

MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

2:30 pm-Zoom

Present: J. Baumann, A. Haines, A. Radlowski, R. Santos, R. Sbiroli, R. Spetka, M. Kelly, E. Bush, R. Huyck, M. Miknavich, Dr. R. VanWagoner, J. Ireland, C. Miller, S. Dar, S. Cummings, S. Frisbee, M. Faitell, P. Katchmar, M. Lapalia, E. Bush, J. Rahn, S. Myalik, T. Coulson, J. Wilcox, J. Maio, L. Kahler, D. Gibbons, C. Ehrlich, T. Thomas, A. Fried, N. Chrisman, M. McHarris, S. Myalik, T. Squires, J. Yager, L. Wadsworth, S. McGovern

Student Senators: J. America, Ivy Haycox, E. Burline

Absent/Excused: S. Seldon, N. Bruzzese, K. Carhart, A. Simons, D. McDermott, A. Hazen, B. Molinaro

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE March 3, 2020 MEETING

(Joyce, Christine) (Consensus by all)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- A. Haines

Alex is coming to end of his term as chair. Any Senator interested in running for Senate Chair, Senate Vice Chair, or Senate Advisory should contact the Senate Chair before the May 15th meeting.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT- See Attached

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- R. VanWagoner

R. VanWagoner presented about graduation. Students convened with Pres. VanWagoner and came up with an option on ceremony. Looking at a virtual platform. Looking at a walk in December. Graduation celebration in a box. Presented in a mailed gift to students for students to celebrate. A bus coming to graduates house. A list is being created for alternatives. Nothing is finalized as of now. Asking for input on graduation. S. Dar asked about drones, a unique idea for diploma delivery. 900-1000 graduate and about 500 attend graduation so how do you scale? A. Radlowski by program/school? County is frowning on mass gatherings. E. Bush postpone to August? B. Dustin has a date in August reserved, issue is vaccine. Faculty/Staff attending fall graduation? The President will work with the union leaders to determine the answer.

C. Miller virtual caucus in April, what is the planning or contingency on fall classes. Events looking limited into the summer. Fall is a matter of where will we be, have a plan A and B ready. Where will operations be compared to school?

Additional Comments attached

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – T. Squires See Attached

FCCC- J Baumann

Virtual meeting, pass/fail being discussed for students. General Ed classes will be asked to allow P/F at campuses. L Kahler SUNY guidance not advocating across the board. More for the 4 year colleges. No guarantees on P/F transfer. Changes availability for scholarships. That is only within SUNY with P/F.

SUNY is stating that they will not hold students to the 30 credit requirement to stay eligible for the Excelsior scholarship

Additional Comments attached

FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT- C. Miller See Attached

GUIDED PATHWAYS REPORT- A Fried See Attached

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

EIT policy, N Chrisman, J Maio, T Coulson

[S Dar, Joyce, Consensus by all]

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS:

J Baumann asked for guidance on incompletes for students this semester. L Kahler suggested that instructors should consider being liberal for incompletes, but it is the instructor choice.

S Dar asked if student Course evaluations will be the same. M Miknavich stated the same as the paper surveys just online. They will use Survey Monkey, students will need to know their CRN. S. Dar question value of everything after the changeover and L. Kahler reassured it's not used as evaluation of faculty. A Radlowski asked how to get the survey and help with surveys. The survey will be a link on main page of each blackboard course site. Comment field will be the same. N. Chrisman stated that the survey link will stay until the student completes it. It will remain until last day of classes.

M Miknavich climate survey coming to College. Provisions for survey.

C Miller April 21st Faculty caucus over Zoom, Guided Paths, FCCC updates, open forum.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting. (Consensus by all)

NEXT MEETINGS:

Next Senate Meeting will be **Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 2:30 pm in Zoom.**

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 2:30 pm in email

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Huyck

Student Congress College Senate Report for April 7th

President Report

Held two meetings within Zoom (March 26th and April 2nd).

- 23 + students in attendance during both meetings

We will continue to hold elections and hire for our Officer positions for the next academic year.

Timeline:

- Nominations: April 9th
- Speeches: April 16th
- Elections/Interviews: April 23rd

V.P. Student Affairs, Stephanie Reynolds

Vice President Reynolds attended our March 26th meeting. She wanted everyone to know that it seems that students are settling in well into the “new norm”. She inquired if the communication being sent from the college was helpful, and the response was yes. V.P. Reynolds also stated that communications will slow down in the coming weeks and updates will be available as they are needed.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Trey is working with both the Student Activities Office and ASC to balance and reconcile the budget. He is also working to organize refunds for programing that has been canceled due to COVID-19.

Program Board Director

Program Board Director Khayla continues to host Program Board meetings through Zoom. There are several events we were able to transition to an online format, such as field trips and comedians. Event attendance has been steady and although it dropped from our on campus programing, we will continue to work to get students to attend our events on Zoom.

Judiciary Committee

The Judiciary committee continues to meet every Monday on Zoom. They are almost complete with the proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws. Once they are complete, they will forward their recommendations to the Office of Student Life and the VP of Student Affairs. Once the college and Student Congress agrees with the changes, they will put the changes to a vote by Student Congress.

Mohawk Valley Community College

College Senate

President's Report

April 7, 2020

I want to thank everyone again for the incredible individual and collective efforts to transition into our current remote operations. From what I've gathered, things went about as well as we could have hoped for under the circumstances. I'll be meeting with the Crisis Team to do a "hotwash" review of our two weeks of transition to identify what we did well and what we can learn from where we need to improve for future events.

COVID-19 Response

As reports and projections continue to indicate that the worst of the pandemic is yet to occur, we are making preparations. While we have just over 20 students staying in the residence halls due to special circumstances, we are working to lock and secure as many buildings on the Utica Campus as possible. The Rome Campus is locked and secure while the Utica Library remains open for students who need access to technology. The SUNY Chancellor has secured 5,000 laptops from Dell and HP for colleges to create laptop loaner programs for students in need. Our first shipment of laptops arrived on Friday. We hope to have laptops in the hands of every student who needs one very soon. Along with Spectrum's free Internet option, we believe all students will have their technology needs met, which will allow us to subsequently close the library as well.

Budget

Cabinet continues to work with budget managers on developing the budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year. While we continue to do our typical analytical work of reducing the budget where possible without sacrificing too much, this year we implemented our first blanket reduction by asking budget managers to do a 10% across-the-board cut. Everyone stepped up and made a great effort with this. Unfortunately, the State budget that passed on April 1, did not include an increase for community colleges – this means we absorb the full impact of our enrollment decline. When coupled with the impact of the losses in sales tax, bed tax, and casino revenue on the County budget, next year will present significant challenges. While the context is even more difficult than years past, we remain on track to present a balanced budget to the Board at their May Board meeting.

Commencement/Graduation Ceremony

I recently convened a group of faculty and staff to explore ways to reimagine graduation for this year's class. Given the imposed limits on large gatherings, our May 8th ceremony at the Adirondack Bank Center is not possible. Unlike a few other colleges, I have resisted an immediate announcement of

simply cancelling graduation. Commencement is certainly special to every graduate, but I believe our students deserve every ounce of creativity we can offer them to identify alternative ways to mark this special moment for them – many of whom are the first in their families to graduate. I will share a tentative plan for discussion during the Senate meeting on Tuesday.

**MVCC College Senate
Vice President for Administrative Services Report
Tuesday April 7, 2020**

I thought given the unusual times we are living it may be most helpful to share some updates from across Administrative Services that may be useful to you. Please feel free to contact me via email, text or phone at 315-657-3675 with any questions, concerns or just to say hi!

Course surveys: While typically done on paper, all been moved to some online format. If an instructor is using Blackboard, it should be all built in and automatic. Special thanks to Jim Lynch and Norma Chrisman for their work on this. If an instructor is not using Blackboard, they can contact Marie Miknavich and she will provide a link to a surveymonkey survey they can use instead.

Building Access: It is expected that by the close of business Tuesday April 7 all buildings will be locked. If you need access to a building, please contact the Department of Public Safety at 315-731-5777 or 315-792-5566 on the Utica campus or 315-334-7718 on the Rome campus.

VPN access and Zoom licenses are still available to people working from home. If you would like to use these tools or need anything from IT, the contact information can be found here:
<https://www.mvcc.edu/directory/pdf/it-contact.pdf>

The Macs in the Physics lab AB 245 are being replaced with new ones.

We are working to determine which capital projects we will be able to complete. We are not sure if we will be able to move forward with replacing the floors in the Academic Building or the renovation work scheduled to be done in the dining hall. We will hopefully have a better idea in the next several weeks.

**MVCC College Senate
Faculty Caucus Report
Tuesday April 7, 2020**

Due to the closure of the college the March Caucus meeting was postponed. The plan is to have a virtual meeting on Tuesday April 21st starting at 2:30. One of the items on the Agenda will be a presentation by members of the Guided Pathways Universal Teaching and Learning workgroup who will present their current recommendations for discussion. This will be the last meeting of Senate Faculty Caucus for the Spring 2020 semester.

MVCC College Senate
FCCC Report
Tuesday April 7, 2020

April plenary was cancelled. Still having work group meetings. There was a call with the provost on Thursday 4/2. Some of the major items discussed during that call are listed below.

- Funding : Not expecting to get the funding floor we got last year. It appears that community colleges may be at a disadvantage in funding over the state ops. There is some flexibility with the Budget director to help allocate funds, but not a lot of clarity was given about how that would work. It was also mentioned that community colleges may do better because people will want to stay close to home.
- Recruitment: SUNY is asking colleges to be flexible with students who applied in good faith and are unable to schedule ACT or SAT exams due to corona virus. Consider using multiple measures for these students this time.
- Pass/ Fail : Guidance on this issue should be coming out before senate meets but the current stance is that SUNY would try to enforce the state ops to take Gen Ed on a pass/fail basis for credit. Courses for a major would probably not be accepted that way. This will require careful advising. No agreements with private colleges.
- Excelsior Scholarships: Current wording from SUNY: The term will not be used when considering program eligibility for impacted recipients.
 - Recipients not held to annual 30 earned credits requirement
 - Term not completed by the impacted student will be considered an approved break in study
 - Student will not lose program eligibility for not being continuously enrolled full time in an approved program of study. When asked straight up if that also applied to students who electively chose to drop classes, the answer was “probably”.
- General Information:
 - Summer term will probably be online, and Fall may not look like it has in the past.
 - Definition of Essential personnel –Those whose work is needed to keep the college running and can only be done in person, or people responding to the Corona Virus.
 - Consolidation – SUNY is working very hard to keep the campuses all solvent and running. No real explanation of how to do that though.
 - Eduroam – allows students to use Wi-Fi at any SUNY campus with their current student log in. Trying to make this happen.
 - Lap top loan program. 10,000 laptops statewide.
 - Three current presidential searches that will continue into the Fall; Suffolk, Monroe, and Fulton Montgomery.
 - Meeting next Wednesday with the chancellor and a liaison from the Board of Trustees. We can email questions ahead of time.

MVCC College Senate
Guided Pathways Council Report
Tuesday April 7, 2020

- We continue to work on intake and onboarding implementation. At this point we have made the decision to transition some of the implementation tasks directly to the supervisors/directors overseeing specific areas.
- After soliciting feedback in open forums and Faculty Caucus, the Assessment of Prior Learning Workgroup has submitted their recommendations to Council and the Vice Presidents for review.
- The Design, Assessment, and Analysis Workgroup and the Universal Teaching and Learning Workgroup were scheduled to host open forums this month. Rather than traditional open forums, they will be doing something with Zoom. This will allow everyone to review their draft recommendations and give feedback.
- We have two new workgroups that are just starting to meet. These groups are the Undecided Workgroup and the Orientation and First Semester Experience Workgroup. To read their charters and view their tasks please view the Guided Pathways website:
<https://www.mvcc.edu/guided-pathways/>
- GP Steering Council will continue to meet weekly via Zoom.