

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Utica and Rome, New York

COLLEGE SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 2, 2019, IT 225

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

Present: J. Baumann, E. Bush, K. Carhart, L. Charbonneau, S. Dar, N. Bruzzese, S. Frisbee, A. Haines, A. Hazen, M. Henningsen, R. Huyck, D. Hyldelund, B. Jubenville, P. Katchmar, M. Kelly, D. McDermott, S. McGovern, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, R. Sbiroli, G. Searles, R. Spetka, C. VanNamee, R. VanWagoner, and J. Wilcox

Student Senators: K. Kuprian, C. Szatko

Absent/Excused: C. Albrecht, D. Ayers-Darling, S. Cummings, S. Fryman, D. Gibbons, M. McHarris, R. Santos, T. Thomas,

CALL TO ORDER

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

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the March 5th meeting were approved with 21 voting in favor and 2 abstentions. (M. Henningsen, D. Hyldelund)

CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Haines reminded the Senate that elections are running through Friday, April 12th. The second Senate meeting in May will be held on May 13th to elect new officers and Senate Advisory committee members. Those interested in serving as an officer or on Advisory should notify A. Haines.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT

K. Kuprian reported that Student Government elections will be held on April 25th. Students with a 2.0 GPA or higher are eligible to run, and will need to give a 3-5 minute speech. The last meeting for the semester will be May 2nd.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

T. Squires shared a number of updates with the Senate, including:

- The College will be changing food service vendors from Sodexo to American Dining Creations, effective July 1st.
- The contract with Follett expires next summer. Auxiliary Services is working with the National Association of College Stores to help revise the current plan to be able to offer

more soft goods at the Bookstore, as well as food options (like microwaveable meals) for dorm students.

- There are now official names for the roads on campus, and signs are in progress. Exterior signs are also in progress, and the College is getting started on interior signage. The new signs will meet ADA requirements and AB will be renumbered when the new signs are installed.
- There were issues with the voicemail upgrade, so it will be updated next week, and the visual voicemail will be installed in early May. This will enable email transcripts of voicemails to be sent. The network infrastructure has been completed, Wi-Fi upgrades around campus are underway, and the computers in IT 149 and IT 150 will be replaced. There will also be a campaign to raise awareness around email phishing.
- Non-employees can now sign up for NY Alerts by contacting T. Squires for the link. The test of Alertus was successfully completed on March 8th, and the program now replaces the voice activated system that had been on the phones before. The program is available on both Macs and PCs, but has to be manually installed on Macs. Beacons have been ordered for larger public spaces, such as the swimming pool, ACC Commons, lobbies, etc, and will be installed in the summer.

FCCC REPORT

J. Baumann reported on the FCCC Plenary that was held the previous weekend. Some updates from the Plenary include:

- The Chancellor reported on the Prodigy Program to help diversify faculty so they look more like the student population across the state.
- The Provost reported on SunyOnline, which was not warmly received. There were numerous concerns that community colleges were left out of the conversation, and that BA/BS programs will benefit more so than AA/AAS programs. Five online programs will serve as a pilot in the fall, with the intent to scale up.
- A resolution about revisions to General Education was discussed, including better aligning to Middle States standards, new competencies, and reducing the number of general education credits to 21. J. Baumann will share the white paper for comments.
- There was a conversation about high administrative turnover and how faculty representation on search committees is chosen (elected vs. appointed).
- There are two forthcoming surveys from the Education Initiatives Committee. The first is to gather information on what percentage of students are taking advantage of the Excelsior Scholarship, and the second is for general information regarding Guided Pathways.
- This is Nina Tamrowski's last year as FCCC president. The new president will be Christy Fogal.

FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT

C. Miller shared that R. VanWagoner reported on the budget at the last meeting of the Faculty Caucus. The current workflow and procedures of CWCC were also discussed. C. Miller will meet with L. Kahler to discuss some of the concerns that were raised during the open forum. The last meeting of the semester will be held on April 16th.

GUIDED PATHWAYS REPORT

S. Crocker shared updates on the following workgroups:

- *Meta-majors Workgroup*
Open Forums have been completed, and recommendations have been submitted to the vice presidents.
- *Multiple Measures Workgroup*
Open Forums have been completed, and recommendations have been submitted to the vice presidents.
- *Integrated Advising Workgroup*
Two open forums will be held next week, and all are encouraged to attend.
- *Intake and Onboarding Workgroup*
Two open forums will be held later in the month, and email invitations will be sent.
- *CF100 Workgroup*
This newly established workgroup is looking at modifying current practices in CF100.
- *General Studies Workgroup*
This workgroup is investigating how the College can modify its current general studies program to give a better experience to those students.
- *Technology Workgroup*
Information regarding what technology the College has, and what it needs, is being collected and will be shared in the Fall.

L. Kahler has also recently emailed an advising guide to help when advising students in English and Math courses.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET DISCUSSION

R. VanWagoner shared an update on the budget. This year's \$5.1 million budget gap is larger than usual, due in part to declining enrollment. Our enrollment has been impacted by numerous variables, including increased employment and decreased enrollment in local high schools. The state is providing a funding floor of 98% of the previous year's funding, or \$100/FTE increase, whichever is larger, and we are currently modeling a 2% increase from the county. Roughly 80% of expenditures are in salaries and benefits, so to help balance the budget the choice was made to eliminate vacancies while simultaneously preserving the core and stimulating progress. Hence, while 3-6 layoffs have happened each year over the last three years, other positions have been added, and with the assistance of grants, the budget gap has

been brought down to roughly \$2.5 million. Additionally, the technology replacement cycle has been altered to focus only on labs in the greatest need, and tuition has increased. Meanwhile, the College is investigating better ways to retain students, as well as finding ways to give students credit for prior learning experience.

CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIP POLICY

S. Reynolds shared the requirements surrounding this policy and a brief history of the evolutions the policy has undergone. The intent is to bring the completed policy to the Board of Trustees at the May or June meeting, so that training can occur before mid-October, when the policy will be in place. As a result, all comments on the policy are due by April 16th.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS

A question was raised regarding why summer classes start so soon after the spring semester ends, and whether there may be 14 week summer classes. L. Kahler responded that a more consistent schedule of summer classes is being investigated, and that the time needed to finalize grades impacts when classes can begin.

Proposals for Summer Institute are being accepted until April 12th.

The Transfer Center is offering two trips for students – one on April 19th to Cazenovia, and another on April 23rd to RIT. Students need to sign up before April 17th for the Cazenovia trip and by April 19th for the RIT trip.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by common consensus at 4:07pm.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the College Senate will be **Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 2:30 p.m. in IT 225**. The next meeting of the Senate Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 2:30 p.m. in PH 304.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Radlowski