

## **FEBRUARY 2016 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Date:** Monday, February 8, 2016

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

**Present:** Council Members:

D. Hanson-Chairman, J. Bay, D. Burns, J. Corasanti, N. Hinman and M. Veiz

Administration:

W. Durgin, R. Geer, R. Fuller, V. Fusco, S. Head and M. Lyons

Guests:

M. Heyboer and R. Sarner

The February College Council meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Chairman Hanson welcomed everyone to the meeting, which is being held in the new high-tech classrooms located in Kunsela Hall (old Café Kunsela space.)

### **Approval of Minutes**

**A motion was made by Dr. Bay and seconded by N. Hinman to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015, meeting as presented. All were in favor.**

### **Foundation/Development Update**

Chairman Hanson thanked SUNY Poly Foundation Executive Director Nick Grimmer and Chair Anita Brown for joining today's meeting to provide an update.

N. Grimmer thanked administration at the College for their investment in the Foundation, as they are currently at full staff. The current team consists of five employees at the Utica and Albany site, however, staff is not site specific and work across New York State.

The Foundation Gift Report was distributed for review and discussion. N. Grimmer pointed out we are seven-months into the fiscal year (2015-2016) and we are currently ahead of last year (2014-2015.)

The flyer for the CNY Invitational Golf Tournament was distributed; this year's tournament will be held at Teugega Country Club in Rome and is one of only three tournaments played at this course throughout the year. Last year's tournament raised \$80k to be used towards student scholarships; the goal for 2016 is \$100k.

SUNY Poly will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the Foundation Executive Committee has taken the lead in organizing a celebration to honor this milestone. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22.

D. Hanson inquired as to how the Foundation supports student scholarships. N. Grimmer advised in 2011 the Foundation provided 220 scholarships, in 2015 they provided 363 scholarships, and this year we are currently offering 497 scholarships. Also, in 2015 the Foundation provided \$351,438 in scholarships with an additional \$89,500 of support provided by the College.

A. Brown thanked the Council for inviting her to today's meeting. She stated we are a team to help make SUNY Poly better for our students. The Foundation needs to be prepared to offer top-level student scholarships and she asked Council members for their support, which could be in many ways, either financially or by sharing their connections.

### **President and Senior Vice President & COO's Report**

In December 2013, the College Council started the process of creating SUNY Polytechnic Institute and since that time, the Foundation has more than doubled their endowment. Dr. Geer pointed out this is due to the hard work of our Foundation team.

Dr. Geer stated we are SUNY's newest doctoral granting institution and at the Chancellor's State of the University Address, Chancellor Zimpher shared a slide showing the impact of SUNY institutions on research. There were five institutions that generated \$200-300 million in funding, this included the four university centers and SUNY Poly.

SUNY Poly has been awarded \$11 million, as part of a SUNY 2020 award, to renovate the first floor of Donovan Hall. The renovated space will include collaborative teaching space, high-tech labs, and design and industrial facilities. Once the design phase is complete, we will be bringing in faculty, staff, and students to discuss the design proposal. Construction is anticipated to begin in the fall with completion in spring 2017.

SUNY Poly is currently in the design phase of relocating the Health and Wellness Center from Oriskany Hall to the Campus Center. This relocation is important, as it will create additional dorm space in Oriskany Hall.

On the Albany site, we have approval on the design for a Health and Wellness Center to be located on the first floor of Nanofab East. Dr. Geer stated we anticipate completion in May. The RFP for dorms was revised and sent back out for bid. A rebid was necessary, as we only received one initial bid and we now have 5 or 6. The new RFP is requesting the residence halls be built on SUNY Poly property. The project is a three phase project to total 500 beds over three years, including a student quad.

Dr. Geer advised the GE partnership at the Quad-C building is moving forward. There is still a lot of detail to work out with building fit-up, however, he anticipates fit-up to begin with warmer weather. J. Corasanti inquired to who owns the machines and tooling that will be in the building. Dr. Geer stated we will be following the same model as the Albany site; if not initially owned by SUNY Poly/RF, it will revert to SUNY Poly/RF over time.

## **Provost's Report**

The Middle States review team, which consists of seven external reviews plus the team leader, will be onsite February 21 thru 24. The team will be looking at fourteen specific standards and make recommendations on how well SUNY Poly meets each. The team will be meeting with the College Council on Monday, February 22 at 10:30 a.m. All Council members are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Durgin advised the Strategic Plan is 99% complete. He has received three suggestions/requests from the Governance Council and the committee will reconvene to discuss.

SUNY Excels, also known as the SUNY Performance Plan, was submitted in October to System. This is SUNY's method of meeting the Legislative and Board of Trustees requirements to tie our financial allocations to our goals as an institution.

Dr. Durgin highlighted all of the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) activities occurring across campus and the region. SUNY Poly is the organizer in the region for FIRST Lego League (ages 9-14), FIRST Tech Challenge (14-18), and FIRST Robotics Challenge (14-18.)

## **Admission & Enrollment Update**

R. Fuller, vice president for enrollment management, provided an Admission and Enrollment Update to the Council. He highlighted spring semester enrollment, first-year applications, applications received by select programs, and enrollment related challenges and opportunities.

In regards to spring enrollment, SUNY Poly is at 2608 total headcount, for 2092 FTE (full-time equivalent.) Our full-time undergrad is up slightly, while our full-time graduate numbers are down slightly. V. Fusco pointed out the decrease in graduate students is partially due to the Computer Science department increasing their GRE requirements. AAFTE has an upward trend line, with a 15% increase from three years ago, while we are also increasing the quality of our students. Dr. Geer advised the gap between FTE and headcount is decreasing, which shows we are moving toward a more traditional college.

Freshmen applications for fall 2016 are on the increase. R. Fuller shared the breakdown by college, noting that 1501 of the 2216 applications received are for a program within the Engineering Department. The highest number of applications have been received in the Mechanical Engineering (308) and Computer and Information Science (394) programs.

Acceptance letters for freshmen went out earlier than in previous years and scholarships were sent at the same time. R. Fuller advised texting is a new way we are communicating with potential students. B. Durgin also pointed out we are working to

help with the supporting disciplines in Arts & Sciences, by decreasing our adjuncts and increasing full-time faculty.

### **Student Association Update**

SUNY Poly hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 2. M. Veiz was happy to advise we more than doubled the number of donations made. Our next blood drive will be held in April.

M. Veiz discussed the student leadership program held in January. This was a 2 ½ day program that provided students an opportunity to discuss and work on campus concerns. The program was appreciated by the students and they hope to see it continue.

The students are hosting a Relay for Life event on the SUNY Poly Utica site. The event will run from 7:00 p.m. April 1 to 7:00 a.m. April 2. College Council members are welcome to participate.

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting of the SUNY Polytechnic Institute College Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m. at the Albany site. Chairman Hanson requested the College Council have an opportunity to see the location for the new dorm and the student focused areas.

**At 5:34 p.m., Chairman Hanson moved to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.**