

## MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, 2, 2021

2:31 pm-Zoom

**Present:** F. Armstrong, M. Barlett, D. Beck, E. Bush, L. Charbonneau, N. Christman, T. Coulson, S. Crocker, S. Cummings, S. Dar, K. Dicastro, L. Doherty, F. DuRoss, M. Faitell, A. Fried, S. Frisbee, R. Golden, A. Haines, A. Hazen, J. Heintz, K. Herting, G. Holmes, B. Horender, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, VP L. Kahler, M. Kelly, K. Kresa, S. Lai, S. Lam, M. LaPaglia, J. Lynch, J. Maio, T. Mariotti, T. Marshall, S. McGovern, M. McHarris, M. Miknavich, J. Mihevc, A. Miller, C. Miller, S. Myalik, H. Obaid, N. Ollerenshaw, M. Pearson, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, S. Reynolds, K. Sabonis, R. Santos, A. Smajic, R. Spetka, T. Squires, T. Thomas, C. VanNamee, Pres. R. VanWagoner, G. Warchol, L. Williams, J. Woodrow, J. Yager.

**Student Senators:** K. Birt, I. Haycox

**Absent/Excused:** C. Albrecht, P. Kuhn, B. Molinaro, S. Selden, A. Simons, J. Wilcox.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Christine Miller

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 pm.

### REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE December 1, 2020 MEETING:

(E. Bush, A. Haines) (25, 0, 1)

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: C Miller

1. Statement of purpose for Ad-HOC committee
2. Focus on goals of the group
3. List of take aways and action items

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT – K. Birt

Reported the new Student Congress Bylaws are now in effect and that we will be electing a new VP of Rome and hiring a new Treasurer and Program Board Director.

S. Dar asked if Bylaws are on Blackboard now?

Bylaws are no longer on Google drive.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT- R. VanWagoner**

### *Awards*

Handed out the Pride of Hawk award to Karen Sabonis and Heart of Hawk to Elieen Bush  
CONGATULATIONS!! To both of you on an excellent job of commitment to your community,  
students and colleagues.

### Strategic Planning

You may recall that one of the joint governance goals that Cabinet had with Senate for this year was to engage the Senate on the Strategic Plan update. Our current Strategic Plan, Catalyst 2020, expired last year. The Strategic Planning Council was gearing up for a comprehensive external assessment when COVID hit last Spring. In consultation with the Board of Trustees, we adjusted our approach to hold off on any long-term planning for now and refocus our efforts to create a more robust annual planning process under four broad Strategic Pillars that are extensions from the previous plan:

1. Increase student success
2. Strengthen the educational pipeline
3. Advance diversity, equity, and inclusion
4. Develop the workforce and community.

So there isn't a lot to update you on, as the Board basically approved the extension of the four pillars and we're proceeding with the annual planning that now is better aligned with the timeline of the budget.

### COVID Testing

You have likely seen media releases that the SUNY Chancellor provides almost daily regarding COVID testing throughout the SUNY system. Unfortunately, they can create some confusion as many of his announcements are not as easily implemented at community colleges. For example, SUNY guidelines are that all employees coming to campus will be tested regularly for COVID. That applies to the SUNY four-year campuses because the few unions that represent those employees signed agreements to that effect. Across the 30 community colleges within SUNY there are roughly 100 separate bargaining units. Here at MVCC, we have signed agreements with all of our bargaining units for COVID testing to be voluntary among employees coming to campus.

Few four-year colleges within SUNY have the level of density reduction that we do here at MVCC with 80% of our courses being delivered remotely and roughly 33% of employees on campus on any-given day of the week. Like we did in the fall, we are working with SUNY to have our restart plan and COVID operations approved by SUNY. They have 64 plans to approve and ours is in the final stages.

We continue to monitor things very closely. We tested 100% of our residence halls students every 14 days throughout the fall semester and employed door monitoring in addition to our centralized health screening check-in station at each campus. This semester, we're adding testing for our commuter students and will monitor the results and activity accordingly. If we need to increase the frequency of testing to address any spikes in positive cases at the College, we will. Our diligence with this work through the fall yielded not one single community spread. If we had a positive case, we took immediate actions and isolated the situation with proper protocols. It's a complex effort with many moving parts, but I wanted to provide you with a little insight into some of the changes, and would be happy to answer any questions on COVID or anything else.

A. Miller asked when is testing open and closed?

T. Squires replied 7am-8pm M-T, 7am-7pm W,R,F a half hour after last class ends.

S. Darr – What role does faculty play?

E. Bush asked S. Reynolds for hours of Residential student.

S. Reynolds stated 11-130 every Monday. You can check in college updates and please let students know to do SUNY Profile, it needs to be done.

#### **Vice President's Report- T. Squires**

- The Payne Hall roof will be replaced when the weather allows in the Spring. The bids have already been done and the contractor selected.
- The rooms and labs in the Academic Building that are needed for the Spring classes have had the floors replaced and are back online. Work continues on the remainder of the rooms and labs and will be completed during the Spring semester.
- We will continue to use the checkpoint screening system throughout the Spring semester and will determine what protocols will be in place for the Summer as we get nearer to the end of the Spring semester.
- The budget development process is beginning and there will be more updates as we move through the process.
- The budget ended on 8/31/20 in reasonable good shape.
- Cares Act – Two Million left
- Cares Act 2 comes out soon with Six Million and with more flexibility and less regulations on where we can use it.

#### **FCCC Report- A. Miller**

Survey for guided pathway- create website & pamphlets, business meeting in January- concern for all community colleges. Next meeting in April more update.

Surc - Virtual – is out there if someone want to present, it is not just Science and Poetry.

## **Faculty Caucus Report- E. Bush**

Faculty continued to share personal reflections and discuss cultural diversity. Faculty members responded to the following guiding question: How does my perspective change when I listen to another individual's story?

Faculty was encouraged to participate in an anonymous diversity question pool. This pool of questions will guide spring diversity conversations. The anonymous form states the following: Write one race-related question you previously wanted to pose to colleagues at your college, but you were uncomfortable doing so.

Faculty was informed that a part-time SSA may be reaching out to them concerning questions and updates when a full-time SSA is out of the office for an extended period of time.

Faculty was asked to provide suggestions as to where the Netiquette policy should be placed on the college's website.

As renovations on the second floor of the AB building proceed it is the intent of all involved to minimize the disruptions as much as possible during the spring semester.

An update was provided concerning The Anti-Racism Statement. This was followed by a vote which approved The Anti-Racism Statement.

M. Parry provided context on the Electronic Signature Policy and opened the discussion up for questions. This was followed by a vote which approved the Electronic Signature Policy draft.

The meeting ended with a conversation to address "What is and is not working for faculty and students?"

What is not working well?

- Inefficient use of faculty time to maintain multiple sections of BB for a singular course.
- Students still struggling when navigating BB courses.
- Instructor is not notified when student drops the course. Currently the instructor has to go into SIRS periodically to know when a student has dropped.
- Students need more than a definition of synchronous versus asynchronous. Some students are confused thinking they have to attend class on campus for synchronous online class.
- Students do not easily reach out for extra help in course work whether it is through tutoring services or instructor office hours.

What is working well?

- Zoom breakout rooms provide a more community learning environment and it can be utilized to engage students in active learning.

-Increased flexibility for both instructors and students has been helpful as individuals balance work responsibilities, student academic responsibilities, and remote learning of their children

-On campus labs were managed in a way that provided a safe environment for the attainment of lab skills.

### **Guided Pathways Report- S. Crocker**

Sharon asked for everyone to look over the Guided Pathways update created by Guided Pathways Steering Council and shared by Christine in her last senate email. AVP Thomas and Sharon will be at the next meeting to answer any lingering questions regarding the Guided Pathways work being done at the college.

### **Old Business – None**

### **New Business – Presidents VanWagoner’s small bets**

1. **VP & Executive Director of Foundations - Frank DuRoss-** Tea leaf activity to bring revenue to the college.
  - a. **Walter Constantini** – plane engine donations for exchange and selling programs. Inventory to sell for money.
  - b. **James Kelly** – 3D printing, designing, patent for prototypes.
  - c. **Bill Dustin** – Consulting website, 16 speakers, profit goes back to foundation to support college
  
2. **AVP Thomas** – Edging – working in platforms:

By using seed funding from JFF, the College was able to offer the Google IT Support Professional certificate through both non-credit training and by embedding the required competencies into 4-courses contained within the Computer Information Systems AAS degree. These courses have, in turn, been repackaged into one of the College’s first micro-credentials. Moreover, similar work is currently underway in partnership with SEMI to embed industry validated credentials within the College’s engineering technologies programs.
  
3. **Sarah Lam** – Ed-X, Youth building program.
4. **AVP Lynch** – Transcribing grants, 94 badges, can be shared with work, education (cert., or Lic.) Shows up in Linkin.
5. **Jake Mihevc** – with Love Robots- evolution of man’s best friend (dog) to robot.

6. **Morris Pearson**- Pilot Program, to help students build youth grant.
7. **Alen Smajic** – Partnership with Persistence Plus, which is a system designed to nudge students in order to increase retention. The nudges help students achieve academic goals, overcome obstacles, seek help from campus resources, and generally navigate the path to graduation.
8. **Dean Armstrong** - MVCC was selected as one of 4 Colleges in the Country to work with Jobs for the Future (JFF) on a new pilot project of helping companies work with immersive technologies. MVCC will help local companies take part in the trial and they will provide feedback to JFF and the technology companies. JFF is seeking companies in the manufacturing and distribution fields. The project will last about 6 months.
9. **Director Coulson** – C3 program has one full time professional, Michelle Sebastian, and one part time professional, Denicqua Holmes. Both team members came to us with a vast knowledge of local agencies to draw from. The knowledge has grown exponentially, and we have close ties with partners and agencies, are invited to community meetings, and are therefore acutely aware of what is out there to help our students. They act as a concierge for students, connecting them with the available resources in the Mohawk Valley. Typically we deal with the in the moment crisis, students who find themselves homeless, or those fleeing from domestic violence. We also assist with ongoing needs, such as our pantry use, which is running as a curbside pickup during this COVID pandemic. Where are we headed, on the long game or sustainability for the C3 Organization.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS:**

M. Miknavich - There are two surveys coming from SUNY.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn meeting. (S. Crocker, K. Birt)

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

Next Senate Meeting will be Tuesday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2:30 PM via Zoom

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be Tuesday Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2:30 PM via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Herting