

MVCC College Senate Meeting

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

2:30pm WH 225

Attendance

Present

E. Brindisi	E. Bush	K. Cordary	S. Crocker	H. Doty
N. Evanoff	A. Fried	S. Frisbee	K. Hanna	J. Ireland
M. Kuczynski	T. Locke	M. McHarris	S. McManus	K. McNamara
A. Miller	C. Miller	R. Miller	A. Nolan	Y. Riesbeck
B. Rogan	A. Roy–Small	S. Selden	D. Sonne	D. Swiss
C. VanNamee	R. VanWagoner	J. Wilcox	J. Wilkie	R. Wittenberg

Student Senators

A. Vazquez

Absent/Excused

T. Burke	R. Golden	D. Head	C. Hendricks	S. McCall
S. McGovern	K. Montague	S. Silverman	F. Vellone	

Call to Order

C. Miller called the meeting to order at 2:33 PM.

Review of May 6th & May 19th Minutes

The minutes from the May 6th meeting were approved (M. Kuczynski, S. Crocker), (28, 0, 0), as were the minutes from the May 19th meeting (S. Roy–Small, S. Crocker), (28, 0, 0).

Student Congress Report

A. Vazquez

A. Vazquez reported that the first meeting of the Student Congress Executive Board will be next Monday and the first Student Congress meeting will be this Thursday from 3:30-5:00pm in ACC 116.

Old Business

Microcredential Policy Updates with APSC Suggestions (2nd Reading)

E. Brindisi, S. Crocker

The MVCC Microcredential Policy predates the policy on microcredentials created by SUNY. The College-wide Curriculum Committee (CWCC) therefore updated the MVCC policy to better align with SUNY's policy. Changes include standardizing the spelling of "microcredential" and extending the course requirement to 2–5 classes (formerly 3–5 classes). The Academic Policies and Standards Committee (APSC) reviewed the policy from CWCC and made some minor changes. There was some discussion among senators regarding what was being referred to as policy verses procedures, E. Bush (B. Rogan) moved to endorse the policy

without the procedures. After further discussion the motion was changed to endorse the full document as written, including the APSC changes. The motion carried with 27 in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

Academic Integrity Incident Form Update

J. Wilkie

Last semester APSC recommended that a form be created for faculty and others to report violations of academic integrity. The form has since been created and is available on the Faculty card of MyMV. The form is also connected to a report in Argos, which allows for easier searching of cases. Violations reported for classes will be sent to the dean of the program in which the student is enrolled as well as the dean for the school in which the course exists. Discussion of the deans' standard operating procedure related to reports of violations of academic integrity will be held at the next meeting of the Faculty Caucus.

New Business

BIAS/Microaggression Reporting System

T. Marshall

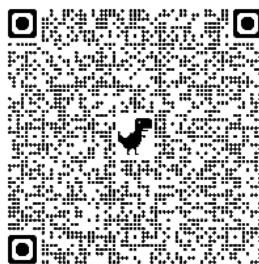
Last year there was some discussion regarding the formation of a team to field reports of bias and microaggressions. After some concerns were expressed and SUNY requirements were reviewed, a system (rather than a team) has been developed, and incidents can be reported through the website at <https://www.mvcc.edu/reportit/>.

After students make a report, T. Marshall works with the student. The process is confidential but not judicial, with an aim of helping the student while not placing judgement against the faculty or staff member. T. Marshall will work with the reporter and the employee, develop trainings as needed, and track trends and patterns.

Facilities & Sustainability Council Suggestion Dropbox

B. Rogan

In order to facilitate communication between the college community and the Facilities & Sustainability Council, the Council has created a form so that suggestions for improvements or initiatives for the committee to consider can be submitted. The form can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/4zarx2mh> or by using the QR code below.



Posthumous Graduation Policy (1st Reading)

H. Doty

SUNY has requested that we update our policy on posthumous graduation. H. Doty presented the previous policy with the revisions, most of which were made due to SUNY requirements. Microcredentials are not required to be part of this policy.

Care Team Update

K. Pine, J. Maio, T. Coulson, D. Gibbons, B. Coromato

In response to concerns raised at Senate last year, the former BERT Team has been transitioned to the Care Team. The hope is to create a process that is less static and with better communication. Best practices were researched and the NABITA* rubric was adopted for a more wholistic process. There were challenges with developing a single button to press to report concerns, so the **ReportIt!** website was developed. If multiple instructors submit referrals for the same student, it is stored in a database and can be tracked by the Care Team. A search for a Care and Well-being Coordinator has begun and the College has purchased access to NABITA resources. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Standing Reports

Chair Report

C. Miller

C. Miller shared a sign-up sheet for the new mentorship program. The goal is for mentors and mentees to meet the week before Senate meetings to discuss the items on the agenda. C. Miller then reported on the 2nd Annual Senate Advisory Retreat that was held this summer. During the Retreat the Senate Advisory Committee reviewed the 2024-25 committee reports, discussed how to more actively engage committees and councils with the Senate, worked on the College Senate assessment in Watermark, discussed new senator on-boarding and the results of the Committees and Councils Taskforce, and reviewed the Senate goals for the upcoming year. Lastly C. Miller remarked that there will be changes to committee and council charters throughout the year, so senators should be prepared to review those changes as they arise.

President's Report

R. VanWagoner

R. VanWagoner reported on the SUNY Momentum campaign, indicating that the College will pair current student success initiatives with the priorities coming from SUNY. He then commented on the new furniture in the library that was given by Student Congress, and congratulated the men's soccer team for ranking first nationally, and the women's ranking second. Lastly, enrollment is up 3% compared to this time last year.

Vice Presidents' Report

L. Kahler, K. Pine, T. Squires

* National Association for Behavioral Intervention and Threat Assessment

There was some discussion on the submitted report (available on Teams), including:

- The mental health funding is from a county grant that we've partnered on.
- The timeline for dental hygiene applications will be very tight. The accrediting agency will visit in March, and applications will open up afterwards. The goal will be to have 30 students begin the program each Fall.

SUNY Transfer Liaison Report

H. Doty

Due to high activity in SUNY with transfer initiatives, each college has been requested to designate a Transfer Liaison to streamline communication. It is recommended that the liaison report at Sente meetings. There has been renewed activity in SUNY transfer pathways, with a request to include all SUNY transfer paths in the College Catalog.

H. Doty gave a preview of the SUNY Transfer Navigator, which was built from data submitted to SUNY regarding transfer paths and illustrates how courses between SUNY colleges transfer. There was some discussion regarding standards of transferability with regards to grades, A. Miller commented that there is a SUNY subgroup working to establish standards. College employees are encouraged to experiment with the Navigator and report any errors or feedback to H. Doty. The Navigator connects between college systems, so if we make a local change in our system, the Navigator is updated accordingly.

The SUNY Transfer Navigator is available at

<https://step.transfer.suny.edu/look-up-suny-course-equivalencies/>

FCCC Report

A. Miller

A. Miller reported that the Transfer Advisory Council adopted the **Aspen Institute Transfer Playbook 2.0** as their framework. Changes are not substantial, though there has been an increase in using "family-sustaining wages" to determine whether a degree is worth pursuing.

A. Miller attended four in-person (and several online) FCCC meetings over the summer. There is a recurring concern that SUNY requests feedback from faculty during the summer and on a timeline when faculty are generally not on campus. Additionally, FCCC continues to work on strengthening governance bodies and the transfer initiatives. The next plenary will occur in mid October. Questions and concerns should be forwarded to A. Miller.

Faculty Caucus Report

A. Fried

A. Fried introduced himself as the new chair of Faculty Caucus. The Faculty Caucus Advisory will meet next Tuesday, and concerns or questions should be sent to A. Fried. The theme for Faculty Caucus meetings this semester will be improving engagement. The first meeting will be in two weeks in PH 300 with an option to attend through Teams.

Questions and Open Forum

J. Ireland shared a concern that there are no longer any laptops available through C3 to loan to students. This program has been very well-used by students in the past. Are there plans to continue the program in the future? B. Rogan responded that during the height of the Covid-19 Pandemic, SUNY provided a stockpile of laptops to see the colleges through that time. Due to a combination of factors (including laptops being returned damaged, or not being returned at all), the college no longer has a supply of laptops to loan out. K. Montague commented that the need for laptops may soon increase, since Microsoft support for Windows 10 is being phased out and older computers may not be able to update to Windows 11 after October of this year. Some senators suggested the Foundation might be able to help students in need of a laptop, and that the college could look into partnering with area businesses to renew and sustain this program.

S. Frisbee (whose birthday was recognized at the start of the meeting) shared an update about the new furniture in the library. The process spanned over six months working with architects and students. New features include benches, tables, whiteboards, carrels, egg-shaped chairs, and improved sound reduction. S. Frisbee shared his appreciation to Student Congress for the funding, as well as to T. Squires and the Facilities department for setting everything up.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 PM.

Next Senate Meeting: Tuesday, October 7th at 2:30PM via Teams

Senate Advisory Routing Sheet due: Tuesday, September 16th, 2025

Next Senate Advisory Meeting: Tuesday, September 30th at 2:30PM via Teams

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Radlowski

A reference to help during transition



CARE Team
MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Membership

Core:

(standing team that will meet weekly)

Jim Maio Co-chair 25-26 CWB Coordinator Co-chair beg 26-27	Tracy Coulson Co-chair, beg 25-26
Bryan Coromato Dennis Gibbons	Brittany Dielemans Karey Pine eval 25-26

Ad-Hoc:

(depends on nature/content of referral)

Academic Affairs –

Todd Behrendt	Melissa Copperwheat	
Shahida Dar	Dom DiMaggio	
Laura Goff	Vincent Petronio	
Ibrahim Rosic	Jess Wilkie	Joe Woodrow

Mental Health Counselors –

Michelle Burdick	Krystal Smith
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Office of Accessibility Resources –

Jessica Amerosa

WHERE DO I SHARE? Care Referral vs. Conduct/Safety Report

***Emergencies – 911**

***If You're Not Sure — Refer to Care Team**

What warrants a Care Referral? *(This is not intended to be exhaustive, but examples)*

- A student seems withdrawn, anxious, or emotionally distressed
- A student shares something concerning (e.g., housing insecurity, food need, caregiving stress – in particular if some combination of concerns)
- A student is frequently absent, disengaged, or struggling in multiple classes
- Behavior is disruptive to student's or others' learning, but unclear in terms of direct threat to safety or health.
- Any of the above are part of an abrupt change to the student's typical behavior and/or demeanor.
- You're unsure where to send your concern, but want someone to follow up with care

And for Conduct / Safety / Policy Reports?

***Use 911** when there is an **immediate crisis or emergency** Follow

guidance on the Report It page when...

- A student's behavior is **targeted and threatening, aggressive, or violates community standards** (likely Public Safety)
- There's suspected harassment, discrimination, or Title IX concerns (likely Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment (incl Title VI), Title IX, and could be incident of Bias/Microaggression)
- Academic integrity or classroom disruption rises to **code of conduct violation** (likely your Dean and/or Public Safety)
- There's a known or suspected **safety risk** (weapons, threats, violence) (Public Safety)
- Submit a **Help Me form** if still unsure.

Care Referral Process:

1. Concern Identified

An employee observes behavior or learns something that raises concern.



2. Referral Submitted

Care Referral Form completed via the Care Team website.



3. Team Review

The Care Team reviews the referral:

- Uses NABITA Risk Rubric for consistent assessment and is used each week that the referral is in process.
- Identifies appropriate outreach, support, and next steps
- Meets weekly on Thursday afternoons (referrals may receive follow up in advance of the weekly meeting as needed)



4. Student Outreach & Support

A team member connects with the referrer and/or student to determine best path for offering resources and coordinated support.

- These could include: wellness checks, counseling, accessibility, tutoring, etc.



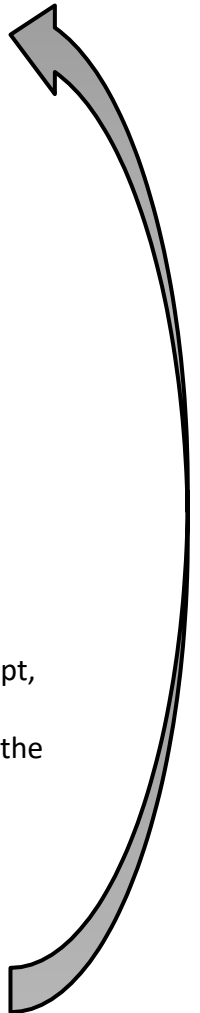
5. Referrer Follow-Up

The referring employee receives acknowledgement and general update to include note of receipt, general review that was conducted and determined, and often will include what referrer should expect to see in terms of changes/improvements. Also what to do if that is not the case.



6. Process Is Documented And Tracked

For on-going individual follow up, general or specific trends and patterns, and the success of outcomes.



CARE Team
MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE