

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

**COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
*Tuesday, February 6, 2018, IT 225*

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

**Present:** J. Baumann, L. Charbonneau, S. Dar, S. Frisbee, S. Fryman, D. Gibbons, A. Haines-Stephan, R. Huyck, B. Jubenville, P. Katchmar, S. Kenyon, M. Kelly, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, J. Rahn, R. Santos, G. Searles, R. Spetka

**Student Senators:** Kupr, J. Rothrock, Z. Stachelski

**Absent/Excused:** C. Albrecht, D. Ayers-Darling, K. Carhart, M. Henningsen, D. Hyldelund, P. Lotto, S. McGovern, T. Palumbo, A. Radlowski, B. Scantlebury, N. Snyder, T. Thomas, T. Weimer, J. Wilcox

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with a couple of minor edits. The motion carried unanimously.

**PRIDE AND HEART OF THE HAWK PRESENTATIONS**

T. squires presented the Pride of the Hawk award to M. McHarris in recognition of his achievements in collaboration and excellence. M. Eannace presented the Heart of the Hawk to J. Roberts in recognition of his achievements in the classroom and expressed excitement regarding his recent promotion to the Associate Dean for the Humanities Department.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The APSC recommendations on micro-credentials have been taken to the College Board of Trustees and they had their first discussion at the January meeting. It was decided to move forward with their development and the College Wide Curriculum Committee will be tasked with creation and development of new micro-credentials.

Due to J. Robert's promotion, the College Senate will be looking for a new FCCC representative. R. Shulman will continue to be the alternate delegate and anyone who is interested in being the FCCC representative should contact A. Haines-Stephan. The position is an elected position and does not have to be filled by anyone currently on College Senate.

Senate elections are moving forward and J. Rahn is currently in the process of verifying membership lists for the committees and councils. Elections are slated to be held after spring break with the intent to determine necessary appointments and chairs before the end of obligations in order to make the fall start easier.

A. Haines-Stephan explained that our first Bellevue University student walked at the December commencement. The student was incredibly thankful for the experience and wrote a very long thank you letter to the College expressing her gratitude for giving her family the opportunity to watch her graduate.

## **STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT**

J. Rothrock reported that after February 15<sup>th</sup> the Student Congress Vice President of Utica will email club advisors a copy of the attendance breakdown for this semester, as the ten member lists are due by February 14<sup>th</sup>. Room assignments for club meetings will take some additional time due to letting the classroom moves settle down.

J. Rothrock was asked to speak regarding the project going on in the Alumni College Center top hallway. The hallway has been repainted in anticipation of the project, which will be displaying action photos of College clubs taken by the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. S. Frisbee explained that the Phi Theta Kappa project is being undertaken to inspire and encourage student engagement and is a nice way to show off the various activities we offer on campus. The pictures will be changed annually and additional action photos will be displayed on the College website.

S. Dar asked a clarification question regarding club attendance at Student Congress meetings. Attendance is expected to be at least two out of four meetings a month, though clubs cannot start officially taking attendance prior to February 14<sup>th</sup>, as the membership lists are not in yet. Official attendance will begin being taken February 15<sup>th</sup> and will be during a four week period, not the actual calendar month.

Z. Stachelski reported that the Student Congress Development account is at approximately \$28,000 out of roughly \$148,000 beginning in the fall semester. It is lower than usual at this point compared to other years, but this is due to more student club trips and activities being requested and funded. The \$28,000 is what is left for the year for all of the student clubs. Student Congress is exploring plans to remedy this short fall in funds.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No report, as R. VanWagoner was in Albany, NY for a meeting.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

S. Reynolds explained that there is a desire to increase communication between Cabinet and students that has led to the discussion of developing a new take on student lunch meetings. The idea is for Cabinet to meet with approximately fifteen students each month who are identified by

the Student Congress Executive Board. Discussion topics would include what is working well at the College as well as what needs improvement. The lunches will begin in February.

Due to the need to explore new markets for enrollment purposes, the Admissions Office partnered with the New York City Department of Education to bring R. VanWagoner as the keynote speaker at a professional development day with over 250 New York City high school counselors and community organization staff present. The development day included eight break-out sessions discussing various topics, with sessions being led D. Ianno, T. Thomas, and J. Maio.

An update on Guided Pathways was provided. The College is part of the Guided Pathways 2.0 cohort, which consists of 13 colleges. The emphasis of Guided Pathways is an extensive collaboration between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs and is focused on an organization wide approach to curriculum development and wrap-around services, such as academic advising, in order to help students complete their studies in a timely fashion. An initial team consisting of faculty, advisors and Associate Deans attended an Integrated Advising & Student Support Institute in New Orleans in October. They came back and shared the information that they had learned and made several recommendations about strategic action steps that should be considered. A team consisting of the President, the Board Chair, two VPS, and several faculty traveled to the first GP institute in Washington and brought back the initial outline and timetable of guided pathways over the next three years. That team was tasked during the Institute to draft a short-term action plan. That plan, however, had to be brought back for more input. It was given to leaders within Academic and Student Affairs to refine. The plan asked the College to work backwards and assumed that we would have a fairly well designed and articulated model of guided pathways at the College by the fall of 2020 with a focus on equity and upward economic mobility for our students.

The Student Success Council is now the steering committee and information repository for all initiatives for student success. The Council spent the fall semester collecting and figuring out many of the initiatives currently going on throughout the College centered on student success. At this point, the Council is in the process of inviting key stakeholders to present their work to the council and have already heard from the Reading Team and the Career and Transfer Services Office. The next group is the Academic Advising team to discuss Goals + Planning = Success (GPS) and the DegreeWorks Planner function.

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

J. Roberts reported that no new items have been discussed. J. Roberts will remain on the list serve until a delegate is chosen. Mohawk Valley Community College will also be hosting the FCCC plenary April 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. A. Haines-Stephan thanked J. Roberts for his services as the FCCC delegate.

## **FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT**

C. Miller reported that she and A. Haines-Stephan will be regularly meeting with T. Squires to discuss different concerns in his area before College Senate. It is also planned that there will be meetings set up with M. Eannace to bring conversations from Faculty Caucus to her to get

additional information to bring back. C. Miller has also been meeting with Faculty Tech Council in order to bring back information to Faculty Caucus to discuss. A. Haines-Stephan, C. Miller, and E. Cormican have been meeting with J. Woodrow to discuss the faculty promotion process and potential changes to it.

At the last Faculty Caucus meeting S. Dar gave information regarding a conference she attended that discussed the student evaluation process and the concerns about how it can be effective and ineffective in helping faculty make real changes to their pedagogical approach to the classroom. There was a meeting with M. Eannace about the issue and had a conversation about creating a workgroup to look at the student evaluation process and potential changes to it.

Next meeting of Faculty Caucus will be Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> and a reminder that non-faculty who wish to share information are required to fill-out the presenter form. Meetings are every third Tuesday of every month during the semester and there will be an extra meeting during the end of May before the summer begins.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Faculty Council of Community Colleges resolution concerning military absence was discussed again. It had been encouraged at the last College Senate meeting that Faculty Caucus take up the discussion and C. Miller explained that the Caucus supported it. It was explained that the memo is simply saying that SUNY needs to have a policy in place to clarify the absence policy across the board and it was acknowledged that Mohawk Valley handles military absences well. A resolution supporting the FCCC memo was passed unanimously, with B. Jubenville motioning and S. Frisbee seconding.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

#### **COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS**

A. Haines-Stephan reminded the College Senate that the Middle States self-study team will be visiting the College in the beginning of March. The self-study team will visit the College Senate to present and/or ask questions. It was encouraged that senators read the self-study, especially the section concerning self-governance. C. Miller explained that the CORE workshops currently going on are supposed to be fun ways of getting everyone at the College up to speed on the report as well as the commendations and recommendations the College has put forth.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 3:16 p.m.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

Next Senate Meeting will be **Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

Next Senate Advisory Committee Meeting will be Monday, February 26 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,  
Justin Rahn