

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011, IT 225

Present: D. Boyce, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, S. Cummings, J. DeWeerth, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, E. Hantsch, D. Horton, D. Hydellund, P. Katchmar, D. Katz, D. Kelly, A. Light, D. McDermott, M. McHarris, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, M. Parry, C. Plescia, R. Pucine, B. Quist, M. Radlowski, G. Searles, J. Smrtic, R. Spetka, C. Way, J. Wilcox, J. Yager, and President R. VanWagoner.

Student Senators: J. Coleman and D. Nekritz.

Absent/Excused: S. Dar, E. Griffith, J. Palmer, J. Roberts, J. Shumway, D. Skibitski, M. Sorrentino, M. Syed, M. Vogt, and W. Zogby.

Guests: D. Bogan, M. Buttenschon, R. Cantor, J. Dewan, O. Donchuk, A. Doughtie, M. Eannace, S. Engel, P. Fox, K. Hartman, R. Haubert, L. Kahler, J. Lynch, J. Myers, J. Palmer, M. Reilly, N. Rosero, M. Snyder, D. Willner, and special guest Ms. Thanh.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The minutes for the March 1, 2011, and the April 5, 2011, meetings were reviewed. R. Spetka moved, and J. DeWeerth seconded, to approve the March 1 minutes. J. Wilcox moved, and D. Nekritz seconded, to approve the April 5 minutes, with two corrections. Both motions carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Katz introduced Ms. Thanh, visiting professor from Vietnam, as a special guest. He thanked Senators who were leaving, including C. Plescia, D. Skibitski, J. Palmer, C. Miller, and K. Capuana. He announced that the newly configured Senate will meet for the first time on May 17 in IT 225. D. Katz attended the April Board of Trustees meeting, at which he informed them of the business conducted at the April Senate meeting. He also attended the April Cabinet meeting. Finally, he announced that N. Rosero's PowerPoint on assessment, which was presented to the Senate at the March meeting, is now available on the Senate web site as well as in the Senate public folder.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

Newly elected SC President John Coleman reported that \$5,018 was raised for the Japanese earthquake and tsunami relief.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner awarded the Pride of the Hawk Award to Oleg Donchuk and the Heart of the Hawk Award to Gina Fazio. He then reported that this year's budget was the most difficult budget to put together in the past four years. John Zogby will be this year's graduation speaker. This year's Alumni of Merit will be Hal Cramer from the class of '69, who is one of three Presidents of Exxon Mobil, which has recently agreed to award money to colleges around New York State, including MVCC. There will be 15 retirees this spring, so many searches are underway to find replacements. There have been over 125 applicants for Toni Carbone's position as secretary to the President. M. Snyder added at this point that they received around 60 applications for the Vice President of Student Services position. The search committee narrowed it

down to 7 semi-finalists and 2 finalists, one of which will be on campus for an open forum on May 9 and the other of which will be on campus for an open forum on May 10. Both forums will be held in PH300 from 11:00 to 12:00.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Eannace reported that enrollment was up 4.3% per FTE in the spring. However, summer enrollment is down 4.4% FTE, 4.2% by head count. 112 faculty and staff were sent or will be sent to conferences and workshops this year. The recent civility forum was attended by 500 people in the IT theatre and 200 people in the overflow room. Over 200 people from MVCC participated in the Heart Run Walk, and MVCC was second in the amount of money raised. Academic plans for the centers are still being finalized. Fourteen searches for new colleagues have just been completed or are just starting. Degree Works (advising program) will be implemented this spring, with 3 Summer Institute training workshops and more summer training workshops to be held. A new program will be implemented that will allow the college to go paperless with contracts. Jim Maio is in the process of compiling transfer equivalency tables. R. Pucine is also working on a software program. Kim Evans-Dame is training staff in the use of a program that will allow paperless applications for jobs at MV. D. Kelly added that there have been over 100 responses to the facilities survey. Finally, M. Eannace commented that we are losing many dear colleagues to retirement, including her secretary, Kitty Dack.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES (FCCC) REPORT

B. Quist reported that about 10 community colleges have endorsed the resolution that the Senate responded to at the April Senate meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Senate Elections: N. Chrisman reported that 187 people voted, which is up 10 from last year. She thanked her committee members—K. Capuana, D. Boyce, M. Syed, S. Frisbee, D. Skibitski, and R. Pucine—for their work.

NEW BUSINESS

Faculty input to the Curriculum Committee: D. Katz stated that the concern initially brought to the Senate was that the creation of a new developmental math course with such wide-ranging effects was done without soliciting input from other faculty and other areas affected. E. Hantsch stated that the Center for Language and Learning Design and the math faculty approved that course. She said that a call for input from other centers was put out, but is not sure that she received all the responses. The course will be going to the Curriculum Committee this Thursday. S. Frisbee, chair of the Curriculum Committee, stated that the issue is more that when faculty members have concerns about faculty matters there is no forum or outlet in which they can discuss these matters. B. Quist felt that there is a need for face-to-face communication at meetings rather than by electronic means.

Civility Project's structure and process: D. Katz stated that question has been raised as to whether this project has a home in any department or center or with any one person, and what has been or will be done as a follow-up to the recent forum. D. Nekritz stated that he has already noticed a huge change toward the positive since the forum, just because it brought the matter to the forefront of people's thoughts. The forum, he said, caused students to realize that they're not the only ones here; it heightened their awareness of the issue and of their own behavior. He stated that one student group has decided to have their own forum on the topic, and suggested that faculty and staff work with the other student clubs. M. Snyder added that the Cabinet has dealt with this, because they don't want the momentum of the forum to die out over the summer. There has already been a call put out to students for artwork on the theme of civility that will be displayed on campus. Also, next week M. Snyder will meet with student leaders to discuss ideas for continuing the momentum over the summer. C. Miller pointed out that criminal

incidents and violence are different from incivility. However, it was countered that incivility often leads to violence and criminal incidents. D. Nekritz felt that, as the college prepares students for their future as citizens and as workers, so should they prepare students for the future emotionally. B. Quist was in favor of creating a Senate committee, and R. Spetka suggested an Ad hoc Senate Committee to develop some goals. G. Searles commented that some cultures on campus demand respect and are intolerant of incivility. The important thing is to keep incivility from spilling over into aggression. D. Katz stated that what we lack may be an intentional model for the expected behavior. Rules and consequences for breaking those rules in the student handbook do not ensure civility. A. Doughtie suggested a joint Cabinet/Senate committee. D. Nekritz moved to discuss further house of the civility project with some department or person on campus at the next Senate meeting. G. Searles seconded the motion. The motion carried, with 27 in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

Crisis Communication Update: Dorm incidents and notification of the college community: D. Katz stated that this incident was brought to the Senate because recently a student was arrested for selling pot in the dorm, but the incident was reported in the newspaper without the campus community being notified. M. Snyder replied that this incident does not fall within the protocol that was recently drafted. However, the assault of a student off campus, on Armory Drive, did trigger the current protocol. G. Searles pointed out that the student who was arrested for selling drugs has only been charged, not proven guilty, so until proven guilty it is not our business. Chief J. Palmer responded that the two people apprehended by the peace officers for the assault were gang members; one was arrested for trespassing. As a result of this incident, for the next two weeks three Utica police officers as well as two campus peace officers will be on duty at night around the dorms. He also added that, during the drug bust incident, he was in direct communication with Ralph Feola.

Curriculum Committee request: S. Frisbee stated that the current process for submitting proposed courses to the Curriculum Committee is paperbound. There are currently forms on the Intranet that you can print and fill out, but no way to submit them electronically. S. Frisbee requested that the Senate approve an initiative for the college to commit to creating or finding a software program that would allow the process to become electronic. M. Radlowski seconded this. P. Katchmar responded that there is currently an initiative for the 2011-12 year to develop a program for course submissions. He feels that the program can be developed in-house. This will probably be worked on next year. D. Katz called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried, with 26 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

OTHER BUSINESS

President VanWagoner announced that, as of Friday, May 6, at 5:00, he will serve as Interim Vice President for Student Services.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Spetka moved, and D. Nekritz seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**
The next Senate Advisory Committee meeting will be Tuesday, August 30, TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary