

FEBRUARY 2018 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members:

D. Hanson-Chairman, D. Burns, J. Corasanti, C. Giruzzi, N. Hinman and
D. Peterson

Administration:

W. Durgin, M. Frame, P. Kelly, M. Lyons, and B. Sammakia

Guests:

Z. Thomova

The February College Council meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. Chairman Hanson welcomed everyone to the meeting

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by D. Burns and seconded by J. Corasanti to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2017, meeting as presented. All were in favor.

President's Report

Dr. Sammakia stated the campus continues to move toward a path of fiscal sustainability and this continues to be his primary focus. Key strategies have been to increase revenue and hold spending at both campuses, while pursuing economic development opportunities that correlate with our strategic research and educational interest. We continue to work closely with SUNY, Economic State Development (ESD), Research Foundation, and NYS to help evaluate academic and economic development activities to ensure long-term success of the institution.

The State of the University Address was given by Chancellor Kristina Johnson on January 22nd. Dr. Sammakia shared the following four themes the Chancellor outlined to strengthen SUNY:

- Doubling Research and Innovation – This would be an increase of \$1 billion over the next 5-7 years across SUNY campuses. Key areas of research include artificial intelligence, data analytics, robotics, and their applications to education and healthcare. SUNY Poly will play a key role in this initiative, as these areas are geared toward our capabilities and expertise.
- Individualized Education on a Statewide Scale – Chancellor urged SUNY campuses to build an individualized experience for each student who academically qualifies for admission. This is an important strategy to ensure every student is given the tools, support, and safety needed to complete their education.

- Sustainable SUNY – This theme calls for the purchasing of 100% of SUNY electricity from zero-carbon sources. The Chancellor has specific ideas on how to achieve this initiative, which includes any new SUNY building to be designed to achieve zero-net emissions.
- Investing in the Future – This initiative urges for an increase in strategic partnerships with state, national and international organization.

Dr. Sammakia also provided an update on what SUNY is advocating for in regards to the 2018-2019 Executive Budget. SUNY's priorities are broken down into three categories, they are:

- Stabilization – Allow SUNY Board of Trustees the ability to set market appropriate tuition rates in specific ways. Also, continued support of the Small Business Development Centers program with the restoration of a \$1.5 million designation.
- Health and Safety – Capital funding for critical maintenance up to \$800 million per year for the next 5-years to assist with the aging infrastructure on many SUNY campuses. A funding request for \$80 million for a collaboration with NYSERDA to create sustainable/net-zero buildings through retrofits when buildings go through critical maintenance.
- Student Support – Increased support (\$5.4 million) for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) to prevent enrollment declines and decreases in direct aid awards for students in the program. Restoration of \$300 thousand to support the continuation of the SUNY Student Tele-Counseling Network pilot program.

Chairman's Report

On January 15, 2018, Chairman Hanson participated in a telephone interview with SUNY Trustee Chairperson H. Carl McCall. The call was organized by the Association of Council Members and College Trustees (ACT.) The following items were shared with the Council:

- Chairman McCall acknowledged that most SUNY College Councils are lacking full membership and while he is advocating with the Governor for additional appointees be made, he is unsure when this will happen.
- The Excelsior Program has been effective in increasing SUNY enrollment.
- The 2018-2019 proposed NYS budget includes a tuition increase of \$200, but there are no other enhancements in the budget for SUNY System. SUNY will absorb all costs related to increased labor costs.
- Each college is responsible for tuition when a student does not successfully complete a semester for which they received funding through the Excelsior Program.
- Legislators are more familiar with the K-12 educational programs than with SUNY, therefore, Chairman McCall hopes to work with ACT and the SUNY President's to get the attention of legislators.

- Additional funds may be available for capital projects.

Student Affairs Update

M. Lyons presented a PowerPoint presentation and updated the Council on various departments and programs within Student Affairs. She started her presentation with the Student Affairs organizational chart.

A snapshot of our student population was shared with the Council, this included enrollment numbers at the Albany and Utica campuses, as well as residential and international demographics.

A large number of our athletics events can be streamed in high-definition on WildcatTV. So far this academic year, 60 events have been watched reaching 7894 viewers. The men's cross country team won their 5th consecutive NEAC Championship and head coach Bill Tylutki was named NEAC Coach of the Year for the fifth straight season.

M. Lyons stated that our resident advisors are now required to hold at least one 30-minute intentional engagement with every resident by the end of the first month. These conversations have proven to be very meaningful to our students.

Care Teams have been developed to address challenging, disruptive, or harmful behavior and situations by providing helpful interventions that are aimed at community safety and student success. Teams consist of relevant faculty and staff, who meet weekly, to discuss new cases and follow-up to ensure continued success for our students.

The 3rd annual Leadership Institute was recently held on campus with participation from 50 Utica and Albany based students. Topics for the 3-day workshop included building relationships with administrators, leadership styles across cultures, effective time management, habits, priorities and bullet journaling, and dealing with difficult people.

Our Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) has record enrollment and increased funding, as we have aggressive growth initiatives for the program. There are currently 75 registered EOP students, with 35 being new first year students. We recently hired a new director for Disability Services, Evelyn Lester, PhD. The program has 171 students who are currently registered to receive some form of service.

The newly renovated Health and Wellness Center opened in August 2017, following a \$1.4 million renovation. SUNY Poly is one of four SUNY institutes to receive a \$35k grant to pilot a tele-psychiatry program with SUNY Upstate.

Student Association Report

The Student Association hosted their first Red Cross Blood Drive of the spring semester on Tuesday, February 6th. There was a great turnout with a total of 43 units collected.

Students, faculty and staff attend the Grand Opening of the Mario Café on January 18th. The students are really enjoying this new option for food service, as it focuses on local sustainable products.

D. Peterson announced that Wildcat Media now has 24/7 radio broadcast.

A new copier has been installed in the Cayan Library for the students to use. D. Peterson would like to thank John Reale, College Association Director, and Shannon Pritting, Library Director, for this new addition.

Faculty Representative Report

The SUNY University Faculty Senate (UFS) hosted their Winter Plenary meeting on the Utica campus in January. We were thrilled to be the host of this 2-day conference that welcomed SUNY governance leaders and faculty representatives from all SUNY campuses.

The Chancellor's Award Committees have met to discuss nominations and put forward a recommendation to the President.

Adjournment

At 4:58 p.m., Chairman Hanson moved to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.