

DECEMBER 2014 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members:

D. Hanson-Chairman, G. Aney, J. Bay, P. Donovan, A. Feole, C. Giruzzi,
N. Hinman, and T. Max

Administration:

R. Fuller, V. Fusco, M. Lyons, R. Geer, J. Swann, and D. Tyksinski

Invited Guests:

M. Heyboer

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

Chairman Hanson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Dr. Geer for coordinating a tour of the Quad-C building for Council and Cabinet members. It was a great opportunity to see the inside of this world-class building.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Max and seconded by P. Donovan to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2014, meeting as presented. All were in favor.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Hanson attend the 2014 Association of Council Members and College Trustees (ACT) Conference held October 24-26, at the Fort William Henry Hotel & Conference Center in Lake George. Each year at the conference, ACT selects two students from across the SUNY campuses to receive the ACT for Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship. Chairman Hanson pointed out these winners are exceptional students and he would like to see us pay greater attention to this application process in the future. One of the winners started a program to collect all remaining items at the end of the academic year that were left on campus by departing students and donated them to a local charity. A. Feole felt this was a great idea and will discuss options with Student Association.

A budget presentation was done at the conference and Chairman Hanson advised SUNY is hoping to reestablish the multi-year funding program for the Construction Fund. The last 5-year program ended last year.

Chairman Hanson inquired about the START-UP NY process and Dr. Geer advised the Albany campus plan was approved while we were in the midst of the merger and rather than have two campuses with separate plans, we are working to have an addendum with an amendment to the Albany plan. The Governance Working Group has agreed to take on this project and it is currently in process.

Chairman Hanson advised NYS Senator Betty Little was in attendance at the conference and was very interested in CNSE and SUNY Polytechnic Institute and he suggested she tour the Utica campus with Senator Griffo sometime in the future.

CEO & Officer in Charge Report

Dr. Geer advised CNSE programs (bachelor and masters) were transferred to SUNY Poly on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We also received approval for two campuses as two principal sites, which was holding up the transfer of the degree programs. As of Monday the degree programs went live on the SUNY application and the common applications website. This is a tremendous step forward. Dr. Geer anticipates we should be able to get the PhD proposal together in a few weeks with approval anticipated for summer 2015.

A timeline is being put in place now for student support services for the Albany campus.

Huge progress has been made in the past few weeks with regards to campus governance. Both campus governance bodies had been providing continuity on their site and are now trying to take the structure and come together to create an overall structure. The committee will be working over the next few months to put everything in place. Dr. Heyboer advised a joint meeting of faculty and staff on the Utica campus is scheduled for next Thursday for input on a draft bylaws proposal. The Albany campus has a similar meeting scheduled to do the same. Dr. Geer thanked Dr. Heyboer for his work on the committee.

Senior Vice President & COO's Report

Dr. Geer discussed the substantive changes for Middle States. There are three areas that were submitted on November 1, 2014, that we are awaiting feedback on for the Albany campus. We anticipate a site visit in Albany at the beginning of 2015 and hope to have the approval soon after. The areas of change are to the scope, mission and degree granting.

In regards to Middle States, Dr. Geer advised that during our pre-visit in October by Tony Collins, Chair of the Middle States review team, he recommended a one year postponement of our decennial review due to the recent merger of the two campuses. We followed up with discussions with our Middle States liaison, who was supportive and thus our decennial review moved to March 2016.

Middle States did not request a rewrite of our self-study document, but suggested an addendum to provide an update on the integration of two institutions.

Dr. Geer pointed out faculty obligations for the spring semester is only until June; therefore, timeliness of having documents prepared is so important. Essentially, our updated self-study report needs to be ready for early fall to be provided to our review committee and chair to look through for their visit in March.

Provost's Report

A PowerPoint presentation was distributed to all Council members prior to today's meeting. Dr. Durgin shared the new college deans for the five colleges, they are:

- Engineering – Dr. Andrew Wolfe

- Arts & Sciences – Dr. Zora Thomova
- Health Sciences & Management – Dr. Robert Yeh
- Nanoscale Engineering & Technology Innovation – Dr. Pradeep Halder
- Nanoscale Science – Dr. Alain Diebold

Dr. Geer advised we have also restructured some of the departments on the Utica campus over the last five months. We are moving steadily back towards the dean's structure, which is important to create an academic linkage between the two campuses. It's definitely a structure that is more in keeping with a doctoral granting institution and also important for our undergraduate students to identify themselves and their majors with the college they are in.

The structural changes are very important in terms of Middle States, as one of the priorities is the Strategic Plan. It is vital that the plan be current and reflects the changes across campus. Dr. Durgin is currently working with the deans and a team on a timeline to update the current plan. We expect to have the structure laid out for the February Council meeting and working to have the plan updated by May, which is a tight timeline.

A. Feole advised the Student Government's on the two campuses recently met to discuss how to best organize the two campuses student governing bodies. They discussed possibly having an umbrella organization that would potentially have power over the two organizations or just set students up as organizers between the two campuses. They will continue these conversations.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.