

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 1, 2015, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, J. Brown, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, A. Doughtie, K. Hartman, M. Henningsen, L. Kahler, P. Katchmar, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. McHarris, C. Miller, R. Mink, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, K. Radeljas, A. Radlowski, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, J. Roberts, R. Santos, R. Spetka, M. Taverne, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, J. Woodrow, and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: E. Chwazik and E. Luther.

Absent/Excused: C. Bolton, K. Capone, J. Coleman, S. Dar, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, A. Haines-Stephan, J. Livadas, and D. McDermott.

Guests: M. Eannace, A. Fried, D. Katz, M. Leahy, S. McCall, C. Pace, S. Reynolds, and T. Townsley.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

L. Kahler moved, and J. Woodrow seconded, to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015, meeting, with one minor correction pointed out by M. Radlowski. The motion carried, with none opposed and one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly suggested that this year's Nomination and Elections Committee be formed now to deal with current Senate and committee vacancies. J. Rahn, as Vice Chair, is automatically a member of this committee. Other volunteers include M. Henningsen, C. Bolton, K. Caruana, and M. Taverne. M. Taverne moved, and M. Henningsen seconded, to establish the committee now. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions. Senate vacancies needed are replacements for R. Rosero and M. Leahy, who have changed campuses/departments and now cannot represent the constituencies they were elected for, and semester fill-ins for Senators who are out or cannot attend meetings this semester, including S. Dar and two others.

D. Kelly announced the membership of this academic year's Senate Advisory Committee: D. Kelly, J. Rahn, K. Hartman, R. Labuz, A. Haines-Stephan, C. Bolton, A. Radlowski, A. Doughtie, and M. Henningsen.

D. Kelly discussed a report on the Senate/Cabinet retreat, which met on June 9 to review the past year's accomplishments and to plan goals and objectives for the coming academic year. He announced that the upcoming FCCC Campus Governance Leaders' Conference, which will be hosted by MVCC, will be held on September 18th and 19th in Cooperstown. The conference will be held in conjunction with the fall meeting of the New York Community Colleges Trustees Association. He and R. Labuz will be reporting on it at the October Senate meeting.

D. Kelly introduced the two Student Congress attendees: Eric Luther, SC President, and Emily Chwazik, SC Treasurer.

D. Kelly also thanked P. Katchmar and the IT team for making the overload contracts ready on time.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner announced the creation of a survey designed to obtain input from faculty and staff on the best measures for student success at MVCC. Respondents are asked to identify and rank choices for the top five measures. Results of this survey will be discussed at five campus conversations which have been planned for two weeks in September. Everyone is encouraged to take this survey. Recommendations for MVCC's measures will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the September meeting.

The Board of Trustees adopted the new version of the college's Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning Council will meet on September 8 to discuss measures to be used in evaluating progress on the plan's goals and objectives.

Achieving the Dream is now in the implementation phase. Work groups have been formed to develop strategies for student success.

Enrollment for this semester will likely be down around 9%. The budget planned for 5% down. Next academic year will probably be the same as this year, which could bring challenges similar to those of last spring.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

V.P. Reynolds announced the formation of a University Partners and Transfer Center, which will allow students to transfer to other colleges but take the course here at MVCC. It is located in the space formerly occupied by Student Congress, which has moved to the space above the expanded bookstore. A small study lounge is being designed for veterans on the first floor of Payne Hall behind the Student Service Center. S. Reynolds also announced the creation of gender-neutral restrooms in each residence hall and in other buildings on campus. She announced the creation of three review teams to determine how things we do for students can be improved. These teams are in the areas of advising, student registration, and graduation certification. V.P. Reynolds announced the creation of two new positions for which the college is currently recruiting: Career and Employer Relations Specialist and International Admissions Counselor. She also stated that the Residence Dining Hall has been renamed The Hawk's Nest. See her full report appended to these minutes.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz nominated Rialda Shulman as the FCCC alternate for 2015-16. C. Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions. R. Labuz announced that he will be attending the FCCC Fall Plenary in October. He mentioned three upcoming white papers on grant funding, shared governance, and presidential evaluations, plus an FCCC resolution on funding.

OLD BUSINESS

Senate Values Committee: The Senate voted to approve the following members of the newly established Values Committee: Norayne Rosero, Ron Labuz, Norma Chrisman, Susan Smith, Claire Rudka, Karin Capuana, Lew Kahler, Rosemary Spetka, Bill Dustin, Jim Myers, Matt Snyder, and Senate representative Mary Taverne. There were none opposed and no abstentions. Half of the members will serve a one-year term; half will serve a two-year term. After that all terms will be three years.

NEW BUSINESS

Tobacco-Free Workgroup: A Tobacco-Free Workgroup has been formed to plan for the implementation of the tobacco-free campus in Fall 2016. R. Santos volunteered to be the Senate representative. It was pointed out that a student representative is needed as well. Other members include: Tom Squires, Mike McHarris, David Amico, Kim Evans-Dame, Gary Broadhurst, Matt Snyder, Morris Pearson, and Dan Yoxall.

College-Wide Curriculum Committee: Aaron Fried presented the new CWCC web site, created using Sharepoint, to track electronically the progress of curriculum and program proposals through their three stages (curriculum development, CWCC review, curriculum implementation). Files and forms will be placed on the CWCC Sharepoint site at <http://www.sharepoint.mvcc.edu/cwcc>. Login will be the same as used for getting into email. Minutes of CWCC meetings will be posted there, as well as guidelines for writing and submitting curriculum. P. Katchmar pointed out that a few years ago IT developed and sponsored such a system, but it wasn't used much. When asked who had ownership of this web site, and who would maintain it, Aaron answered that the CWCC would. P. Katchmar felt that it should not be sustained by a committee, but rather by a department. Aaron also presented the proposal for a standard submission deadline. New programs would always be implemented in the fall semesters. Aaron will take the Senate comments back to the CWCC for discussion.

International Initiatives Committee: Carolyn Pace outlined the change in mission and vision the committee recommended in its charter. R. Labuz moved, and J. Baumann seconded, to approve the change. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

Faculty Caucus: C. Miller reported that President VanWagoner and VP M. Eannace attended the August 25th Faculty Caucus meeting to talk about SUNY Excels. Everyone was encouraged to fill out the survey on best measures for assessing student success at MVCC. Question was raised as to whether faculty are required to provide students with print notifications of things like Title IX or if including them online in BlackBoard is sufficient. Need was mentioned for a faculty/staff space in which to eat lunch, meet, and do quiet work. A section of the ACC commons was suggested. Agenda items are rolling in for the next meeting on September 22nd.

ADJOURNMENT

L. Kahler moved, and K. Capuana seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 4:13 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Senate meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 6, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be on Monday, September 28, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista E. Hartman
Senate Secretary

APPENDIX: VP Stephanie Reynolds
September 1, 2015
Senate Report

New Initiatives and Space Moves

University Partners and Transfer Center – We have launched a new venture with Colleges and Universities to have them offer their degrees on our campus. This will allow our students to select from multiple Bachelor’s and Master’s programs without having to leave the region – a major savings in cost and a vast increase in accessibility. Graduating MVCC students will have the opportunity to transfer to partnering institutions but instead of moving out of the region or state to attain their advanced degrees, they will be able to take those classes here and be able to access the full range of student support services that we provide. This program has outstanding transformational potential for local residents seeking four year degrees which will support the Community Foundation’s goal of achieving 25% bachelor’s education attainment by 2025. To date, we have received letters of support from Empire State College, Bellevue University, Keuka College and Excelsior College. We have received verbal support from SUNY Morrisville, Utica College, SUNY Poly and SUNY Delhi. Some of these institutions are looking to directly recruit students to their programs following their completion from MVCC and some are looking to have their classes supported here. There will be a formal Open House in October.

The University Partners and Transfer Center is located in the space formerly occupied by Student Congress and through conversations with their Executive Committee over the summer we were able to secure them new space on the second floor of ACC. There will be a formal ribbon cutting ceremony for that space once they are settled.

In the interest of supporting our Veteran students, we have devised a small study lounge for them. Although not completely furnished yet, it will be on the main level of Payne Hall, just behind the Student Service Center (PH104C).

New Name



The Residence Dining Hall has a new name. It is The Hawks Nest. Faculty and staff may purchase meal plans or Hawk dollars in the Resident Life Office in AC 106.

New Positions

In response to the growing needs of our students we have added a new Director of Career and Transfer Services, and we are recruiting for a Career and Employer Relations Specialist. To augment our student population and add to its diversity, we will be recruiting for an International Admissions Counselor.

LGBT

As previously noted in an email sent on August 5, working collaboratively with the LGBTQ Committee, the Facilities Department has added several gender neutral restrooms to public campus areas including the Jorgensen Center first floor, the Academic Building second floor, the ACC first floor, the Payne Hall third floor on the Utica campus and in each of the residence hall buildings. The Rome Campus will have bathrooms designated as gender neutral as the new construction is able to provide them. There are also single stall restrooms on the campus that are identified as handicapped accessible. While these are open for anyone's use as well, we do ask, to the extent possible, that they be left available for our folks who do need them specifically.

Title IX



You have received emails from me regarding Title IX. I encourage you all to 1) visit the Title IX website and 2) view the videos.

Achieving the Dream – to augment what the President has shared, in addition to the Implementation Teams that have been or will be charged, there are also three review teams that are taking a look at specific procedures of the College that may be enhanced to better serve students. An Academic Affairs and Student Affairs group for Advising was charged last spring and will continue their review this fall. Another Academic Affairs/Student Affairs group is looking at the steps involved in certifying graduation. They too will finalize their work this fall. The third group that is just being charged is the Student Registration and Payment group. This group consists of members from across the College that touch student registration and payment and they will be charged in the next week while the memory of this semester's process is fresh in their minds. As the Tri-Chairs of the Core Team, Jill, Maria and I did just complete two August Institutes on where we are with ATD. There are, however, a number of moving pieces with this so if any particular group would like us to present an update, we are more than happy to arrange for that. To keep it structurally straight, we have a college-wide Core and Data Team, two Implementation Teams, Technology and Reading and three review teams (of current procedures) – Advising, Graduation Certification and Student Registration and Payment.

That concludes my report.