

STUDENT CONGRESS
2/15/18

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Jennifer asked for the approval of the minutes from last week's meeting. Allison Eastman motioned to approve the minutes and Maeve Yourdon seconded. The motion passed.

Jennifer then introduced President VanWagoner who spoke to the students about funding for community colleges in New York State. An effort is being made to change the funding from being based on enrollment to a flat rate for all colleges. A stable allocation will help eliminate the fluctuation in the budget process.

Jennifer then recommended the following resolution:

Resolved that Student Congress, with knowledge that New York State partially funds SUNY Community Colleges, fully supports the decision for the state to fund community colleges in a predictable and stabilizing manner that is not based on FTE enrollment.

Kaitlyn Kenney motioned to approve the resolution and Kupr Kuprian seconded. The motion passed.

Jennifer then introduced Kevin Siembab from the Adult Learner Services Office. He spoke to the students about the numerous services offered by his office and also the Veteran Services Office. For example Adult Learner Services offers the following:

- A specific ED100 class just for adult learner
- Scholarships for students that are attending part-time
- SPIRE Honor Society just for adult learners
- Returning Adult Student Association
- Assistance for dislocated workers

Veterans Services offers the following:

- Mentoring for veterans to assist them in meeting their educational goals
- Scholarship information
- Community resource information
- Student Veterans Association
- Assistance with financial aid
- Assistance with submitting military transcripts for transfer credit evaluation

President Report

Jennifer stated that if anyone is interested in the position of President for next year, please feel free to shadow her, but also realize that you should speak with either Jean, Sandy, De'Anna or Dan as those are the advisors she works with. She still needs people for committees. Please fill out the committee form and turn it in by March 1st. There will be an Officer Recruitment Dinner on March 22nd at 5 p.m. in ACC 116. It is highly recommended that you attend this dinner if you are interested in a position for next year. Jennifer explained that there will be opportunities for students to have lunch with the College Cabinet on March 23rd and April 9th. If you are interested in participating in one of these lunches, please see Sandy. The Middlestates report has been posted on Blackboard. Please review chapters 4 and 7. The Middlestates Team will be here from March 4-7 and they may want to speak with students.

Vice President of Utica Report

Erica stated attendance is going well. The official attendance starts today, February 15th. She then explained in detail how to sign in for attendance.

Vice President of Rome Report

Clubs and Grub on Feb. 13th had a good turnout. Soul Steps also went over well. The next event is a Fact and Film with Rialda Shulman on Feb. 22nd at 6 p.m. If you are interested in the position of V.P. for Rome for next year, please shadow Tyler and speak with either Dan, Sandy, De'Anna or Jean for advisors.

Treasurer Report

Taryn announced that there is \$26,206.52 left in the developmental account. She encouraged the clubs to join Student Congress on the HawksLife app and to be sure to use the app for club and meeting information.

Trustee Report

Dylan stated he will discuss the digital animation concern of the room being open later with V.P. Eannace at their meeting next week. Regarding the stop sign near Proctor, the College is waiting to hear back from the city about it. Dylan stated that in his meeting last week with Assemblyman Brindisi announced that he is also in favor of more stable funding for community colleges. If you are interested in Dylan's position, you must be a second year student and also reach out to Jean Leandre as the advisor. For shadowing, it would be good if anyone interested would work with Dylan to attend the March Board of Trustees meeting. If there are any concerns that you don't want to bring up in the meeting, please email Dylan at sctrustee@mvcc.edu.

Program Board Director Report

Katie stated Soul Steps went very well with approximately 200 people in attendance. The acoustic performer today in the Snack Bar, Rachel Brown, went well. The next events is Erica Mina, Hypnotist, on Feb. 20th at 8:30 p.m. in the ACC Snack Bar. She then listed the upcoming DGV events. She encouraged people to shadow her for her position and the advisor to speak with would be De'Anna. Program Board meets every Friday at 2 p.m. in ACC 222. Please follow Program Board on the various social media sites.

Proposals

Photography Club recapped their proposal from last week requesting \$6,000 for a trip to the Grand Canyon.

Drama Club recapped their proposal from last week requesting \$9,516.75 for a trip to New York City to see the plays "Sleep No More" and "Come From Away" and also to participate in a Broadway 101 workshop. Kupr Kuprian motioned to change the amount to \$10,212 and Kristen Eisenhut seconded. The motion passed.

WAC/SET/Billiards Club each requested \$2,873.46 for a trip to Boston. They were asked if they would be getting a group discount at the hotel and they said yes of approximately \$25 per room. They were asked if they worked with the Executive Board when creating this proposal and they said no. They were asked if they checked out hotels outside of Boston and they said yes, but that those hotels would make the transportation higher. They were asked to if they had considered if the cheaper hotel would equal out the higher transportation cost and they said no. They were asked why there were so many advisors and the rule was explained for everyone. Justification as to why the trip meets the purpose of each club was provided.

All proposals passed.

New Clubs

Helping Hawks explained the purpose of their club. Taysha Blount motioned for Helping Hawks to be recognized as an official club and Kaitlyn Kenney seconded. The motion passed.

Open Floor

Sandy reminded the students that if they have gone through training that they are official voting members of Student Congress. When you are asked to vote in the meeting, it has been noticed that some people are not voting. If you are an official member, you must vote in the meeting. You cannot just ignore the process. Voting is a privilege that should be used properly.

Phi Theta Kappa reminded the students to submit their photos for the Hawks in Action project. A link will be posted on the app and also in each club on the app. The link will also be posted on the large poster in ACC. They were asked if the link could be sent to the students in the MVCC daily email they receive and they said they are working on that.

Kristin Eisenhut reminded students that if you see service dogs on campus to not pet them. Most dogs will have vests on and that means they are working and should not be pet or approached.

Maxim Verenich motioned to re-instate Catalyst for Christ as an official club and Allison Eastman seconded. The motion passed.

De'Anna asked the Student Veterans Association, the Knitting Club and the Fine Arts Club to come see her after the meeting.

Adjournment

Tyler Delaney motioned to adjourn and Ben Crary seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.