

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 5, 2013, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, C. Bolton, J. Brown, K. Capuana, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, D. Elseth, S. Frisbee, A. Haines-Stephan, K. Hartman, D. Ianno, D. Kelly, R. Labuz, M. Leahy, M. McHarris, G. Melendez, C. Miller, R. Mink, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, W. Perrotti, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Spetka, M. Treis, G. Warchol, J. Wilcox, and J. Woodrow.
Student Senator: A. Colucci, R. Marsden, and S. Teater.
Absent/Excused: J. Coleman, S. Dar, J. Livadas, R. Pucine, R. Rosero, M. Sorrentino, M. Thomas, J. Yager and President R. VanWagoner.
Guests: J. Boulanger, J. Dewan, S. Engel, R. Haubert, D. Katz, J. Myers, S. Reynolds, I. Rosic, N. Rosero, T. Squires, and S. Zohne.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

M. Treis moved, and D. Elseth seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2013, meeting, with three corrections. The motion carried with none opposed and one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

D. Kelly introduced new student Senators Randy Marsden and Anthony Colucci.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

S. Teater stated that she and another student will be attending the SUNY Student Assembly this coming weekend.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

D. Katz presented the Heart of the Hawk Award to Guy Snedeker and the Pride of the Hawk Award to Ibrahim Rosic.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

S. Reynolds reported on a number of collaborations between Student Affairs and other offices on campus. These included creating purple lights on the Payne Hall building in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) and finding a place to hang all the flags from other countries. The admissions side of the first floor of Payne Hall is being evaluated to find a better arrangement for flow of business and waiting space. Automation of the wait list is progressing. The GPS (Goals + Planning + Success) program is evaluating itself for applying for a Title 3 grant. Finally, there are two new campus-wide initiatives in the works: 1) the establishment of an Office of Veterans Affairs, and 2) an upcoming campus conversation about what an intercultural center would look like, who would use it, and what its purpose would be.

NEW BUSINESS

S. Reynolds discussed the need for a change in the charge of the Civility Committee. Originally the momentum for civility initiatives on campus came from the students. However, that has diminished, with the student Civility Club currently numbering no members. It is felt that the committee should seek input from the campus on what the campus needs. S. Reynolds proposes that the Civility Committee be charged with developing a survey on campus civility needs, and then take the results of that survey and work on program proposals. The committee has funding given to it two years ago that has not been spent. S. Reynolds will bring her proposed change of charge to the Civility Committee for their consideration before bringing it back to the Senate for approval.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

R. Labuz attended the FCCC plenary from October 17 to 19, at which four main issues were discussed. (See the appendix to these minutes for his full report.)

Performance-based funding: All speakers at the plenary said that this is happening now. Smaller 2-year colleges have a higher graduation rate than larger 2-year colleges. Each college will have to define the way it measures success.

Educational pipeline: Graduating with a Regents diploma is supposed to mean that a student is college ready. However, only 41% of those with Regents diplomas are actually college-ready (i.e., can pass college placement tests). Several initiatives are being suggested to deal with this, such as the Early College High School Project (similar to the Millennium Project), Quantway and Statway for math skills improvement, and adding arts to STEM (to make it STEAM). Sixty percent of people in New York State over the age of 25 have no college degree, and yet most jobs require it.

Rational Revenue Plan: R. Labuz presented a resolution for Senate approval in support of the Rational Revenue Plan, which will restore the State's share of operating costs to its statutory obligation of 33.3% by 2016-2017. S. Frisbee moved, and B. Molinaro seconded, to endorse the resolution. The motion carried, with none opposed and no abstentions.

De Facto Core Curriculum: R. Labuz presented another resolution for Senate approval, this one in opposition to a De Facto Core Curriculum. SUNY has created a list of courses in 37 disciplines required for seamless transfer from a 2-year to a 4-year SUNY institution. This core curriculum was established in early October. Community colleges were not consulted in the process. The FCCC is asking that seamless transfer be suspended until all the colleges have a chance for input in the process. The issue is one of shared governance. See the following for a list of disciplines and courses: https://www.suny.edu/student/transfer/transfer_mobility.cfm J. Brown moved, and R. Mink seconded, to endorse the FCCC resolution. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

Discussion of the Leadership Academy was tabled until December.

OLD BUSINESS

Smoking policy revision: K. Hartman presented a draft proposal to add wording into the college policy on smoking so that tobacco products would be defined. Since the smoking policy did not read the same in the Student Handbook and the Employee Handbook, a combination of the two policies was created with wording added (additional words are in red):

Smoking **and the use of tobacco products** is prohibited in all Utica and Rome Campus buildings. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas on both campuses. This policy is subject to revision.

The Dormitory Corporation will set its own policy on smoking.

Tobacco is 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, bidis, kreteks, synthetic marijuana, smokeless tobacco, snus, and oral tobacco (smokeless, chew, snuff). It also includes any product intended to mimic tobacco products or contain tobacco flavoring.

K. Hartman provided definitions of bidis, kreteks, and snus. S. Reynolds suggested that “and all campus-affiliated properties” should be added to the end of the first sentence in paragraph one. Suggestion was made to change the second sentence in paragraph one to read: “Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited within 25 feet of building doors and windows,” to bring it up to date with a change in policy that was made in 2012. It was suggested that the first sentence in the second paragraph should begin: “Tobacco products are”. S. Teater pointed out that some gums and patches contain tobacco or tobacco flavoring to help students quit smoking, so that perhaps taking out the last sentence in paragraph two would be best. After further discussion, it was decided to form an ad hoc committee to craft the wording of this policy, to compare it with the dormitory policy, and to determine all the places this policy needs to be placed. K. Hartman will chair the committee with the assistance of volunteers D. Kelly, M. Leahy, S. Teater, and A. Haines-Stephan.

Ad hoc Curriculum/College Catalog Committee: Chair J. Rahn reported that he met with the steering committee and will report to the rest of the committee at large about the results.

Draft Flag Lowering Procedure: President R. VanWagoner requested that this be an administrative procedure and not a policy. He also determined that the flag would remain lowered for one day. T. Squires said that Public Safety will notify the campus community as to why the flag is lowered. M. Radlowski asked if paragraph 3 should include alumni emeritus as well. D. Kelly will ask the President about it.

NEW BUSINESS

Classroom space management: Tabled until December.

ADJOURNMENT

K. Capuana moved, and D. Ianno seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, November 25, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Hartman
Recording Secretary

Appendix:

Faculty Council of Community Colleges Report—Fall 2013 Plenary—Ron Labuz

1. Performance based funding

How do we assess performance. Major topic of the conference.

Chancellor Zimpher: “performance based funding is coming. We must be at the table to determine the measure.

Dusty Swanger, FMCC President. NYCPA recognized that it is here. He believes it will be attached to this year’s funding increase.

Johanna Duncan-Poitier. How are New York state colleges doing in terms of performance?

“Express the success”

NY Community College averages:

Associate’s degree in 3 years, 23 percent

In four years, an addit’l 5 percent.

Transferred full-time for SUNY, additional 14 percent. (So up to 42 percent)

Still enrolled, 31 percent. Success now: 73 percent.

And that does not include the students who transfer outside of SUNY.

Deborah Moeckel: The challenge will be to “count what matters.” Not graduation rate.

2. Education pipeline

Johanna Duncan-Poitier. The education pipeline and performance

High school graduates in NY State receiving the NY Regents diploma. Facts about them:

41 % are college ready.

23% in NY City are college ready.

13% of African American Regents high school grads are college ready.

13% of Hispanic Americans Regents H.S. grads are college ready.

50% of Asian American Regents H.S. grads are college ready.

The skills gap. The education pipeline, P-12, must close the gap.

Remediation work in math & English at the high school level. Initiatives:

- a. Smart Scholars – Early College High Schools. Intro to college in high schools.
- b. Accomplisher Diagnostic Tool. 10th / 11th grade assessment.
- c. Quantway / Statway. Carnegie Foundation. Accelerated math initiatives, quite successful at Rockland CC.
- d. Khan Academy. Free on-line resource for math. Hundreds of millions of students. Now expanding to liberal arts and history.

And another skills gap is found in the returning adult population.

7 of 10 fastest growing occupations require a college degree

For people ages 25-64, sixty percent do not have a college degree.

STEM is a national priority (soon to be STEAM, adding Arts).

But, USA is currently 23rd worldwide in percentage of STEM graduates.

3. Discipline faculty panels were convened in 2012-2013.

Created 37 pathways to seamless transfer.

Method: faculty from largest transfer programs discussed courses with faculty from largest transfer accepting programs.

Faculty were told that these would be courses would be accepted in the pathways. Essentially – a recommendation list. Or a list of acceptable courses. Not unlike the General Education course list.

SUNY has now issued regulations which state that the courses are required for seamless transfer to happen... the courses in the pathways have become a **de facto common core curriculum**.

In an AS program, for example, 50 percent of the courses are General Education common to most colleges. Leaving 10 courses in the disciplinary core of the programs. The pathways mandate up to 7 of those disciplinary courses... leaving only 3 courses to be decided by the faculty of individual campuses. 17 of 20 courses are, in some pathways, the common core.

And some of the courses recommended by faculty who discussed and recommended pathway courses were unilaterally changed by SUNY... not those recommended by faculty. At the Plenary, FCCC unanimously passed a resolution rejected this process (without shared governance) and asked SUNY Administration to suspend seamless transfer until a shared governance process including faculty is developed.