

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 4, 2014, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, C. Bolton, J. Brown, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, J. Coleman, S. Dar, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, D. Ianno, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. Leahy, J. Livadas, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, G. Melendez, C. Miller, R. Mink, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, R. Pucine, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Rosero, R. Spetka, M. Thomas, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, and J. Woodrow.

Student Senator: A. Colucci, R. Marsden, and S. Teater.

Absent/Excused: B. Molinaro, M. Sorrentino, and J. Yager.

Guests: M. Copperwheat, J. Dewan, A. Doughtie, M. Eannace, P. Fess, J. Heintz, M. Henningsen, J. Peacock, S. Reynolds, N. Rosero, R. Shulman, T. Squires, B. Wilson, and S. Zohne.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

W. Perrotti moved, and J. Wilcox seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2013 meeting. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstention.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly would like to propose to the Board that the Senate have a travel budget for times when the Chair and the FCCC representative need to travel to plenary sessions and conferences. Currently these expenses are paid out of department budgets. W. Perrotti moved, and R. Spetka seconded, to approve the proposal. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

D. Kelly also reported that he will ask the chairs of the Curriculum and Safety and Security Committees for their semester reports. All other semester reports are in. He will encourage all other committee chairs to bring matters worthy of Senate attention to the Senate Advisory Committee as the semester progresses.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

S. Teater reported that the Executive Committee has approved the formation of a Social Media Committee to oversee the blog, the Facebook page, and associated areas. She also announced that all college committees that need student representatives should have them now. Please let the Executive Team know if student representatives are not responding or not showing up to meetings.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

R. VanWagoner stated that the smoking policy approved by the Senate will go to the Board of Trustees at the March 3rd meeting. The Strategic Planning Council will be meeting tomorrow to start updating on the strategic plan. This time they would like more campus community involvement in this process. R. VanWagoner also provided an update on SUNY's Start-Up NY initiative. Businesses are encouraged to start up on and around SUNY campus properties by allowing them tax-free operation for 10 years. For more information on this

initiative, see: <http://startup-ny.com/> So far MVCC has had a couple of inquiries. Frank DuRoss is the point person on this.

R. VanWagoner presented the Heart of the Hawk Award for teaching to Melissa Copperwheat and the Pride of the Hawk Award for service to Mike Henningsen.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Eannace introduced Julie Peacock as acting dean in place of Terry Schwaner, who retired. The Academic Plan is now located on the MVCC web site under Academic Centers. She reported that over 30 faculty members are working with their peers on other campuses on the seamless transfer 64-cap programs. MVCC's General Education program has been aligned with SUNY's General Education program. A new format has been created for academic displays such as the college catalog and the web site, so the information is presented in a uniform fashion. VP Reynolds and others are working on simplifying the Student Handbook. New partnerships with SUNY IT and RIT are being built for transfer of MVCC students into their programs. Academic level math is being offered to high school seniors in area schools for those students who have had no math in several years. There are 214 community members on the advisory councils associated with MVCC's academic programs. Over 120 students—the largest number to date—have been inducted into Phi Theta Kappa. An Undergraduate Research Design Team has begun its work.

D. Kelly added that back in September 2012 M. Radlowski had asked the Senate for a vote to authorize the implementation of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement and also of Faculty Engagement during the spring semester of this year. The Senate at that time voted in favor of this. More information on it will be forthcoming.

BUDGET REPORT

VP T. Squires stated that budget managers should have their budget reports to their Deans now, with reports due to him by March 1. The governor's executive budget proposes no increase in state aid, which is the same as last year. However, as happened last year, there may end up being a small increase. The two capital projects that MVCC requested aid on will probably be funded. These are new campus signage and repair to the Academic Building entryways. T. Squires also reported that the retirement rate should increase this year, but then decrease for the next couple of years.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT:

R. Labuz pointed out that there will be an Open SUNY webinar in IT 225 and on the Rome Campus tomorrow at 1:00. He reported that some community colleges are dropping the PE requirement in their programs in order to cut them down to 64 credits. To summarize:

Colleges who have reduced / eliminated PE requirements recently:

Corning Community College: "had a 2 hour wellness requirement... Fall 2013 our Faculty Assembly voted to remove this requirement.

Jefferson Community College: "Has stopped requiring PE for all degrees... dropped from programs +-due to the credit hour caps."

Tompkins-Cortland: "used to require 1 credit of either health or fitness and 1 credit of computer applications... revised our college gen ed and removed both requirements."

North Country: "at least 6 programs... will need to remove PE."

Dutchess Community College: "just modified its requirements... wellness and fitness course is no longer required... in the past a requirement of all programs offered... it was 3 credits."

Onondaga Community College: "About 4 years ago, went through credit reduction... the College Board of

Trustees dropped the phys ed requirement for all programs... against the recommendation of the faculty."

Other colleges who responded with germane comments:

Erie Community College: "none of our degrees have phys ed requirements."

Ulster Community College: "does not have a PE requirement."

W. Perrotti felt that PE is too important a subject to be dropped, and suggested that PE be a graduation requirement but not a part of any program, like DGV. S. Teater added that learning about health and wellness while in college costs the state less in the long run because it's easier to teach it to students than to try to educate them once they're out of college. W. Perrotti and D. Kelly agreed that the community colleges need to work together to deal with SUNY on this.

OLD BUSINESS

Smoking policy: D. Kelly presented the proposed smoking policy as slightly amended by the Cabinet. (See below.) The Senate Advisory Committee felt that the changes were improvements. The policy will now go to the Board of Trustees at their March 3rd meeting. S. Frisbee moved, and N. Chrisman seconded, to reaffirm the policy. The motion carried with one opposed and one abstention.

Revised policy on use of tobacco products:

Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited in all Utica and Rome Campus buildings as well as all campus-affiliated buildings, structures, and vehicles. Smoking and the use of tobacco products are prohibited within 25 feet of building entrances. Smokers are expected to properly dispose of their own tobacco waste in designated outside containers. ~~This policy is subject to revision.~~

(Revised second paragraph):

Prohibited products and uses include but are not limited to tobacco-derived or containing products, cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos, hookah smoked products, pipes, clove cigarettes (kreteks), bidis, smokeless tobacco, and oral tobacco (smokeless, chew, snus, and snuff).

(Original second paragraph):

Tobacco products are defined as all tobacco-derived or containing products, including and not limited to, cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos, hookah smoked products, pipes, clove cigarettes (kreteks), bidis, synthetic marijuana, smokeless tobacco, and oral tobacco (smokeless, chew, snus, and snuff).

NEW BUSINESS

DGV report: Kyle Lince, chair of the Committee on Diversity and Global View, was unable to attend. D. Kelly presented the committee's three requests/suggestions.

First, there is a need for more DGV tutorials on Blackboard. Anyone who would like to work on a tutorial please contact Don Kelly or Kyle Lince.

Second, they recommend the creation of online events, possibly taping, with permission of the speakers/performers, DGV events here on campus and streaming them online. This would be especially helpful to students who take only online classes or who have a reason for not attending live events.

Third, they suggest a time limit after a DGV event when students can claim they attended but for some reason didn't get credit. Credit for DGV events takes 24 hours to get into the system, whereas credit for tutorials may take three or four days after the event. R. Rosero proposed that the time limit be within the same semester as

the event for the claim. C. Bolton commented that she resents having to pay for a ticket to a DGV event when students get in free and then are disruptive and inconsiderate, thereby spoiling her enjoyment of the program. She feels these students should be learning how to behave civilly in public.

D. Kelly will report all comments to Kyle Lince.

Classrooms: M. McHarris reviewed what was purchased for faculty in the classrooms. He commented that special accommodation chairs and tables for students are getting moved around, so that custodians don't know which classrooms they belong in. G. Melendez stated that SMARTBoards were placed atop the whiteboards, thereby decreasing the amount of writing space, which some faculty need. J. Baumann commented that some classrooms still have chalkboards and pull-down screens. She suggested another survey of classroom needs be done. D. Kelly stated that the problem is that there is no one person or office in charge of all aspects of the classrooms. It was thought that the assistant deans are now in charge of room changes. J. Brown stated that some adjuncts are routinely assigned certain courses, and that this information should be considered when assigning classrooms. C. Miller felt that all classrooms should be upgraded, that MVCC should keep up with the educational technology. She cited as an example the Camden schools, where students are using iPads. D. Kelly stated that the Facilities Committee is currently trying to identify those rooms which are used mostly for one discipline.

OTHER BUSINESS

Paychecks: W. Perrotti stated that he and other faculty members have received too much money in their paychecks for various reasons, which they then had to pay back. Why is this happening and when will it be fixed? He also feels that the paychecks are too hard to read, that they do not break down what portion of their pay is coming from what. He would like these two items of business to be placed on a future Senate agenda.

Course changes: W. Perrotti reported that for the first time since he's been teaching at MVCC, faculty members in one discipline have made a determination on another discipline's course. The example he cited was one where his center voted on reducing the number of credits in two anatomy and physiology courses. The life science faculty members all responded "no," but were in the minority, having been outnumbered by the rest of the faculty in the center. This, he feels, is the problem with having centers rather than departments.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

C. Bolton moved, and S. Teater seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 4:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next College Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, February 24, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senate Recording Secretary