

MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Present: E. Bush, S. Crocker, S. Dar, M. Faitell, S. Frisbee, R. Golden, A. Haines, A. Hazen, K. Herting, B. Horender, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, L. Kahler, M. Kelly, S. Lai, J. Maio, T. Marshall, S. McGovern, M. McHarris, M. Miknavich, A. Miller, C. Miller, S. Myalik, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, S. Reynolds, S. Selden, R. Spetka, T. Squires, C. VanNamee, R. VanWagoner, J. Wilcox, R. Wittenberg, J. Woodrow, J. Yager.

Student Senators: K. Birt

Absent/Excused: C. Albrecht, S. Cummings, S. Engram, P. Kuhn, M. LaPaglia, R. Santos, A. Simons

CALL TO ORDER: C. Miller

The meeting was called to order at 2:33pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2021, MEETING

J. Ireland stated on page five there was a space missing between words.

(R. Golden, J. Ireland) (23, 0, 1)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- C. Miller

- Met with President R. VanWagoner to talk about what is going on at the College and Senate
- Provided Senate Chair report at the November Board of Trustees meeting
- Met with Senate Secretary K. Herting to go through the draft minutes for last month's meeting
- Met with Senate Advisory to work on a Senate Advisory Routing Sheet. The intent is for the Routing Sheet to facilitate College-wide communication and ensure all appropriate parties are included in the conversation. The form will be in place for the February 1st Senate meeting and submissions are due January 11th. Those uncertain about whether or not they should submit the form should contact C. Miller.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT – K. Birt

K. Birt delivered his last report as Student Congress President. He has enjoyed his time with Senate and as President. An election was held to fill Student Congress positions:

- New President - Langley Holmes
- New VP of Utica - Katie Cromer
- New Student Trustee - Abby Divens
- VP of Rome is open, elections for that next semester

SUNY Student Assembly had a meeting this past Friday about information recently revealed about the SUNY Chancellor. Student Congress will vote on what their stance is regarding Chancellor Malatras. The bylaws will go into effect after a vote on Thursday.

C. Miller and R. VanWagoner extended their appreciation for K. Birt for his leadership in Student Congress.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President VanWagoner shared that the Institutional Research Office is now fully staffed, and he will include more data and insights in his monthly Senate reports. He shared a report of unduplicated credit headcounts from the fall semester census dates showing the trendlines from Fall 2013 to Fall 2021 for all 64 colleges within SUNY by sector. The data revealed that MVCC has declined 28% during this eight-year period compared to the SUNY 30 community college average decline of 33%. Eighteen community colleges had declines greater than MVCC, with eight declining 40% or more and the most significant being one college declining 61.6%. He also highlighted the role of dual credit enrollment in the high schools that comprises 26% of all headcounts in the 30 community colleges, with MVCC being above the average at 43.8% of our headcount this fall semester. The reports were covered in his regular "College Update" emails to employees.

A conversation followed, in which changes to local and partner colleges (such as SUNY Poly and Oneonta), as well as changes four-year colleges have made to admissions requirements, were discussed.

M. Miknavich welcomed S. Rogge to the Institutional Research Office.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: T. Squires

- T. Bader will be sending out budget request documents to all the budget managers.
- T. Squires is updating instructions and revising the calendar for upcoming submittal dates, open forums, etc.
- Food on campus is driven by the number of meals plans sold on campus, which in turn is driven by residence hall occupancy. Working through the pandemic will drive what will open in the outlining areas. Employees can purchase meal blocks for \$6.00 per meal, though the College is trying to bring down that cost.

- New and Ongoing Projects:
 - The floors on the second floor of the AB building have been completed. A couple of rooms on the second floor need to be repaired during the winter intersession.
 - Working with architects on the bid work for the first floor of AB. Greater traffic on the first floor poses some challenges, including using different materials and how to complete the project.
 - The clock, carillon, and public address system in WH will be repaired and upgraded starting in early January.
- The cameras on the Utica campus will be replaced. Replacements are currently on order. Several projects have been approved by the county, including:
 - Replacing the boilers in the AB building (work beginning this week)
 - Fixing the roof in WH
 - Replacing the transformer in ACC proactively.
- Replacing a main power switch under the residence hall that broke last year. Weather-related closings will be done the way they were done pre-pandemic. If the College is closed only essential workers will report.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION OFFICER REPORT: T. Marshall

- We have a committee now for the Empire State SUNY Diversity Scholarship. We had more than 30 people who wanted to be on the committee, and we ended up with nine. An email will go out after winter break for all students to apply for diversity scholarships, the cutoff date is March 1st. Please encourage students to apply.
- Community Partnership with MVCC, Mohawk Community Action, SUNY Poly, and Utica College is holding our First Annual Engagement Symposium that will last through the spring from February to April. Hoping each college will host two events dealing with economic, social, and criminal justice -- more info coming. Utica College will have a march from there to City Hall to celebrate a racial incident that happened 30 years ago. Ashley C. Ford, author of the memoir *Somebody's Daughter* will be the keynote speaker.

FCCC- A. Miller

FCCC in a memo to the SUNY BOT called for resignation of Chancellor Malatras due to text messages sent prior to his tenure as Chancellor. That evening, an apology from Chancellor Malatras was released, as well as SUNY news release supporting Chancellor Malatras. SUNY Student Assembly also released a recommendation to resign. Contact A. Miller for details, including articles, memos, and press releases.

FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT- E. Bush

- J. Lynch and R. Spetka attended Faculty Caucus to discuss MVCC's grade system policy change recommendation from a non-faculty perspective. Faculty were encouraged to consider how the grading system might affect future additions of a minus grading scale such as a D- or B-. Other areas of discussion surrounded GPA calculation and retroactive grading. Faculty continued this discussion and will vote at the December meeting.
- During the diversity conversation a question was asked, how have you adapted part of your course material, in terms of teaching, curriculum, policies, or activities that make a more inclusive and equitable environment? Strategies mentioned included voice feedback, use of rubrics, omitting analogies that students may not understand fully, and allowing students to start and stop various assessments.
- It was announced that a small group of faculties have volunteered to work towards revising the MVCC student class survey. An update will occur in the December caucus meeting. An institute session will also occur in January. Following conversations with VP L. Kahler, faculty were informed that zoom will be available during the entire spring semester for teaching. Faculty were also asked to forward suggestions as to how the bookstore can enhance its current products.
- The Chair of Faculty Caucus brought forth a recommendation to formalize the Faculty Caucus Secretary position for a one-year period to parallel that of the Chair position. A vote was conducted with all favoring the recommendation.
- A discussion surrounding guiding points for teaching post-pandemic included: the handling of snow days, how to manage poor weather days, learning loss due to both weather and illness, equity with respect to technology access if a class was conducted virtually, and notifying students upfront at the beginning of the semester of such possibilities. It was decided to create a google doc so that faculty could begin to provide comments and suggestions on teaching when moving forward.
- Older zoom recordings are deleted from the zoom cloud recording periodically to free up space. A faculty member asked if an email could be sent out ahead of time so adjustments could be made to class materials if necessary. M. Parry has begun to send out such email notifications.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS: - T. Marshall

- The MVCC Equity Framework Assessment is about awareness and will be used to determine where the College is with regards to equity. We are adjusting the assessment initially given by the National Association of System Heads (NASH) to reduce the number of questions from 100 to 20. T. Marshall anticipates conducting the first assessment sometime next year. **COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM SENATE MEMBERS:**

C. Miller: If you have anything that fits the Senate Advisory Routing Sheet you would like to have addressed, please fill it out by January 11, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting approved (R. Huyck, K. Birt)

NEXT MEETINGS:

Next Senate Meeting will be remote on **Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 2:30 pm.**

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be remote on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 2:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Herting