

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 2, 2016, IT 225

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

Present: S. Akhavi, J. Baumann, C. Bolton, J. Brown, K. Capone, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, A. Doughtie, S. Frisbee, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, D. McDermott, R. Manley, C. Miller, R. Mink, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, A. Radlowski, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, J. Roberts, R. Santos, N. Snyder, R. Spetka, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, and J. Woodrow.

Student Senators: K. Hilts, J. Lowman, and E. Luther.

Absent/Excused: J. Coleman, S. Dar, D. Elseth, M. Henningsen, L. Kahler, J. Livadas, M. McHarris, M. Sykes, and President R. VanWagoner.

Guests: M. Eannace, D. Ianno, D. Katz, S. Reynolds, and T. Squires.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

R. Spetka moved, and A. Haines-Stephan seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2015, meeting. The motion carried, with none opposed and one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly reported that all the Senators who served on the Nominations and Elections Committee last fall would still like to serve, so he hopes to start developing the ballot for Senate elections this month. D. Kelly welcomed Seyed Akhavi, who will be replacing Lew Kahler for the semester.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

E. Luther reported that he is looking for a few new members for the Student Congress Nominations and Elections Committee. He is working on filling any college committees that currently lack members. He also reported that the Hawks Against Hardship dinner was a great success, feeding 200 needy people and raising \$7,000 for local organizations. He thanked everyone for supporting this endeavor. Another similar event is being planned for Easter time. E. Luther introduced new Student Senator Kelsey Hilts, who will be replacing Emily Chwazik.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In President VanWagoner's absence, VP M. Eannace presented the Heart of the Hawk Award to Rosemary Mink and VP T. Squires presented the Pride of the Hawk Award to Dawson McDermott.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

T. Squires presented the dates for the President's campus conversations on the budget, as follows:

Wednesday, 2/3 – 2 p.m. – Utica, room IT225 AB224

Thursday, 2/4 – 11 a.m. – Utica, room AB121

Friday, 2/5 – 9 a.m. – Utica, room IT225

Monday, 2/8 – 11 a.m. – Rome, room PC 205
 -- 2 p.m. – Utica, room AB 145

He reported on where the college is now in the budget process. Budget requests are currently coming in from all areas of the college, and enrollment, tuition, and fees are being examined. Enrollment is projected to be down over 8%. A \$100 increase in tuition for full-time students and a \$5.00 increase for part-time students is planned. The college would like to keep the 2016-2017 budget even with this year's budget, and they are trying not to use any money out of the fund balance. He, Mark Radlowski, and Norayne Rosero met last week to relate the strategic plan to the budget.

T. Squires also reported that three capital projects will be getting underway this year: the wayfinding (signage) project, the renovation of both campus bookstores, and the learning commons project. In addition, this spring the same contractor that is currently working in Rome will be resurfacing the rest of the platform around Payne Hall.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz stated that the President of the FCCC would like to change the proposed requested increase in state aid per FTE from \$250 to \$285 in the Resolution Supporting the "Rational Revenue Plan." He reported that last January the SUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution requiring community colleges to form councils, of which there are now six. MVCC is part of a council that includes Herkimer and Fulton-Montgomery Community Colleges. The FCCC felt that faculty should be included as members of the councils, and SUNY agreed. All community colleges are now being asked to nominate one to three faculty members to their councils. These should be people who have some knowledge of or participation in faculty governance, and who can attend the two meetings a year. Speculation is that the creation of the councils is part of a move to consolidate community colleges in New York State. Anyone interested in serving as a member please contact either D. Kelly or R. Labuz.

The Spring Plenary will be held at Niagara Community College from April 7th to the 9th. Topics of discussion will include applied learning and micro-credentials. Rialda Shulman as our FCCC alternate will be attending.

OLD BUSINESS

Academic freedom policy: J. Roberts presented the ad hoc committee's proposed academic freedom policy for endorsement by the Senate. It has already been presented to the academic deans, the Board of Trustees, and the Faculty Caucus. R. Labuz moved, and A. Doughtie seconded, the endorsement. The motion carried, with 32 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. R. Labuz thanked all the committee members for their hard work.

Applied learning: In Lew Kahler's absence, D. Kelly briefly reviewed the documents on applied learning forwarded to the Senate. The 2-page draft report on Phase I now has to be reworked because SUNY requires it to be only one page long. Lew will keep the Senate informed as the process continues. D. Kelly will transmit any questions and input from Senators to Lew.

NEW BUSINESS

Wellness Committee: D. Kelly presented a proposal to change the Wellness Committee to a Council. It would no longer report to the Senate, but its charge and composition would remain the same. R. Spetka moved, and C. Bolton seconded, to approve the change. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

Faculty Caucus report: C. Miller reported that the Faculty Caucus met last week and was well attended. She and a group of colleagues attended the Strategic Horizons Network, and from this they have

developed/identified several emerging trends for Faculty Caucus and Senate discussion. The next meeting will be February 23 at 2:00 p.m. in PH 300. D. Kelly expressed his appreciation for the support for the Faculty Caucus on the part of the administration and the faculty members.

ADJOURNMENT

K. Capuana moved, and R. Mink seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m. by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, February 22, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senate Secretary