

FEBRUARY 2014 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 6, 2014

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members:

D. Hanson-Chairman, G. Aney, J. Bay, D. Burns, C. Giruzzi, T. Max,
N. Hinman, and C. Johnson

Cabinet Members:

W. Cranmer, W. Durgin, R. Geer, S. Head, M. Lyons, P. Perkins,
J. Swann, and D. Tyksinski.

Invited Guests:

C. Phipps

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m.

Chairman Hanson welcomed everyone to the February meeting; College Council and Cabinet members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by C. Giruzzi and seconded by D. Burns to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013, meeting as presented. All were in favor.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Hanson attended Chancellor Zimpher's State of the University Address in January. *Good News from Across SUNY* was distributed to all attendees of the event.

Dr. Geer provided Chairman Hanson with a tour of CNSE following the Chancellor's Address and he suggested a tour should be provided to all Council members in the very near future.

Provost's Report

Dr. Durgin shared the following items in his report:

Enrollment Growth Plan

- Increased enrollment to 2500 (FTE) or 3300 (headcount) by 2020
- Balanced budget in academic year 2018-2019
- Need yearly increase ≈ 120

Undergraduate Applications

- Approximately 2000, up 10%
- Early Action, up 42%
- Quality, up significantly (Tier 1 & 2)

Graduate Applications

- Overall, up 50%
- CIS, up 35 %
- FNP, up 120% (unable to accommodate)

Constraints

- NYS high school population
- Interest and preparation in STEM fields
- Faculty availability
- Physical facilities
- SUNY limitations vis-à-vis new programs

Accreditation

- Business – The AACSB visiting team was on campus last week. We received several recommendations from the visiting team to implement and the team will return in one year for a follow-up review.
- MSCHE – The draft self-study should be available in the summer, which is when the Council will receive it. The visiting team will be on campus in spring 2015. Dr. Geer advised that in conjunction with SUNY, we have made an inquiry to Middle States, along with SUNY, about what impact we would see with the consolidation with CNSE. They did not raise any particular issues. SUNYIT will complete its reaccreditation, and any additional requirements for Middle States can be done in a follow-up year.

Faculty Update

- New - Iulian Gherasoui, Electrical Engineering Technology
- Promotion – Linda Weber, Full Professor
- Tenure – Timothy Busch, Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Council had a conversation regarding the lack of classroom and lab space on campus. Dr. Durgin advised, starting in the fall semester, we will most likely be using many non-classroom spaces across campus for classes, such as the Kunsela Café, and rooms within the Cayan Library. We have reached out to the SUNY Construction Fund to request renovations to the ground floor of Donovan Hall. Due to the increase in our engineering programs, we have a large increase in the need for chemistry labs for the fall semester. Luckily, the piping, hooding, and many related infrastructure items are already in place.

President's Report

Merger Update

Dr. Geer shared copies of letters in support of the merger between SUNYIT and CNSE from our local elected officials, MVREDC, FSMC, MVEDGE, Rome Chamber of Commerce, Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce, and The Chamber Alliance of the Mohawk Valley, that were sent to Chancellor Zimpher.

The pathway for SUNY Board is a straightforward process, mostly to do with a transfer of programs from CNSE to SUNYIT. The Board would like to ensure that student services are provided at CNSE. A master plan amendment drafting has begun for PhD programs to be offered at SUNYIT.

Merger Working Group Committees, comprised of faculty and staff, have been created at both SUNYIT and CNSE with the first joint meeting scheduled for yesterday, however, due to the inclement weather, the meeting was rescheduled to Friday. Dr. Geer anticipates the SUNY Board will begin the merger process at their March meeting and the SED and Middle States process will start at roughly the same time.

C. Johnson asked if there would be student representation involved in merger meetings. B. Geer advised they would be involved, but it would be in phases as this will be a long process and this is just the start. Also, we will have forums with the students.

Dr. Geer discussed the growth trend SUNYIT needs to achieve to become a self-sustaining institution by 2018-2019. It's a challenge to continue to consistently increase enrollment, but we believe the merger will help to make this achievable.

Financial Update

B. Geer advised we submitted a plan to SUNY System in September to transition from an institution anchored to receiving State allocation to growing to a self-sustaining institution. We would love to also expand our faculty and resources and be able to re-expand our reserves and reinvest.

In addition to the increase in enrollment, we anticipated a \$2.4 million deficit, but we now anticipate only a \$1.3 million deficit. The reduction in the projected deficit is due to several factors, including delayed consideration of staffing decisions and increased tuition and fee revenue that equated to more than \$500k. We still have no formal loan from SUNY; they are making tremendous effort to put us first in line for allocations so we have not gone into deficit mode for end of last semester or this semester. Their position for a formal loan may still be compromised due to Downstate Medical Center's situation, but they will continue to work with us.

Miscellaneous

Dr. Durgin updated the Council on the Nursing DNP program, noting we have internally almost finished developing the curriculum planning. We are at the point to launch the internal readiness review and discussing whether to forge ahead with DNP readiness review by itself or should we marry it up with the transfer with CNSE. It seems we would be better positioned to merge with CNSE with their PhD programs first than go forward with our own PhD programs. Dr. Max and D. Burns voiced their concerns for the immediate need for doctors and nurse practitioners for local hospitals. B. Durgin would be happy to meet and discuss ways to bring additional resources and engage the community.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.