

**MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Utica and Rome, New York

**COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, May 5, 2015, IT 225

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

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

**Student Senators:** none attending

**Absent/Excused:** K. Capone, J. Coleman, K. Hartman, J. Livadas, M. Radlowski, R. Rosero, E. Sharrow, M. Taverne, and M. Tyoe.

**Guests:** B. Alvarado, J. Boulanger, S. Boulanger, C. Chester, M. Czarnecki, J. Dewan, J. Fanelli, P. Fess, S. Frisbee, R. Fuoco, J. George, K. Gleitsmann, L. Gould, E. Hantsch, J. Heintz, C. Ho, R. Huyck, D. Katz, C. Kipers, T. Kipers, K. Linaker, T. Lock, S. McCall, K. McNamara, J. Mihevc, D. Nobles, K. Ouderkirk, C. Parsons, B. Perrotti, M. Reilly, S. Reynolds, J. Roberts, N. Rosero, R. Santos, R. Saxe, E. Searles, G. Searles, R. Shulman, M. Snyder, T. Squires, C. Stephenson, S. Zohne, C. Zupancic.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. D. Kelly stated that the approval of amendments to the College Senate Bylaws will be moved to the Chairperson's report for today's meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

C. Bolton moved, and J. Wilcox seconded, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2015, meeting, with one minor correction. The motion carried, with none opposed and one abstention.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

D. Kelly stated that recently there was a faculty caucus organizational meeting. The minutes will be available on the Senate webpage once they are approved. At the meeting, C. Miller was elected as Chair, and it was decided that the group will meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday of each month from August to November and then again from January to April. C. Miller will be sending out a greeting email to the faculty at large to let them know about the caucus and to encourage them to attend. Further information regarding the caucus will be shared in the near future.

Senate elections are underway with voting taking place until 12pm on Friday, 5/15. Let J. Rahn know if you have any questions. C. Bolton stated that there are a number of people who have said that they submitted their name to appear on the ballot, but they weren't on it when the official ballot was sent out. J. Rahn stated that there were no contested seats for the additions that were sent to him.

The last College Senate meeting of this semester will be on Monday, 5/18 at 2:30pm. The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be on Monday, 5/11 at 3pm in PH304.

The Senate Advisory Committee met and made a number of changes to bylaws. They were sent out for review shortly after the April meeting. A. Haines-Stephan moved, and M. Henningsen seconded to approve the bylaws. No discussion. The motion passed with no objections and no abstentions.

### **STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT**

No report.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Pride of the Hawk award will be presented to Sue Smith in a separate ceremony since she was unable to attend today's meeting.

The Heart of the Hawk award was presented to Belinda Alvarado.

Smoking and Tobacco Use board policy making all college property smoke and tobacco free starting August 15, 2016 was passed at April's BOT meeting. President VanWagoner has talked to D. Kelly about discussing the next steps at a Senate/Cabinet retreat. Student Congress is aware of the policy.

President VanWagoner sent an email out Friday evening with a rough outline of the budget. He talked about what community colleges have been doing pertaining to budget and low enrollment. He stated that Oneida County is completely funding Achieving the Dream. An expenditure overview was provided and President VanWagoner stated that the budget managers did a good job with the budget this year. Renovations were reduced, 15 vacancies and positions created by retirements were deleted, and there was a reduction of force with non-renewals. December graduation may be more like Center ceremonies in the Theater which would save \$17,000. The most significant operational decision was looking very closely at the child care center. In the past, a toddler room was opened and the center was opened to the children of alumni, but the budget problem didn't go away. It was difficult decision to close the center and numbers were examined very closely. Expenses exceeded revenue over, as \$200,000 was spent serving 23 students' children. Partners for the center were looked into. There were many questions and comments regarding the closing of the child care center which included marketing of the center, concerns that closing the center will have an impact on enrollment, early education degree program students included in internships in the child care center, and the common perception that faculty, staff and students are not a priority.

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

VP Dr. Eannace stated that as of today's count, we will graduate 800 students this May. Deep thanks to all faculty and staff who have supported these graduates on their academic journey. Many more of our students are now able to have free access to text materials thanks to the academic work of a growing number of our faculty and faculty from around the world who are creating or accessing freeware. Most recently, Professor Jim Fiore wrote text materials for ET courses and registered them on multiple open educational resource sites including Merlot and Creative Commons. An email that Jim recently received from a student at Waukesha Technical College in Wisconsin was shared. This past Friday, we had over 400 people in the Schafer Theatre for the Iam Idecide event. The presentation by Dr. Nivia Cavic, our own Instructor in Life and Health Sciences, featured powerful video roll-ins of a number of our students who are here and succeeding despite multiple challenges and obstacles. The energy in the room was electric as students and colleagues alike empathized and applauded the success of these students who have gained confidence and empowerment through Dr. Cavic's teaching. Asst. Dean Natalie Carraway reports that Instructors Richard Kelly and Dina Radeljas have stepped up to fill the void in the Kidz and Coaches Program that Professor Jim Smrtic left when he retired. This morning, the BISS Center hosted a wonderful Internship Breakfast, bringing together dozens of students and their internship site supervisors from multiple businesses to celebrate. The fine work of faculty members Russ Penner and Alex

Haines Stephan in the High School Math project was presented at the American Association of Community Colleges last month to great acclaim. Physics Instructor Derrick Stevens secured a \$57+K grant from Innovative Instruction Research Council of SUNY this month. The FABLab opened since VP Eannace last reported and has received much acclaim. We are now connected to FABLABS around the world through our partnership with MIT. Tom Townsley has published a book. Kyle Lince has published a book. Our students have published the latest issue of *Argus*. And their publication of *Signature* is underway. Our students have won and been awarded multiple prizes and competitions including: a State wide Business competition, \$182,000 in scholarships in engineering science from Clarkson, and an additional \$20,000 scholarship from RPI.

#### **FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT**

R. Labuz attended the FCCC plenary. He stated that there will be a few mandates within the next year or so. There is another \$100 FTE increase which is less than 2006-2007 but inching towards 2007-2008. According to the Governor's budget, Community College councils will be formed with the Chancellor deciding who will be on each council. SUNY asked the Governor's office what it meant and did not receive a reply. The Governor's budget includes experiential learning with a mandate that every program would have an experiential learning component. It was changed to every program having an applied learning component. The SUNY Board of Trustees will define what applied learning means. There is also a "Get on Your Feet" program in which the state will pay student loans for New York State residents who are graduates of SUNY. These graduates must live and work within New York State for two years after graduation, have an annual income that does not exceed \$50,000, and must enroll in the federal "Pay as You Earn" loan repayment program. The state will then cover the monthly payments on government or government-backed loans for two years post-graduation. Quantway and Statway are programs through the Carnegie Foundation that ten community colleges in NYS are now trying. The Chancellor talked this past January about this being a mandate. This has changed and is no longer mandated. It will be offered to Math faculty at every campus with financial support from Carnegie and SUNY. If faculty want to make use of them, they can. If not, they don't have to. There will be a committee for Math faculty who would like to learn more about it.

Two resolutions passed at the FCCC plenary:

Resolution on Faculty Purview over Curriculum and Academic Standards – The resolution was reviewed. Faculty decide what they teach, not SUNY. This resolution will be used in the future to remind the SUNY BOT and the Governor that faculty can determine the curriculum. It also reminds the faculty that they have this responsibility. A. Doughtie moved, and R. Mink seconded. No discussion. The motion passed with no objections and no abstentions.

Resolution on Emerging Trends in Higher Education and Campus Governance – This resolution came from the Governance Committee. The General Education initiative passed by SUNY in 1998 was different from ours, so ours was changed. The resolution calls for a campus group that will pay attention to emerging trends in education and that will educate us. Examples include MOOCs, competency based learning, and performance-based funding. This group would find out what is going on and have an intelligent base of knowledge to respond. K. Capuana moved, and C. Miller seconded to affirm this resolution as well as to recognize the faculty caucus as the group. The motion passed with no objections and no abstentions.

Guidelines for Concurrent Enrollment Best Practices – FCCC has produced a document regarding dual enrollment guidelines. It was reviewed by the faculty caucus, who concluded that MVCC does this point by point. R. Labuz will distribute this as a document that can be looked at to make sure we are doing it the right way.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Academic Freedom Statement: D. Kelly – Group formed at Senate. They are trying to develop a policy statement to be approved by the BOT along with supporting statements more fully explaining academic freedom. The document distributed to the Senate reflects where we are right now. Discussion is continuing. In addition, D. Kelly thinks that it is time as a group to discuss this with the Academic Deans, so everyone is on the same level before a recommendation is made to the BOT. Need to discuss if this will be presented to the APSC. Comments are welcome as this develops.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Approval of Amendments to College Senate Bylaws – moved to Chairperson's report.

Formation of Values Committee – R. Labuz stated that this is a proposed Senate committee. The college's values statement was written by the community responding to a survey. After work was completed, the values workgroup wanted to continue. The purpose of this committee is to discuss ways in which every member of the college will continue to demonstrate the values expressed by the college community in MVCC's Values Statement. It is a 12 person membership – six elected members representing the three parts of the college and two Senators appointed by the Chair of the Senate along with four appointed members. Each member will serve a two year term. The charge is to publicize what we believe. The group will determine if it is feasible and appropriate to change the language. If feasible, the group will bring back modifications. All Senators have the charter to review. D. Kelly stated he will involve the remaining members of the Civility Committee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

K. Capuana moved, and J. Woodrow seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 4:20 p.m.

## **NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Monday, May 18, 2015 at 1:00 pm in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, May 11, 2015 at 3:00 pm in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Noti  
Acting Senate Secretary