

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 1, 2016, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, L. Charbonneau, J. Dewan, A. Doughtie, S. Frisbee, A. Haines-Stephan, R. Huyck, D. Hyldelund, D. Kelly, S. Kenyon, D. McDermott, S. McGovern, M. McHarris, S. Myalik, A. Radlowski, M. Radlowski, J. Rahn, J. Roberts, R. Santos, B. Scantlebury, G. Searles, R. Spetka, M. Sykes, G. Warchol, and J. Wilcox

Student Senators: A. Kalashnik, D. Kulev, J. Rothrock

Absent/Excused: K. Capone, S. Dar, M. Henningsen, R. Jubenville, P. Katchmar, P. Lotto, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, T. Palumbo, N. Snyder, and R. VanWagoner

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

J. Wilcox moved, and G. Warchol seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2016 meeting. The motion carried with none opposed.

HEART OF THE HAWK & PRIDE OF THE HAWK AWARDS

The Heart of the Hawk and the Pride of the Hawk Awards are given thrice each academic year to faculty (Heart of the Hawk) and full time professional and classified staff (Pride of the Hawk) in recognition for their service and leadership excellence to students, colleagues, and the College. This month, L. Kahler, in place of President VanWagoner, presented the Heart of the Hawk Award to Professor of Art, Jed Kimball, and Franca Armstrong presented the Pride of the Hawk Award to the Director of the Education Center on Elizabeth Street, Sarah Lam.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Haines stated that he has nothing new to report this month.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT

A. Kalashnik introduced the new student trustee, Brenston Ayers, and then discussed the Hawks Against Hardship dinner. Last December, Student Congress reached out to seven different charity organizations to assist in spreading the word about this dinner for homeless families and those undergoing financial hardships. Student Congress is looking to host a second dinner this year, and will provide a meal, entertainment (including a magician, an orchestra, and some local bands), and gift bags. A. Kalashnik explained that while Student Congress can pull from their fund balance to finance the event, they are also looking for donations from members of the College community. In addition to the dinner, decorations, entertainment, and gifts, Student Congress also donated \$1,000 to each of the organizations that assisted with the dinner last year, and would like to do the same this year. An email with more details will be sent soon.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President R. VanWagoner was unable to attend Senate, so there is no President's Report this month.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Vice President T. Squires updated the Senate on several ongoing and new projects:

PAYNE HALL

While a few small items remain (such as repairing the chipped brick around the building), the majority of the work on Payne Hall is completed. Next spring, the Payne Hall overhang will be painted, and plans are being made to replace the steps that come up off the circle with granite steps. The hope is that the granite will not only look better, but will also hold up better to the weather and salt in the winter. J. Wilcox expressed a concern that granite stairs are nice and all, but the PA is going on three months without a contract. While sensitive to the concern, T. Squires also explained that the funding for the stairs comes from the state and county, and cannot be applied to salaries.

ROME CONSTRUCTION

The work on the Rome campus is on target to be completed by the end of December. At the end of this past summer, faculty and staff moved into the new additions, and renovations to Plumley have begun. Initially, bids for the project came in under budget, so a few items that had been cut are now back in the plan. These items were approved by the County just a few months ago, and so there will still be some work to complete after December 31st. Some highlights include replacing the carpeting and seating in the auditorium, some work on the parking lot, renovating the bathrooms, and power-washing the white brick. A ribbon cutting is being planned for mid-January.

OTHER SPACES

Construction on the Learning Commons is 99% done, and a ribbon cutting will be held on November 17th at 1:30pm. Some graphics are on order for the new College Bookstore, and a grand opening will be held once everything has been finalized. Lastly, the ACC Commons will be renovated next summer, as soon after graduation as possible. The University Partner Career and Transfer Lab will be expanded to include additional office space and small computers labs for resumes and applications. Additionally new flooring will be put in, as well as new window treatments.

T. Squires also reported an update on the process for when the College closes due to inclement weather. M. McHarris uses a point system to determine if the campus can be cleared on time for members of the community to safely traverse campus. Once the decision has been made, M. McHarris contacts T. Squires, who then contacts the President for approval. Decisions must be made by 5:00 a.m. so that the media can be informed. The information is then spread through various local news stations as well as NY Alert, the College website (which is the best place to look first), and email. The most recent change to the plan is in response to confusion surrounding delayed openings last year. The new message will be along the lines of: "The College will open at [time]. Classes, labs, and other activities that would have been in progress at that time will begin at that time." On MWF the delayed opening time will be 10:00 a.m, and on TR it will be 11:00 a.m, since these times align best with the majority of classes on campus. J. Baumann expressed a concern that this would cause TR labs that start at 9:00 a.m. to lose more time than those that take place on MWF.

T. Squires briefly commented on the budget, mentioning that enrollment is down around 4%, which is what we had expected and planned for in the budget. He then informed the Senate that he has been working with the Executive Director for Public Safety and Emergency Management D. Amico on a plan to arm Public Safety. They are planning to meet with the Senate Safety Committee and Student Congress to present on why they feel this is a good idea, as well as to discuss the College's capacity to carry out this plan at this time. They will present to the Cabinet, and then to the Senate at the December 6th meeting. The intent is to present to the Board of

Trustees at their December 21st meeting. An attachment with more information will be emailed with the next Senate Agenda.

S. Frisbee inquired about the status of the Wayfinding and Signage project. T. Squires replied that the County did not approve the funding for this project. A year ago, multiple projects were requested, and the impression was that the County would fund the project with \$200,000, but not until 2017. The State approved \$200,000 in the meantime, and it was only as plans were being drawn up for the architects this year that it was discovered that the County had not approved the funding. As a result, T. Squires is asking the County to permit \$50,000 from equipment money to be used on this project.

FACULTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES REPORT

J. Roberts reported that a Resolution from FCCC on microcredentials had been passed, with the main resolution being that any new credit going towards microcredentials should be filtered through the same standard curriculum procedures as any class, including departmental approval, CWCC, SUNY, and so forth. One of the concerns surrounding microcredentials is how the school translates skills into college credit. FCCC has not discussed noncredit microcredentials.

FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT

C. Miller was unable to attend Senate, and so there was no report from Faculty Caucus.

OLD BUSINESS

PROPOSED ASSESSMENT PLAN

Some small changes were made to the assessment plan, including the following:

- In Goal 1, Objective 2, "AllUsers" has been changed to "AllFulltimeFaculty and AllParttimeEmployees."
- In Goal 1, Objective 2, Measure 3, senate advisory minutes were removed.
- In Goal 1, Objective 5, the measure was changed so that the Senate Chair would distribute draft minutes instead of a summary.
- Goal 3 was rephrased so that Faculty Caucus now fits under the goal.

There was some discussion on the change from sending Chair Summaries to sending Draft Minutes. It was decided that the draft minutes would be sent to members of the Senate to preview before they are sent to the community at large.

There was also a brief discussion on who should assess the Senate, and how often. The general consensus was for Senate Advisory to review all three goals annually and to report their findings to Senate.

D. Kelly motioned to approve the assessment plan, and R. Mink seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

CIVILITY COMMITTEE

The Values Committee has, as part of its charter, to "foster culture" by "treating people with respect for dignity and civility." A. Doughtie moved to transition the Civility Committee to the Values Committee, and J. Roberts seconded. While there are no students currently represented on the Values Committee, there is a proposal to add students to the committee. With no other discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS

Speaking on behalf of her constituents, J. Baumann remarked that there have been a lot of copying and printer issues with all of the changes on campus, and some faculty are feeling as though their concerns are being ignored. While it would be nice to be able to send all print jobs to Print Shop, it is not always possible to have a large enough lead-time to do so. Faculty need to be able to be fluid with copying in order to respond to student needs. These are essential tools to faculty work, and there have been times when faculty were unable to print (due to a lack of printer access in AB) and make copies (due to broken and inaccessible machines). R. Santos also commented that with the software updates, the copiers are now displaying that faculty owe a balance, and will faculty be cut off after a certain amount? A. Radlowski replied that she had contacted Karen Dean about the issue, who said faculty are not responsible for the balance.

A second matter brought to J. Baumann's attention is that there is still a wifi connectivity issue in AB in certain classrooms, which makes it challenging to implement new technological tools. T. Squires responded that the IT network infrastructure is about ten years old. While the infrastructure has been replaced on the Rome campus, the Utica network infrastructure is unable to support the load of new devices on campus. However, funds to rebuild the infrastructure on the Utica campus have been requested for next year (most likely in the summer). There was also some additional discussion on the compatibility of different software on the campus computers, with a need to reinstall some software or plugins every time the computer boots up. S. Myalik replied that if IT knows which software and plugins are needed in which classrooms, they can update the computers so that problem is avoided. This setup is to keep the system "clean" to avoid viruses.

J. Roberts expressed a concern about the reduced number of people on screening committees, and asked whether there should have been a larger conversation about this topic. D. Kelly replied that there is a Hiring Systems Advisory Council (which is not part of Senate) that would be able to address questions and concerns, and A. Haines will reach out to President VanWagoner regarding whether this is a temporary or permanent change.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Mink moved, and D. Hyldelund seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m. by common consensus.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225.**

The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Monday, November 26 2016, at 3 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Radlowski