

MVCC COLLEGE SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Virtual Meeting

Present: C. Albrecht, E. Bush, T. Colon, 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, J. Maio, T. Marshall, S. McGovern, M. McHarris, A. Miller, C. Miller, A. Radlowski, J. Rahn, S. Selden, R. Spetka, T. Squires, C. VanNamee, R. VanWagoner, J. Wilcox, L. Williams, R. Wittenberg, J. Woodrow.

Student Senators: L. Holmes

Absent/Excused: S. Engram, A. Hazen, P. Kuhn, S. Lai, S. McCall, M. Miknavich, A. Simons, J. Yager.

CALL TO ORDER: C. Miller

The meeting was called to order at 2:32pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2021, MEETING

(S. Frisbee, J. Wilcox) (25, 0, 1)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- C. Miller

Welcomed:

- Lorin Williams who is filling in for Mary Kate LaPaglia for at-large faculty.
- Langley Holmes is now the Student Congress President.

Meetings:

- Monthly pre-Senate meeting with President VanWagoner
- President VanWagoner presented on C. Miller's behalf for the January Board of Trustees meeting (BOT)
- E-mail discussion with VP Squires and E. Bush in lieu of a meeting this month, regarding American Dining plans for AB, in the short term.

Senate Advisory:

- Built February Agenda
- Continuing to work on year-long Senate goals
- For remote meeting modality-encouraging visual presentations where possible to increase equity and engagement.
- Next Senate Advisory Routing Sheet for applicable Agenda item proposals is due: Tuesday, February 8th.

Other Items:

- Reached out to Senate Committee Chairs to encourage bringing items to Senate and to touch base.
- C. Miller communicated with the new Student Congress President and Vice President to introduce herself and offer support as needed.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT – L. Holmes

There are currently three executive board positions being actively promoted:

- Vice President of Rome
- Student Trustee
- Program board director

Until they are filled, the active officers will be taking on the responsibilities.

Club day will be February 9th from 10am to 1pm in the ACC snack bar.

To promote student Congress there was a welcome back lunch in the ACC snack bar with about 50 students who attended. L. Holmes also traveled to the Rome campus and gave handouts to about 50 more students. International students were on a tour of campus and met with student congress representatives.

Starting this Semester, Student Congress will be going live on the student activities Facebook page every Friday. There will also be tabling sessions in ACC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: R. VanWagoner

President VanWagoner opened the recognition item with a special commendation from the MVCC Board of Trustees. In the January meeting of the Board of Trustees they responded via email to approve a resolution through unanimous written consent.

The Chair of the MVCC Board of Trustees, Mr. Tony Colon, joined the meeting to read the resolution:

- Whereas, Jennifer Krohn, Kelly McNamara, and Karen Sabonis are all full-time employees at Mohawk Valley Community College and;
- Whereas, on December 15, 2021, they seized the moment when a colleague suffered a major cardiac event on the quad of MVCC's Utica Campus and;
- Whereas, they stayed calm and relied on their training to use the automated external defibrillator (AED) device and;
- Whereas, they performed CPR until the ambulance and Emergency Medical Technicians could arrive and;
- Whereas, their colleague survived and recovered as a direct result of their efforts and;
- Whereas, they were nominated for the Pride of the Hawk Award and;
- Whereas, the Employee Recognition Council and Cabinet deemed their efforts warranted special recognition beyond any existing award and;
- Whereas, their actions embodied the College's core values of modeling the way, inspiring confidence, encouraging excellence, and embracing community and;

- Therefore, be it resolved that the MVCC Board of Trustees hereby awards a Special Commendation to Jennifer Krohn, Kelly McNamara, and Karen Sabonis for their heroic and life-saving efforts.

The President continued with recognitions and summarized the nominations for recipients that included the Heart of the Hawk (Rich Kelly) and Pride of the Hawk (Danielle Del Guidice).

The President also shared a table that displayed MVCC's three-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students that displayed some moderate increases between the fall entering cohorts of 2013 and 2016, before a slight dip for the 2017 cohort. Over the past five years, MVCC's graduation rate has been consistently at or above the mean graduation rate of the 30 community colleges within the SUNY system.

MVCC's rank has fluctuated from 9th highest with the 2013 cohort to subsequent rankings of 12 and 7, before ascending to as high as 4th (only behind FIT and the small schools of Columbia-Greene and Jamestown) before returning to 9th with the 2017 cohort.

He concluded his report saying that he will be sending a College Update later this week with major content including an update on the timeline for office operations that currently goes through February 11.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: L. Kahler

Blackboard

- SUNY Transition to Brightspace D2L. We need to anticipate the transition in 2023.

SUNY Gen Ed:

- The new SUNY Gen Ed Framework has been approved, and the final implementation guidance has been sent. I have shared this with the leaders of the Senate Committees and Councils as well as with the Academic Leadership Team. The Academic Leadership Team meets on 2/3/22 to discuss our next steps which will be for the faculty and Deans to do an analysis within the various schools and programs to see where we are in terms of meeting the new framework.

School of Health Sciences

Dental Hygiene Program Exploration

- 5th District Dental Association has completed fundraising with local dentists donating ~\$70K for us to use to pay a part-time consultant to develop our program, the consultant is the former Director of SUNY Canton's Dental Hygiene program.

- To date, the part-time consultant has developed all the major courses, begun working with Biology faculty to discuss A&P/microbiology options, and initiated accreditation processes.
- A full-program proposal will be ready for shared governance approval processes within a couple of weeks.
- The College is exploring funding opportunities for development of lab space on the Rome Campus.
- When fully approved, the program will enroll 30-students/year.
- Starting pay for dental hygienists locally is ~\$85K.

School of STEM Transfer Computer Science/Cybersecurity

- Three MVCC students (one comp sci, two engineering) were selected to serve as interns at the Griffiss Institute/AFRL this semester. We also found out that four 2020 MVCC interns through a similar program transitioned to the SSIP (STEM Student Assistance Program), which provides free tuition for their BS program and employment at Rome AFRL upon graduation.
- Cybersecurity group has teamed up with the National Cyberwatch Center (NSF-funded) to offer a 12-week workshop to current high-school and CTE computer tech instructors who would like to learn how to teach cyber using the latest tools and achieve state-certification to teach cyber. We have 42 CTE instructors from across the country enrolled, the workshop begins on Feb 7th and includes an in-person capstone at the Community College Cyber Summit in May.
- The CAE Cyber Games project starts our competition season on Saturday, Feb 12th and runs every Saturday throughout February and March, 24 colleges compete each Saturday. Our team has spent the last year building out our virtual learning environment and the challenges students will face as they attempt to defend their virtual systems from simulated attacks from our Red Team. The National finals are on April 9th and the awards ceremony is at the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education conference in Atlanta in June.

School of Art

- We are also hosting our Professional Development Day on March 11th.
- All seven of our submissions were accepted into the Best of SUNY exhibition

Hospitality Programs

- “Food and Beverage Standards of Service” consisting of Safety and Sanitation, Dining Room Service, and Food and Beverage Management. The aim of this micro credential is to train students to be able to procure employment in fine dining establishments and upscale resorts and hotels which often require substantial industry experience. We hope to market this to the greater student body, especially students that intend to transfer to four-year institutions and may be looking for part-time work during their schooling. In lieu of 5 years of experience we hope they can secure jobs with this micro credential that, with tips, pay upwards of \$30/hour and the shifts tend to not interfere with normal college hours i.e., nights and weekends.
- Our culinary garden was planted with garlic by students this past fall and is looking great. We are getting ready to plan and start seeds for a spring planting and utilize the produce in our labs to teach students about basic food production, seasonality, and peak ripeness.

Library

- Librarians Jocelyn Ireland and Claire Ehrlich recently presented at the SUNY Librarians Association Information Literacy Committee’s Instruction Showcase on the topic of library supports for placed at-risk students.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION OFFICER REPORT: T. Marshall

- DEI SUNY Scholarship [20 student awards for \$850]
- Achieving the Dream Student Focus Group on Equity to take place this spring.
- Affirmative Action Training annually for administrators in October.
- Ashely C. Ford event on February 10, at 7:00pm. Reading and then Q&A
- 21-day Challenge scheduled for October 22. More to follow.
- Diversity Council will:
 - Go through the Code of Conduct and Judicial Procedures with an equity lens.
 - Complete document called 'Guiding Principles for Equity on Campus'. Should complete this spring and post on our DEI Virtual Center.

FCCC- A. Miller

M. Barlett & A. Miller attended FCCC committee meetings January:

- GenEd summary PPT will be coming out in the next couple weeks to help people digest the implementation guidelines. Please email any questions that would be helpful to address to amiller@mvcc.edu
- An excellent resource from SUNY about the new Gen Ed requirements (with a place to submit questions) is available here: <https://system.suny.edu/academic-affairs/acaproplan/general-education/>
- FCCC is writing a green paper regarding modernizing the Carnegie hour definition in light of remote/online learning

- The FCCC Campus & Student Life (CSL) committee working on best practices to alleviate student hunger, including exploring Swipe Out Hunger for SUNY-wide food assistance.
- CSL childcare funding resolution was passed for this year.

A. Miller was asked to serve on the SUNY DLE (distance learning education) template working group for the D2L transition on behalf of FCCC this week. Also, she is now serving as the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.

FACULTY CAUCUS REPORT- E. Bush

Faculty further discussed the MVCC Grade System and Transfer Credit Policy Change Recommendations. The discussion included the transfer advantages to the recommended changes and whether or not to include percentages with each letter grade. Two votes occurred following the discussion. One vote specifying the proposed recommendation with letter grade percentages and a second vote specifying the proposed recommendation without the letter grade percentages. Voting results showed more support for the recommended grade policy change moving forward without the percentages being associated with each letter grade.

A representative from the student survey workgroup provided an update. The group is investigating the current questions and how questions can be changed to better serve the feedback that faculty need. The group is also exploring biases that should be addressed. A January Institute session is planned with forums in the spring.

T. Marshall provided a summary of the Equity framework. He discussed various categories being measured and mentioned how the College can improve measures when moving forward.

An announcement was made that if the College closes for a snow day the College will follow pre-pandemic procedures per discussions with VP Kahler. Also, it was mentioned that faculty will continue with a book club in the spring and read the book “From Equity Talk to Equity Walk.”

An FCCC update was provided stating that the SUNY Chancellor resigned, and an interim chancellor will be appointed with a national search to occur in the near future.

Next Faculty Caucus meeting will be on February 15th, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS: - MVCC grade system and transfer credit policy change recommendation.

- A. Fried generated the form to be put on the agenda for conversation and E. Bush stated it has been discussed for several months in Caucus. C. Miller reached out to Nick Giappo the chair of APSC because the advisory would like them to be aware of it.

- B. A. Fried spoke on the recommendation to change the grading policy to include B+ and C+ grading options. This comes from discussions about grading for equity and transfer issues with students (both incoming and outgoing transfers).

The problem is some schools require C+ minimum for transfer credit. The current MVCC policy does not differentiate between a C and a C+, so students would not be awarded credit at the transfer institution. For incoming transfer students, if they received a C- in a courses, they are not awarded credit here. This recommendation will create more equitable credit evaluation. R. Spetka noted that the policy should be mindful that incoming transfer students need to be treated the same way native transfer students are, and the current policy is not doing so regarding incoming transfer students with a D grade.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting approved (S. Selden, J. Maio)

NEXT MEETINGS:

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

Next Senate Advisory Committee will be remote on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 2:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Herting