

MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

2:30 pm-Zoom

Present: C. Albrecht, E. Bush, L. Charbonneau, S. Crocker, S. Cummings, S. Dar, A. Doughtie, M. Faitell, A. Fried, S. Frisbee, R. Golden, A. Haines, A. Hazen, J. Heintz, K. Herting, B. Horender, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, VP L. Kahler, G. Karol, M. Kelly, S. Lai, M. LaPaglia, J. Lynch, T. Marshall, S. McGovern, S. McManus, M. Miknavich, A. Miller, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, H. Obaid, D. Radeljas, S. Reynolds, R. Santos, R. Spetka, T. Squires, C. VanNamee, Dr. R. VanWagoner, J. Wilcox, L. Williams, R. Wittenberg, J. Woodrow.

Student Senators: K. Birt, I. Haycox

Absent/Excused: S. Engram, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, S. Selden, J. Yager

CALL TO ORDER: Christine Miller

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE November 3, 2020 MEETING:

(R. Huyck, A. Haines) (30, 0, 2)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: C Miller

1. Monthly meeting with President Van Wagoner
2. Monthly meeting with VP Squires and Chair of Faculty Caucus
3. Attended October BOT
4. Lead Meeting with President Van Wagoner for senate Committee and College Council Chairs
5. Held Special vote on endorsement of SUNY Statement response to the WH Executive Order regarding Equity Training. (results: 24 approve, 2 oppose, 1 abstention).
6. Kathe Herting has agreed to take on the role of Senate Secretary and serve on the Senate Advisory Board- Welcome!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT – K. Birt

Nothing to report; just working on the revision of the bylaws.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- R. VanWagoner

The Pride of the Hawk Award for the fall goes to an individual who is an incredibly hard-working and valuable team member. No matter the frenzied pace or overwhelming workload, they always make time to connect and show their care for the people they're working with

in that moment. As part of the nomination, the words reliability and professionalism do not do this person justice because they always go above and beyond to get the job done. Beyond the incredible contributions on a daily basis, the nomination put a particular spotlight on the recipient's incredible behind the scenes efforts to manage all kinds of unseen details to make the August Institute come to life. The Pride of the Hawk Award for this fall goes to Gloria Karol.

The Heart of the Hawk has a love of writing and literature and brings that passion to the classroom for his students. He has a tremendous commitment to student success and takes students on tours to visit campus resources in person to make sure they know where to get what they need to succeed. He goes above and beyond in his advising work with students and recently became a new member of the Phi Theta Kappa advising team. He is an excellent instructor, a dedicated professional, and valued colleague. The Heart of the Hawk Award for this fall goes to Dr. Sam McManus.

As a follow-up to last month's Senate meeting, we have finalized the topic for the Core Workshop this year – "The Psychology of Difficult Conversations." We have a talented design team in place that I think will put together a really good workshop that should come together for everyone and be offered some time around March.

The College Update email last Friday referenced the changes to the academic calendar based on the SUNY's effort to align the 64 campuses for the spring semester with a February 1 start date. More information will come in the next week regarding a better sense of our staffing pattern and what that will look like in January and then after the semester gets started. The second component from SUNY focused on testing. We are not currently testing employees, as we have employed our centralized check-in, screening, and door monitoring processes. The County Health Department has approved our Plan for next semester and hopefully SUNY will agree as well. If Oneida County has a significant spike in COVID cases or we are designated as a "Yellow Zone" hotspot, we will indeed begin pool testing for a percentage of employees until the spike dissipates.

No new information is coming forth on the budget as the State is waiting until the outcome of the presidential election before they advance any additional budget work. We continue to monitor the dialogue between SUNY and the U.S. Department of Education for any changing guidance with regard to parameters for us applying the CARES Act institutional funding.

Testing every 14 days, 50% on Monday.

Vice President of Student Affairs Report: S. Reynolds

- We have completed six sets of pool testing accounting for all of our residence hall students every 14 days. We are waiting for yesterday's results but all others have come back negative which indicates that our students are taking this seriously.
- We have had to use our quarantine rooms twice for students and the protocols in place prompted one mom to write to the staff, "thanks for taking such good care of my kiddo."

- The Student Congress Executive Board completed a review and edit of their Constitution and Bylaws and when vetted by the county attorney he commented on the strong document that had been produced in a collaborative effort between students and staff. This is now in front of the President for one last read before it goes back to Student Congress for their review and vote.
- The Financial Aid office has distributed \$914,000 of the \$2.1m allocation for students CARES Act money. We have recently received permission from the SUNY auditor to adjust our application so that students may receive an initial \$750 vs. the original \$500. If students already received the initial \$500 we will be able to send them the remaining \$250. The application for this initial amount is incredibly easy. Students may also request more than this baseline amount but they are then required to provide much more rationale and documentation.
- Priority registration for returning students began on November 9 taking into full account all the work that was accomplished by Academic and Student Affairs for the spring schedule that has now been done twice.
- The shuttle bus between both campuses was temporarily suspended this fall after a review of ridership data indicated that it could be. There were two students who required transportation and the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership ensured that their needs were addressed.
- Persistence Plus is a nudging software that we have had since last spring. The nudges are texts that are personalized for each student and addresses things like follow through on their academic goals, how to access help from campus resources and provides important dates like registration and midterms. While the content and timing of most nudges varies based on who students are and how they are responding, some nudges are scheduled for specific dates to encourage students to make use of student services at key junctures in the academic year. As they respond, students receive additional messages encouraging next steps and referring them to the appropriate campus office or resource. Our nudges began on 8/31/20 and will conclude at the end of finals congratulating them on finishing.
- We have launched our Science, Technology Entry Program (STEP) pipeline program for 7-12th grade students in the UCSD. With this grant iteration we wrote in students will be required to take summer courses adding approximately \$53,000 per year. Over the course of the five year grant, we estimate an additional \$264,000 of revenue.
- With this grant iteration we wrote in that the 10th-12th grade students would be required to take our summer courses which will add approximately (\$\$\$) to our enrollment.
- We recently received permission from the Department of Education to expand our Gear Up Pipeline Program to the Rome City School District and Todd Kubica and his team are working with the staff there to provide services to those students in addition to the Utica City School District students.
- In early October SUNY mandated consistent sanctioning for COVID-19 violations. Three are 7 new violations written into the Student Code of Conduct. What is important to note with this is that SUNY also outlined that even if a student were to appeal a finding of responsible, the Appeals Committee would not be able to lessen that. One of the violations is refusal to wear a mask or being found responsible for a pattern of non-compliance with wearing a mask. That sanction is severe and it is College Expulsion. If the student appealed utilizing the appeal criteria that the sanction was

excessively severe, there is no wiggle room for the student or the Appeals Committee. That expulsion is considered the minimal sanction for that violation and the student would lose his/her education.

- Ending on a good note, our second virtual open house has been scheduled for November 20.

COVID-19 Protocols

The College will continue with the checkpoint and door monitoring process for the foreseeable future.

FCCC Report- A. Miller

Nothing to report.

Faculty Caucus Report- E. Bush

Faculty continued to share personal reflections and discuss cultural diversity. Faculty members responded to the following question: How do your life experiences relate to how you see cultural differences? Faculty provided feedback and comments concerning the Anti-Racist Statement draft.

The advertisement for Bartleby Learn re-appeared when Barnes and Noble web staff refreshed the college's website. This advertisement has been removed from the college bookstore website.

VP S. Reynolds informed faculty that students can contact either Dennis Gibbons or a resident hall staff member if COVID testing time conflicts with a class meeting time.

Faculty was asked to consider questions that they may have for both the Student Support Advisors and Brooke Kilmer with the upcoming Q & A session to be conducted during the November meeting.

Faculty were informed that two capital projects were moving forward, the first being the replacement of hall, office, and classroom floors on the second floor of the academic building. The second project will involve the repair of the Payne Hall roof and the stabilization of its concrete overhang.

The netiquette policy draft continues to be available to faculty for comments and revisions.

Faculty reviewed, discussed, and provided feedback on the draft submitted by the Blackboard naming convention.

Faculty were provided with an FCCC update by A. Miller concerning the "no confidence" vote that occurred relative to the hiring process of the new SUNY Chancellor.

Guided Pathways Report- S. Crocker

GP Steering Council has changes some of its internal processes to better accommodate work flow. The group divided out into three subgroups: an implementation subgroup, an assessment subgroup, and a recommendation subgroup. We're hoping this will make council a little more efficient as we are getting bogged down with work.

The Orientation and First Semester Experience workgroup is holding open forums on 11/9 at 2:30 and 11/13 at 10:00am to solicit feedback on their draft recommendations.

Members from GP Steering Council and Diversity Council (virtually) attended the last SUNY GP Institute. Moving forward the groups have decided that they will host a joint planning meeting each year to increase collaboration.

Old Business: *Diversity Council Anti-Racist Statement Draft:* T. Marshall & D. Radeljas

Need and waiting on more feedback; "time-line?"

No time-line will try to bring back revised version to next senate meeting in December.

New Business: President VanWagoner spoke on "Flexible Work" arrangements.

College has no policy about staying at home after pandemic.

Looking over all reflections and inputs during pandemic, trying to get a head start on how maybe an option for employees.

Looking at how it effects the working conditions:

1. Working remotely to continue and what it would look like
2. Meet with union leadership
3. Need to have none-bias
4. Looking at benefits for college

Shared comments and thoughts:

- Good for employees who lack daycare
- Remote K-12 with children stay home
- Older parents, family members
- How will snow day's work? need more conversation on that.
- Instruction w/students, work home, work remotely, w/no laptops or resources to consider.
- Sounds progressive, questions to ask ourselves and to explore.
- Invite students to January Institute, faculty/fast track, round table conversation on the other side of the pandemic.
- If this works better being face to face, or class room, what does and doesn't work in the future.
- What are student's concerns 20% child care/transportation why students don't return?

- Split class room ex. five in classroom and seven on zoom?
- Employees w/children or elders having concerns or conscientious upon return.
- Some students like remote synchronous classes, maybe a portion would be good.
- A positive- some have extended their career by not living here and teaching on line.
- More space could rent out to businesses, we could generate revenue.
- Invest in Educational Technology
- There could be more opportunity for more recruitment from farther way ex. Buffalo.
- Reach out with more thoughts to Randy and Christine.
- Concerns how to get books without knowing what you are teaching. VP L. Kahler is working with the bookstore and J. Mihevc.
- Asynchronous or synchronous change in spring, VP L. Kahler stated they shouldn't change after posted, will look into it.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS:

C. Miller shared her daughter having issues transferring credits to four year.

We could work with the colleges that we have good relationships with and promote them to our students for transfer but needs to be a better way, seamless transfer isn't always seamless.

Process on web and needs to be presented to the students better.

Two year students often do better at four years then a four year starting there.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting. (S. Crocker, A. Miller)

NEXT MEETINGS:

Next Senate Meeting will be Tuesday, December 1st, 2:30 PM via Zoom

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be Tuesday November 24th, via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Herting