

## **MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA**

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021**

### **Zoom**

**Present:** E. Bush, S. Crocker, S. Cummings, M. Faitell, S. Frisbee, R. Golden, A. Haines, K. Herting, B. Horender, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, L. Kahler, M. Kelly, S. Lai, M. LaPaglia, T. Marshall, S. McGovern, M. Miknavich, A. Miller, C. Miller, B. Molinaro, S. Myalik, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, S. Reynolds, R. Santos, R. Spetka, T. Squires, T. Thomas, C. VanNamee, R. VanWagoner, J. Woodrow, J. Yager.

**Student Senators:** K. Birt

**Absent/Excused:** C. Albrecht, S. Dar, S. Engram, A. Hazen, P. Kuhn, M. McHarris, S. Selden, A. Simons, J. Wilcox.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2021 MEETING**

The minutes of the April 6th, 2021 meeting were approved, (R. Spetka, J. Woodrow) (22, 0, 1)

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- C. Miller**

C. Miller continued to meet monthly with President VanWagoner, VP Squires and Faculty Caucus Chair E. Bush, and the Senate Advisory, and reported to the Board of Trustees at the April meeting.

C. Miller also met with President VanWagoner to review the Senate election results and work on joint appointments. There will be a brief meeting with the new Senate membership on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm via zoom. C. Miller thanked those whose Senate service was coming to a close, expressed her gratitude to the Senate Advisory, and congratulated the class of 2021.

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT – K. Birt**

K. Birt participated in SUNY Student Assembly (SA) officer elections.

Elections were held:

- President: Keegan Birt
- Vice President of Utica: Kathryn Warner
- Vice President of Rome: Emily Dole
- Student Trustee: Fabiha Khan
- Program Board Director: Ken Piayai

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

As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, every office will be open with a physical presence. This will vary by office because large offices have the ability to rotate and smaller ones will refer to other offices on certain days. This schedule will continue through June and may adjust in July, then August 2<sup>nd</sup> we plan to return to normal operations, unless advised otherwise. Safety remains a high priority and we have teams assessing everything going forward and will share safety protocols prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>.

R. VanWagoner shared the following. I would like to share some context regarding institutional statements. In these increasingly uncertain times they are strong tethers to help brace us as we face strong winds of change. Our vision of “transforming lives through learning” is a beacon that inspires a bright light when things get dark. Our mission statement is the north star as our compass when any of us wonders which way to go. Our values and the new credo provides a guidepost to align our culture and build trust. The equity, anti-racism and inclusivity statements remind us of the important social justice role all community colleges hold along with their student, workforce, and community development roles. The statements you have before you I ask for your consideration and approval of them today so I may present them to the Board of Trustees.

R. VanWagoner will share additional operational protocols for the Fall semester prior to June first, though SUNY guidelines and requirements continue to change daily. However, more offices will be open throughout the summer.

A. Fried commented that childcare is not available at the same level as pre-pandemic, and the consequences due to a lack of daycare should be considered.

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The College is nearing completion of the floor replacement project on the second floor of the Academic Building and has started planning for replacement of the first floor of the Academic Building. The first floor will be done in phases to try to keep the disruption to a minimum, but there will be some disruption. The first floor will take longer to complete.

Charging stations for electric vehicles are being installed on the Rome and Utica campuses. Once the installation is complete and they are operational information will be distributed to the College community with details of how to use them.

The Information Technology Department is in the process of upgrading the WiFi access points around the Utica campus. This is expected to be complete by the beginning of the Fall semester and

will give users better coverage and stronger signal. The College is also migrating to Microsoft 365 and more information will be forthcoming.

### **Equity and Inclusion Officer Report- T. Marshall**

Those interested in participating in a 21-day DEI Challenge (either as a group or individual) can sign up at <https://www.mvcc.edu/dei/21challenge/>. The Challenge involves 10-20 minutes of watching videos from members of the local community, Ted talks, and more.

Achieving the Dream Equity Assessment focus groups are forthcoming.

### **FCCC- A Miller**

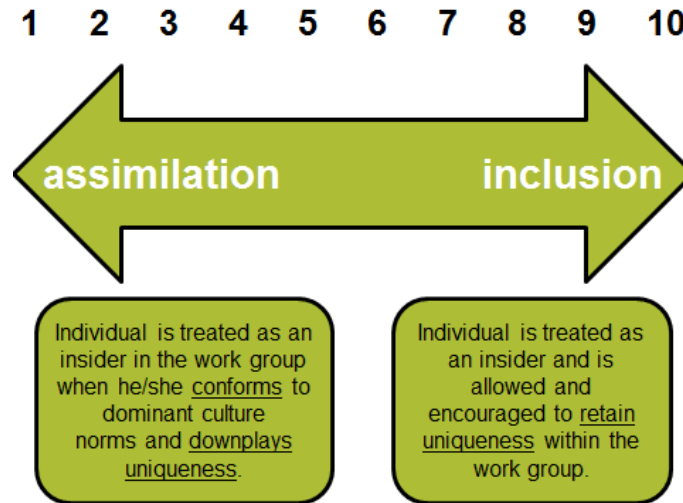
- Two finalized resolutions about the General Education Advisory Committee report that are relevant to our current conversations.
  - Specific concerns on the AAS/AOS changes as well as some of the competencies are included in “E1 General Education” was presented.
    - A motion to endorse by (A. Haines) and seconded by (J. Ireland) Vote passed (25, 0, 1)
  - Concerns about the short timeline are addressed in “E2 GE Timeline” was presented.
    - A motion to endorse by (S. Frisbee) and seconded by (R. Wittenberg) Vote passed (28, 0, 1)
- One resolution supporting faculty right to academic freedom regarding modality of our courses is attached “G1 Faculty modality decisions” was presented.
  - A motion to endorse by (R. Santos) and seconded by (S. Crocker) Vote passed (27, 0, 2)
- FCCC has also passed the “G2 Commending State Budgets” at our plenary, which does not need endorsement from the campus.
- E1, E2, and G1 were all endorsed by the college senate.
- A. Miller passed on the appreciation expressed by Chancellor, Provost, Vice Chancellor, and Chairperson of the SUNY BOT for the hard work during this difficult year.

### **FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT- E. Bush**

Faculty Caucus met on Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup>

- **Update on Strategic Plan** - AVP, T. Thomas led a discussion on the work of the Strategic Planning Council. T. Thomas provided background concerning the development of previous 5 year strategic plans. He also pointed out that previous strategic plans did not line up well with the budget cycle, annual plan cycle, and the faculty/staff annual process. Switching to a one year planning cycle to better align with the budget cycle and faculty/staff annual evaluations and it would allow the college to be more nimble. The 2021-2022 Annual Plan Draft was shared with the group for comments.
- **Diversity conversations**

Faculty considered the framework of both assimilation and inclusion with the figure below.



The following guiding question lead the discussion: Do you think your classroom norms tend toward assimilation or inclusion? If the norms are closer to assimilation - what are some ways you could make your classroom more inclusive?

Two lists were created:

- 1) Ways to incorporate inclusion into course content
- 2) Ideas to increase inclusion
  - **Faculty Caucus Chair report**

The Chair report was brief with an update concerning the AB floor renovations and Payne Hall repairs.

- **Caucus Old Business**
  - Faculty Caucus did not have further comments on the MVCC Systemic Inclusion statement draft and a vote occurred to recommend the draft to Senate. (Approved- 14-, Opposed- 0, Abstained- 0).
  - No further questions or comments were provided concerning the Proposed Micro-credential BOT Policy change.
  - MVCC College Statements were shared with the group for review. A few individuals mentioned the Sustainability council is working to revise the Sustainability Statement. Others commented that the alternative considerations were improvements to the statements
  - Feedback from FCCC was shared regarding the SUNY GEAC Report/Proposal. Individuals present felt this information was helpful in clarifying some questions.
- **Caucus New Business-**
  - FCCC Plenary report was provided which included two resolutions: one is “Commending Funding for Community Colleges” just making us aware of the budget and the second is the “Support of Faculty Consultation in Course Modality Decision-Making,” which does need a vote. This discussion led to a brief comment concerning

decision making for course delivery and what works best for instructors and students. It was also mentioned that collecting student feedback may guide instructor decision making with respect to course delivery methods.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Inclusivity Statement draft. Statement was endorsed by Senate membership (A. Radlowski, K. Birt) (28, 0, 1)
2. Institutional and Syllabus Statements All Statements were endorsed by Senate membership via vote. (29, 0, 1).
3. Proposed Micro-Credentials policy change. Policy change was endorsed by Senate membership (J. Woodrow, S. Crocker) (28, 0, 1)
4. Transfer Ad Hoc Committee Update

Ad Hoc Committee met with Tim Thomas who is working on transfer premiere partnerships within the Strategic Planning committee. The Ad Hoc committee felt that their work overlapped with SPC and therefore no additional work was needed by the Ad Hoc group.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. College and Budget Updates

R. VanWagoner: The annual plan still needs to be finalized before it goes to the board later this month. It is important to note over the past 18 months-pre-pandemic- the SPC recognized that technology and society are moving too fast for us to continue with our 3-5 year strategic planning. We are transitioning to a more sensible approach of 10-15 years and planning the next 12 months. We have taken four of our five former “strategic goals” and labeled them “strategic pillars.” So, we have four strategic pillars to organize the annual objectives you see in the Annual Plan for next year. I have mentioned in campus conversations sessions on the budget and today I would like to share with you a few college updates with some detailed slides on the budget.

M. Miknavich (slide show): In 2017, there were a number of students who were counted as first-time that were not actually first time. This was the result of incomplete data cleaning procedures. It resulted in an over-count of IPEDS first-time, full-time students, and the graduation rate took a dip as a result. The data cleaning procedures have been improved and now go on over the summer to prevent that from happening.

The count of ethnicities is affected by visa code status and permanent address. Most of the students in our foreign student program would be placed in the category “NR” (non-resident). So for “refugees”, it depends on what their visa code is. If the visa code is “LPR” (legal permanent resident), they would be counted in the other ethnicities and not as “non-residents”.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:.** (Consensus by all)

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

Next Senate Meeting will be **Monday, May 17, 2021 at 2:30 pm in via Zoom.**

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at 2:30 pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

RH and KH