

FEBRUARY 2015 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members:

D. Hanson-Chairman, G. Aney (via phone), D. Burns, J. Corasanti,
A. Feole, N. Hinman, and T. Max

Administration:

W. Durgin, R. Fuller, V. Fusco, R. Geer, S. Head, J. Kidwell, M. Lyons,
J. Swann, and D. Tyksinski

Guest:

M. Lemire

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by G. Aney and seconded by Dr. Max to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014, meeting as presented. All were in favor.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Hanson attended Chancellor Zimpher's annual State of the University address held on January 23. Chairman Hanson thanked John Swann, Jerry Gretzinger and their staff, due to their efforts SUNY Poly (both sites) was mentioned at least 11 times in the non-athletic portion of the 2014 Good News from Across SUNY brochure, which was distributed at the event. In the past, SUNYIT had not been mentioned in the non-athletic portions of the brochure.

Chairman Hanson discussed the three main components of SUNY's program and they are Access, Completion and Success.

The primary focus of Access is:

- SUNY College advisors in each school district in NYS
- Improve college readiness via Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)
- Electronic standardized high school transcripts
- Expanded Educational Opportunity Program
- Increase diversity--Chief Diversity Officer at each campus

The primary focus of Completion is:

- Implement Quantway and Statway, teaching strategies developed by the Carnegie Foundation, that support student success in math and earn credit at all community colleges; then at four-year colleges
- Finish in 4 years guarantee
- Increase online courses via Open SUNY

The primary focus of Success is:

- Expand opportunities for research via Master Innovators

- Support legislation that will mandate applied learning as a graduation requirement for every SUNY student

The Chancellor has established an investment fund to provide the components; it will be started with an \$18 million commitment from Governor Cuomo. Also, SUNY will be asking all of their partners, public and private, for more.

Chairman Hanson reviewed two of the recent ACT for Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship winners, who were from various SUNY campuses. The Council was extremely impressed with these students.

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

On January 13, 2015, SUNY Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Alain Kaloyeros as the founding President of SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Geer advised that the State Education Department now formally recognizes SUNY Poly as an institution with two principle locations. The Albany site bachelor's and master's programs have successfully been transferred to SUNY Poly and the proposal was submitted in January to do the same with the PhD programs. Once approved, the Utica site will also be allowed to offer PhD programs.

Dr. Geer stated we have been working closely with Middle States (MS) to get their approval on the merger and the substantive changes, as MS need to approve both items before the Albany site can admit students. Dr. Geer spoke to the MS liaison in January and they are moving forward and anticipate approval will occur at their meeting in March. It is highly important we receive this approval because we are admitting students to the Albany site for fall 2015 semester.

Dr. Kaloyeros has pledged to not only maintain but accelerate investments, while likewise creating an institution where each site will maintain its identity. We are close to an agreement to a unified government for faculty, staff, and students. In terms of Administration, we are relatively equal in terms of executive staff on each campus. We will be working to ramp back up staff. A commitment has been made to start adding full-time faculty and reducing adjunct faculty and we have been adding full-time lecturer positions.

A team, including faculty, staff, and students, from the Utica and Albany sites, are working with an outside agency on branding and the development of a new logo. We hope to have something available to share at the May meeting.

Dr. Geer updated the Council on the Quad-C project and the internal expansion currently in development. He explained the second phase of the project is being added now due to the increase interest in the project.

Provost's Report

Dr. Durgin reviewed his PowerPoint presentation, highlighting our recent ABET accreditation visit, which included a review of our Electrical and Computer Engineering program and all Engineering Technology programs. We have received the draft report

and there were no deficiencies cited. We do have a few weaknesses to address. All programs will be accredited/reaccredited.

Due to the merger between SUNYIT and CNSE, the Middle States decennial review was postponed for one year. Dr. Durgin reviewed the revised timeline and noted the chair of the visiting committee will likely change.

As part of the upcoming Middle States visit and as a newly merged institution, Dr. Durgin stated, we will need to update our Strategic Plan. A steering committee has been created and on January 30, Dr. Kaloyeros charged the task force with developing “big ideas” for the institution. If any of the College Council members would like to be involved in this process, please let D. Tyksinski know.

Enrollment Update

R. Fuller updated the College Council on enrollment, noting for the spring semester we have enrolled the third largest group of students for the institution, which is 250 more total students than last year at the same date. Retention for fall to spring was 94.2%. We brought in a larger class in the fall and more of them stayed. We enrolled 347 freshman and 327 returned for spring.

For fall 2015, the freshman applications are down slightly; however, their average SAT scores are up by 50 points; therefore, we have been able to accept more students. Our acceptances are up 6%.

We are about 8% behind in transfer student applications. R. Fuller discussed the three items that he feels are affecting these applications, they are 1). Many two-year colleges have lower enrollment currently, 2). Some two-year colleges now offer four-year degrees, and 3). He doesn't believe we are doing as good of a job as we have in the past, going back to 2003, at recruiting transfer students.

Graduate enrollment is 27% of our total enrollment; this is the highest it has ever been.

R. Fuller advised there were two recent promotions in the Admissions Department, they are Gina Liscio to the position of Director of Admissions and Aaron Swancott to Senior Admissions Counselor.

Student Code of Conduct Revisions

M. Lyons with the assistance of Mark Lemire, SUNY Poly Counsel, had summarized the proposed revisions to the Student Code of Conduct and they were distributed to the Council prior to today's meeting.

M. Lyons explained on December 1, 2014, Chancellor Zimpher formally adopted uniform sexual assault prevention and response policies that were requested by Governor Cuomo last fall and authorized by the SUNY Board of Trustees in October 2014. She explained these policies are required to be enacted uniformly (without modification) across all 64 campuses.

M. Lyons is seeking the College Council's approval of the proposed changes. If approved, she will work with M. Lemire to appropriately incorporate the revisions into the Student Code of Conduct and simultaneously rework the structure to enhance the document.

A motion was made by D. Burns and seconded by N. Hinman to approve the Student Code of Conduct revisions as presented. All were in favor.

Student Association

A. Feole discussed a bill that was brought forth in Student Government to raise the GPA requirement to be a student senator or an organization leader from 2.0 to 2.5 or 2.75. Discussion will start tomorrow on this bill.

Another bill is being brought forward to change the current club system. It is currently one uniform system; however, this new bill is suggesting a ranking system where a club that does extra fund raising or volunteer services can have a higher ranking. Clubs that want to just be a social club will have a lower ranking.

A. Feole had three students immediately volunteer to collect leftover items from the dorms to be given to a local charity at the end of the spring semester. College Council members asked to be notified when a date is chosen so they could assist in these efforts.

Students do not have access to the new SUNY Poly word mark. Dr. Geer asked A. Feole to work with J. Swann to get the temporary word mark until we have the new logo available.

A. Feole shared student concerns with maintenance on the weekend, for instance if dryers go down or if the Internet goes down. Dr. Durgin advised our help desk is available 24/7 and M. Lyons added she believes that Internet concerns were an isolated issue and have since been corrected.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.