

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 6, 2007, PH 300

Present: S. Bice, D. Boyce, A. Broski, T. Capraro, E. Dailey, D. DiGiorgio, C. Domser, A. Doughtie, T. Fournier, A. Glidden, T. Haroon, K. Hartman, R. Jubenville, D. Katz, M. Kohl, D. Larson, D. McDermott, J. Maio, A. Marchio, M. Pearson, W. Perrotti, B. Quist, N. Rutishauser, S. Selden, G. Slade, J. Smrtic, R. Spetka, R. Stempien, R. Thomas, and D. Willner.

Student Senator: C. Amato.

Excused: R. Feola, B. Kurtz, M. Schafer, S. Senior, and J. Zegarelli.

Absent: H. Cross, D. Gennaro-Ho, and G. Donato.

Guests: J. Andrek, F. Armstrong, R. Button, R. Cantor, C. Domser, F. Elias, P. Katchmar, M. Radlowski, D. Rahn, and N. Rosero.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

B. Jubenville moved, and D. Katz seconded, to approve the consent agenda items. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OR DESIGNEE

E. Dailey reported that a large contingency of MVCC representatives were present in Albany for SUNY Day, where they met with Griffo, Valesky, Destito, Townsend, and others. N. Rutishauser and C. Amato represented the MVCC College Senate. RoAnn Destito was interested in MVCC's most pressing capital projects, including the fieldhouse and funding for more high tech programs. Since then both RoAnn and Joe Griffo have called for more information on this. E. Dailey also reminded everyone to go to the Support SUNY.org web site (<http://www.supportsuny.org/campaign/communitycolleges2007>) and fill in the blanks on the right-hand side, then click on Send This Message to lend support to the SUNY budget initiative. She asked, however, that everyone do this from their home computers.

T. Haroon moved, and D. Boyce seconded, to accept the President's report. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

REPORT OF STUDENT CONGRESS

C. Amato had three issues to bring before the Senate. First, he asked how the recent snow cancellations would affect grades and the last date to withdraw from a course. D. Thomas replied that grades would be determined between the instructor and the student. D. Larson stated that it was determined at the last department head meeting that May 8th would be used as a Wednesday make-up day. All Senators agreed to go back to their constituent areas and remind everyone to be understanding of the many difficulties related to unusual winter weather.

Second, C. Amato was concerned about privacy issues related to the use of Social Security Numbers for identification on the MVCC campuses. R. Spetka responded that this is in the process of being changed, with all incoming freshman in Fall 2007 being converted to a new system and everyone else being converted by the end of 2007.

Third, C. Amato expressed concern about upcoming tree removal in the parking lot area, and how this will affect student parking. D. DiGiorgio responded that the trees scheduled to be removed are not near any student parking. Also, removal will be held early in the morning to lessen the impact on parking.

C. Amato's report was accepted by common consensus.

OLD BUSINESS

Dual Credit Accreditation Process: Deferred until the April meeting

Draft proclamation regarding "recommitment to excellence" based on recent Student Opinion Survey (SOS) discussion: The "Recommitment" Work Group (S. Bice, C. Domser, D. Katz, and B. Quist) recommended that the College Senate affirm the following:

1. To take the results seriously and work to improve our performance.
2. To gain greater insight into student perceptions.
3. To canvas our respective constituents throughout the college to begin the process of devising a plan to improve ourselves and our rankings.

After much discussion as to how to determine what needs to be improved and how to make the improvements (student forums, student focus groups, ED 100, purchasing a service, developing a discussion group guide), R. Thomas moved, and S. Bice seconded, that each Senator will seek feedback from his or her constituents and will present a written report for the May 2nd College Senate meeting. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

NEW BUSINESS

Academic Policies Committee: The APC presented three recommendations to the College Senate. First, they asked that the following statement be added to the College Catalog on page 70 under the heading "Veteran's Service":

The College endeavors to address the needs of students called to active duty status.

Upon return, students should consult with the Veteran's Coordinator to address the possible need for waivers.

S. Bice moved, and C. Amato seconded, to accept this addition. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

Second, they asked that the following statement be added to the College Catalog on page 68 under the heading "Research Policy," in order to streamline the process of research proposals:

Any research proposal must be forwarded to the Office of Institutional Assessment for review and approval by the Institutional Review Board.

R. Spetka moved, and S. Bice seconded, to accept the addition. The motion carried with one opposed and 3 abstentions.

Third, after reviewing, at the request of the Senate, the criteria for hiring and assigning of adjuncts, it was determined that the policy should be left as it is outlined in the MVCC Professional Employee Search Process and Procedure Manual. R. Thomas moved, and D. Katz seconded, to accept the APC's findings. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

Implications of the 2007-08 Academic Calendar: Deferred until April meeting.

College Senate Bylaws review/revision: Chairperson W. Perrotti asked for volunteers to review the Senate bylaws. A. Broski, D. Boyce, S. Bice, and K. Hartman volunteered. They were asked to have a report for the Senate by the May 2nd meeting.

Policies regarding College closures (due to weather, etc.): An outline of MVCC's emergency closing procedure and a list of numbers of day students (exclusive of dorm and international students) and where they live arranged by zip code were distributed to the Senators. R. Thomas pointed out that instructors can cancel individual classes, but if the College is open instructors should be here unless they are ill or otherwise indisposed (eg., car break down, death in family). However, some instructors cancel classes more than they should. Discussion of closing policies and procedures will continue at the next Senate meeting.

Use of faculty/staff SSN for identification and other purposes: Deferred.

College-wide cell phone use policy: Deferred.

Future College forum topics: Deferred.

OTHER BUSINESS

New Senator: Chairperson W. Perrotti reported that R. Doolen has resigned from the Senate. He proposed M. Kohl as replacement. R. Spetka moved, and B. Quist seconded, to accept this proposal. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT

S. Bice moved, and R. Thomas seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m. by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Senate meeting will be **Tuesday, April 3, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in Rome.**

The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, March 19, 2007, at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Senator and Recording Secretary