Student Code of Conduct.

The status of student becomes null and void upon withdrawal from the institution or any administrative revocation of this standing.

The Enrollment Management Council in addition to implementing the Strategic Enrollment Plan is compiling a historical review of major steps that have been taken for as far back as people on the committee could remember. The purpose of this is to have us become more aware of the enrollment and retention initiatives that the College has taken and to review those steps against the increases and decreases in enrollment to see if there is any type of correlation. That report will be presented to Cabinet during the first weeks of June.

The lower level of Payne Hall will be renovated this summer. This will be inside of the first floor on the Business Office, Financial Aid and Registrar side of the building. The goal of this project is to create a better student flow as well as a waiting area for these front line offices. In addition to this, the Disability Services Office will be relocating with Lew Kahler's office.

Finally, in collaboration with Marketing and Communications and a number of colleagues from across the campus, a First Year student communications workgroup has been established. The purpose of the New Student Communications Workgroup is to coordinate and strengthen the flow of communications MVCC sends to new, entering students. The communications cycle should align with the new-student life cycle, to help students navigate enrollment steps.