

MVCC College Senate Meeting
Tuesday, May 7, 2024
2:30pm WH 225

Attendance

Present: E. Brindisi, E. Bush, K. Cordary, S. Crocker, H. Doty, N. Evanoff, M. Faitell, S. Frisbee, D. Head, C. Hendricks, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, M. Kuczynski, S. McCall, S. McManus, K. McNamara, A. Miller, C. Miller, R. Miller, A. Nolan, M. Parry, A. Roy–Small, D. Sonne (for S. Dar), C. VanNamee, R. VanWagoner, F. Vellone, J. Wilcox, L. Williams, and R. Wittenberg

Student Senators: Y. Naruse, M. Stevens

Absent/Excused: C. Albrecht, S. Cummings, S. Dar, R. Golden, S. McGovern, M. McHarris, A. Sandstrom, S. Selden, S. Silverman, D. Stefanovich, and J. Wilkie

Call to Order

C. Miller called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Approval of the February Minutes

The minutes from the April 2nd meeting were approved (A. Roy-Small, J. Wilcox) (26, 0, 0)

Student Congress Report | Y. Naruse

Y. Naruse announced the new officers who were elected for Fall 2024:

- SC President – S. Nakamura
- SCVP Utica – L. Suppe
- SCVP Rome – G. Bobowski
- SC Treasure – M. Be
- SC Student Trustee – A. Dunckel
- SC Program Board Director – M. Stevens

A resolution for a one-time transfer from the Student Congress Fund Balance to MVCC for the benefit of students in the amount of \$150,000 was approved at the May 2nd meeting. In April, Y. Naruse, J. Kobler, and P. Wah attended the SUNY Student Assembly Spring Conference. There was also a public comment period for Y. Naruse’s resolution to support the increase of state funding for community colleges in New York. Lastly, J. Kobler will work with staff on campus to give temporary medical accessibility parking passes to expectant mothers.

Old Business

Update from the Electronic Information and Technology Ad Hoc Committee – A. Nolan

The committee regrouped in April after staffing changes put their work temporarily on hold. Current work-in-progress includes compiling SUNY requirements regarding classroom technology and digital content into one document. There are four areas for classroom technology and seven for digital content. The committee is mapping out the requirements and recommendations for each area, and composing an action plan for immediate, short term, and long term changes. An update will be provided in the Fall, with full recommendations by December 2024.

The full report is [available on Teams](#).

New Business

Academic Integrity Policy – R. Wittenberg

The Academic Integrity Policy was outdated, so J. Lynch charged the workgroup to update technology references, revise verbiage, and include policies on the use of artificial intelligence (AI). Some key updates include:

- The introduction was rewritten with a less punitive tone.
- Plagiarism was redefined without a direct reference to MLA to make it a broader definition.
- Includes the phrase “someone and something” as a reference to incorporate any possible definition of AI
- Wanted to include a reference to sites such as Chegg or CourseHero in the cheating section to illustrate some examples to students, but not as an exhaustive list.
- Combined the “False Information and Lying” with “Falsifying Academic Documentation and Forgery” sections.
- Revised the recommended syllabus statement

S. Frisbee moved to endorse the policy (S. McManus second). (27, 0, 0)

The full policy is [available on Teams](#).

Updates from the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) – T. Marshall

T. Marshall shared highlights from the 2023–24 academic year, including the MVCC/SUNY POLY Equity Empowerment Symposium, the soft launch of CITE, a visit from Ricardo Colon in November, and MVCC’s Inaugural Cookbook collaboration.

Upcoming goals include an ODEI Website, faculty and student resources, an MVCC DEI Annual [Annual Plan/Summary](#), Culture of Care forms (including Title VI Student Religions Accommodations Form and Bias and Microaggressions) and several updates, among other goals.

T. Marshall also shared updates that involved SUNY, including the submission of a [summary of all DEI work on campus](#) to SUNY, a revised SUNY Scholarship, and the Fall SUNY Student Climate Survey, among other updates.

Some upcoming activities include the CITE Launch, Affinity Groups/Employee Resource Groups, and a presentation from former MVCC student Preston Blaine Jr. titled “From Janitor’s Closet to Honor Roll: A Student Guide to Maximize Success in higher Ed.”

Chairperson’s Report | C. Miller

C. Miller reported on the following:

- The next steps for the Committees and Councils Taskforce include reviewing charters and memberships that need to change.
- The Senate Advisory will review the feedback from the breakout groups and will engage the full Senate in the by-laws review in the Fall.
- C. Miller has requested committee chairs submit their reports to Teams. A goal for next year is to improve communication between committees and the Senate.
- The Senate Advisory began working on the Senate Assessment document and it will be available on Teams when complete.
- The Special Senate Meeting will be on Monday, May 13th at 1:30pm via Zoom. It will include nominations for Senate Chair, Vice-Chair, and Advisory members. C. Miller will be on Sabbatical in the Fall, so it is likely the vice-chair will temporarily take on the role of chair in the Fall.
- The Cabinet Retreat with Senate Advisory will be on May 9th, during which the goals for next year will be set.

President’s Report | R. VanWagoner

R. VanWagoner shared a brief history of the state’s community college “funding floor” and the challenges in sustaining funding from the state. It took two years of advocacy for the funding floor to be established, so persistence in advocacy is crucial.

There has been an increase in student participation in clubs. The website has made it easier for students to join clubs, and Student Congress also revised definitions of what it means to be a member of a student club.

The full report can be found [on Teams](#).

Vice Presidents’ Report | E. Abreu, L. Kahler, T. Squires

T. Squires provided an update that the doors for Commencement will open at 3:00 (earlier stated as 3:30). The full report can be found [on Teams](#).

FCCC Report | A. Miller

ACC1 "Exploring ethical and effective use of artificial intelligence within the State University of New York" ([Link to Resolution](#))

The Senate endorsed the resolution (A. Miller, M. Kuczynski) (27, 0, 0)

CGL1 "Support of Shared Governance and Shared Governance Leaders" ([Link to the Resolution](#))

The Senate endorsed the resolution (A. Miller, R. Wittenberg) (27, 0, 0)

CSL1 "Support of Mental Health Funding" ([Link to the Resolution](#))

The Senate endorsed the resolution (S. Frisbee, S. Crocker) (27, 0, 0)

DEI1 "Recognizing the Intersection Between Liberal Arts Education and Workforce Development" ([Link to the Resolution](#))

The Senate endorsed the resolution (S. Crocker, E. Brindisi) (27, 0, 0)

Faculty Caucus Report | D. Sonne

D. Sonne provided an update that A. Miller and R. Wittenberg presented at Faculty Caucus. All four resolutions from FCCC and the Academic Integrity policy were endorsed. Faculty Caucus Advisory positions are up for renewal and will be voted on next Monday virtually through Teams at 2:30pm.

Questions & Open Forum

Y. Naruse commented on the success of the Student Congress banquet at the end of April. All students who were members of clubs were invited so that students and faculty advisors could be recognized.

The College is hosting the Track & Field Nationals, and teams will begin arriving tomorrow.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56pm.

Next Meetings & Routing Sheet Information

The Special Senate Meeting will be: **Monday, May 13th at 1:30 PM via Zoom.**

The next Regular Senate Meeting will be: **Tuesday, September 3rd at 2:30 PM in WH 225.**

The next Senate Advisory Routing Sheet for applicable Agenda item proposals is **due: Tuesday, August 20th.**

The next Senate Advisory Meeting will be **Tuesday, August 27th 2:30 PM via Teams.**

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Radlowski