# MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE UTICA AND ROME, NEW YORK

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Mohawk Valley Community College Board of Trustees held in the Stetson Board Room, Payne Hall, Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Chair Colón on Monday, August 15, 2022.

#### **Members Present**

Tony Colón
Camille Kahler
Frank Dubeck, Jr.
Elaine Falvo
Dana Jerrard
David Mathis
Anna D'Ambrosio
Student Trustee Hanadi Tajir

#### **Members Excused**

William S. Calli, Jr. Wendy Waters

## 2. Chair's Report

Chair Colón reported that the Board's summer retreat will be held next week, August 26. He then went on to recognize President VanWagoner for fifteen years of service to the College. Chair Colón acknowledged that the College's earmarked request for \$2.1 million for robotics equipment was approved by Congress as part of the exciting CHIPS Act. Two MVCC Alumni, Pri Paw and Hajrudin Omeragich, were featured in a New York Times article about their migration to Utica. Chair Colón concluded his report by noting the lack of a discussion item on this month's agenda to allow for an executive session to discuss personnel with no further action following the board meeting.

Chair Colón then asked Vice President Squires for the Treasurer's Report.

#### 3. Treasurer's Report

Vice President Squires reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure reports for August 2022. He explained the late add of the reports to the board agenda were a result of the timing of the board meeting and the earliest possible date to prepare the financials coincided on the same day. Further, the County sponsor contribution which is paid quarterly is a bit behind in being paid but expects the payment to be received shortly. Vice President Squires concluded that the next several months will not have the normal financial reports due to the fiscal year end closing in preparation of the audit.

## 4. Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Hanadi Tajir reviewed the current officers and vacancies that make up Student Congress. She then went on to inform the Board that Student Congress has organized its first event with the support of the Coordinator of Student Engagement: Club Day will be held September 14. Student Trustee Tajir concluded that Student Congress will return to inperson meetings for the upcoming academic year with a live broadcast to the Rome Campus and zoom meetings will remain an option for special circumstances as needed.

## 5. Committee and Affiliation Reports

# **Nominating Committee**

Committee Chair, Camille Kahler, reported on the nominating committee's proposed slate for the MVCC Board of Trustees, effective September 2022 through August 2023:

MVCC Board of Trustees President, Randall J. VanWagoner Chair, Frank Dubeck Vice Chair, Wendy Waters Secretary, Gloria Karol Treasurer, Tom Squires

Camille Kahler moved to accept the committee's recommendation for the MVCC Board of Trustees. David Mathis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

#### Dormitory Corporation (DC)

DC Chair David Mathis reported that the Dormitory Corporation met prior to the Board meeting. DC approved the slate of offices effective September 2022 through August 2023 and received an occupancy update.

#### Foundation

Executive Director Ferro-Aurience reported the Foundation has approximately \$7,655,521 in the total portfolio. She then went on to report that during the last Foundation Board meeting a resolution was passed modifying the criteria of the Francis A. Wilcox Presidential & Exceptional Student Scholarships. Previously, criteria required students to maintain full-time status during each of their four consecutive semesters, in addition to applying for financial aid and maintaining a 3.0 GPA. With so many students entering with dual credit and the impact of guided pathways, the Foundation is now seeing numerous presidential/exceptional students entering their final semesters needing only a class or two to graduate. Now that financial aid is available for part-time students, the Foundation Board passed a resolution allowing students in their final semester to go part-time if they apply for financial aid and are on track to graduate. This will eliminate students having to take extra classes, and in theory will help save the Foundation funding long-term. Executive Director Ferro-Aurience further went on to review the various funds in which the Foundation offers student support funding beyond scholarships to help students overcome financial barriers to education that include the MVCC ACCESS Fund, MVCC Cares/Covid-19 Fund, Emergency Relief Fund, Veteran Emergency Relief Fund, College-Community-Connection (C3) & The Women's Fund Partnership, and Completion Scholarships. She concluded by proposing a joint board gathering that would provide the opportunity to bring the Board of Trustees, Foundation Board, and Alumni Association Board together to meet and connect with other board members. The Foundation office will work with the President's Office to coordinate the date for this event.

## NYCCT/ACCT

Trustee Mathis reported that the ACCT Board Retreat just concluded where a strategic plan was developed focusing on DEI efforts. He then went on to support the nomination of Anthony Colón for the candidacy of ACCT Northeast Regional Director that appears on the Consent Agenda. This position will fill a mid-term vacancy created by the incumbent having to abdicate the role as her term on her local board of trustees was not renewed. Trustee Colón not only brings historical context of ACCT but will also continue MVCC's representation at the national level. Board Chair Colón then went on to report that the 2022 ACCT Leadership Congress: *Improving the Lives of Entire Families* will be held October 26-29 in New York City. He concluded that the NYCCT 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held September 23-24 in Saratoga Springs. All board members are encouraged to attend both conferences.

## NYCCAP/SUNY

President VanWagoner reported that the SUNY Chancellor search is progressing. The search committee has met and will be interviewing candidates in the coming months. SUNY discussions are still happening around SUNY Poly's nanoscale designation. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

## 6. President's Report

President VanWagoner began by welcoming the new County Attorney, Kathleen Arcuri. He then went on to thank Marie Miknavich with Institutional Research for her work on the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) and KPI data. President VanWagoner further went on to review the VFA data. Specifically, the Student Success Rate and what is happening with each specific race/ethnicity demographic. While the 3-year Graduation Rate may only be between 24-35% depending on the cohort, the Student Success Rate is between 60-74% depending on the cohort. Analysis disaggregating data shows that while the race/ethnicity show gaps for Black and Hispanic students exist on the percentage of students who graduate, the gaps are greatly reduced with the VFA Success Rate because of the higher percentage who transfer before graduating with no credential. The College will be looking further into why this may be.

President VanWagoner asked for an executive session following the board meeting with no further action to discuss personnel.

## **College Senate**

There was no College Senate Report.

#### 7. Vice President Reports: Student Affairs Spotlighted

The Board had no questions on the written reports from the Vice Presidents. Vice President Kahler introduced Tim Thomas and Sheila Flihan who provided an overview of the cohesive curricular pathway that has been developed for Emergency Service Training.

## 8. Consent Agenda

Attachment a. Minutes of the June 21, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting

Attachment b. Treasurer's Report

Attachment c. Anthony (Tony) J. Colón, Association of Community College

Trustees (ACCT): Northeast Regional Director

Attachment d. Revised 2022-2023 Tuition and Fee Schedule Attachment e. December Break: 2022-23 Academic Year Distinguished Retiree: Geri Sultenfuss

Attachment g. Salary Increases for Excluded Administrative Staff

Attachment h. Renewal of Grant-Funded Appointments

Attachment i. Professional Association (PA) – Career Appointment

Rachel Golden Student Support Advisor (SSA)
Justin Johnson Student Support Advisor (SSA)
Natallia Dzeravenets GEAR LIP Program Specialist

Attachment j. Natallia Dzeravenets, GEAR UP Program Specialist

Attachment k. Corinne Wilson, Staff Accountant

Attachment 1. John Welch, Airframe and Powerplant Instructor

Attachment m. Michelle Burdick, Licensed Mental Health Practitioner

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 7a-7m was made by Wendy Waters and seconded by Frank Dubeck.

Unanimously approved.

President VanWagoner noted Item 7g was revised prior to the Board meeting to accurately reflect the salary increases related to Excluded Administrative Staff not Excluded Staff as originally published.

Vice Chair Dubeck asked to pull off Item 7c for further discussion.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 7a, b, d-m made by Anna D'Ambrosio and seconded by Camille Kahler.

Unanimously approved.

Item 7c was further discussed. The Board endorsed Anthony Colón's candidacy for the Northeast Regional Director. A motion to approve Item 7c was made by Frank Dubeck and seconded by David Mathis.

Unanimously approved.

Motion for an executive session with no further action to discuss personnel was made by David Mathis and seconded by Elaine Falvo.

Unanimously approved.

The Board of Trustees entered into executive session at 5:12 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

### 9. Adjournment

Motion was made by David Mathis and seconded by Elaine Falvo to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Unanimously approved.