

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE
COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING
September 18, 2013

Council Members Present: Dr. Patricia Hill Williams, Chair; Ms. Shanice Blades; Mr. Paul Caroleo; Ms. Randi Shubin Dresner; Mr. Ernesto Mattace

Excused: Dr. Kenneth Card; David Curry, Esq; Ms. Kathleen Ferrell; Mr. Robert Stricoff

College Administration, Staff and Guests: Dr. Hubert Keen; Mr. Patrick Calabria; Dr. Lucia Cepriano; Dr. Tom Corti; Dr. Veronica Henry; Dr. Henry Sikorski; Ms. Kathy Coley; Chief Marvin Fischer

Dr. Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 10th. A motion was made by Mr. Caroleo, seconded by Mr. Mattace, to accept the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED

Dr. Williams welcomed Ms. Shanice Blades, President of Student Government Association, to her first meeting and said she looked forward to her input and representation of students.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

- **Commencement and honorary degree** nominations to be addressed in President's Report.
- **Ralph Bunche Forum** held Tuesday was well attended and provided information to enhance the rededication of the Ralph Bunche Plaza.
- Dr. Williams received an invitation from Secretary of State Kerry to attend the kickoff of the **100,000 Strong in the America's** initiative to increase international study exchanges between the United States and Latin America. The initiative for colleges and universities is being spearheaded through the State Department and private sector support. The meeting was cancelled due to the Syria situation and will be rescheduled.
- **ACT conference** scheduled at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs; Dr. Williams is attending, along with other council chairs and members from SUNY. The Chancellor and her administration will conduct workshops, and the Chancellor will speak on Sunday.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Dr. Keen welcomed Shanice Blades and said he looked forward to working with Student Government.
- **Annual Report** - going slowly as Dr. Keen is doing some analysis of the budget. Campus would benefit with the Chancellor's model which is on hold due to protests from other campuses. The annual report will be forwarded to all upon completion in a couple of weeks.
- **Enrollment** –handout distributed shows fall enrollment at 8,256. In spite of our plan to hold at that of last fall, enrollment grew due to improved retention. First year to second year freshman retention is up every year. We need to improve the graduation rate. Sixteen new faculty hired this year to respond to enrollment growth, but adjuncts cover some of the increase. Our enrollment is larger than the other tech campuses and 7 or 8 of the university colleges.
- **Academic Program Development** – Dr. Cepriano described the work being done on the mission change proposal, opening the way for the first graduate program; State Board of Regents, other institutions nearby and upstate SUNY colleges are very attentive to this proposal. The first step is to produce an institutional self-study that justifies Farmingdale's readiness to offer master's degrees. Facilities, quality of faculty and resources are considered, and this document is just about completed. Engineering Technology Management is the first master's program being considered. About ready to go to a consultant to review the academic content of the proposal, it then goes to System Administration, SUNY Board of Trustees and the State Ed Board of Regents for approval. Industry support exists as graduates will have increased employment opportunities and be better able to serve their industries. Earliest implementation would be spring or fall of 2014.
- **Budget** will remain the same over the next three cycles with respect to state funds. Agreement by the Governor to provide a small tuition increase was in exchange for holding the state allocation at the same level. Tuition has

grown above state support, which used to be 50 percent and is now only 23 percent of our operating budget; tuition and fees make up 77 percent. The University has attempted to come up with different methods and is examining the Oracle Insight Program. Downstate Medical Center has been a financial burden to the University, which has affected all campuses. IFR accounts operate on the basis of revenue and are not included in this budget, nor are funds raised by the Farmingdale Foundation for scholarships and other support. We are in the second year, and there are three more years of a \$300-per-year tuition increase. Currently, tuition and fees are approximately \$7,000. Our students graduate with a low level of debt.

- **Shared Services** – The President serves on a system-wide advisory committee on shared services bringing campuses together to collaborate on purchasing and other ways to lower operating expenses. Mr. LaRosa has been leading that for our campus in the region as well.
- **Seamless Transfer** - Situated between the 2 largest community colleges in the state, we have had more student transfer – approaching the number of new freshmen coming in. The Chancellor is promoting easier transfer.
- **Open SUNY** – The Chancellor is also encouraging campuses to increase on-line education as a way to extend access to more students who normally wouldn't have this and again to share services and reduce costs.
- **Honorary Degree** – The nominating committee for the honorary degree which Dr. Henry chairs and Dr. Williams is a member of, is working now on the nominations for 3 excellent candidates.
- **Commencement** - Renovation of Nold Hall resulted in Commencement being held outside, and we had complaints that no plans were made for inclement weather. Dr. Laura Joseph, Associate Provost, is co-chairing the Commencement Committee which is faced with the decision to continue to have Commencement outside, limit the guests for an inside ceremony and/or have multiple ceremonies, or find an off-campus venue.
- **Activities** for students have increased. Tom Corti has also initiated the intramural sports program.
- **Residence Halls** will be adding 150 beds in 2015. We have a small population of resident students compared with other SUNY's, but a huge demand. A very long waiting list this summer and a DASNY study showed we could easily fill another 150 beds. Renovation is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2015.
- **Smart Grid Project** – We are the high visibility site for the project. Opening of the solar carport and electric car charging station took place Monday, Sept. 9th. Anyone with an electric car can access and plug in, and no fee will be charged for the first year. The energy-efficient house and wind turbines are other parts of the project, along with the lab for repair and service of electric cars. LIPA is installing meters along the Route 110 corridor, and Stony Brook is working on cyber security and mathematics of electrical grid operation. Meters on the side of Lupton Hall show immediately and cumulatively the usage of the solar panels since installed. The project has gone a long way in support of our proposal for the master's program. Dr. Shahrabi heads the project, which also added 2 hybrid and 1 totally electric car to the campus fleet.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dr. Williams encouraged Council members to attend events:

- Business Hall of Fame Gala Nov. 21 at Oheka– Forest Labs cumulative gift over 10 years \$1M
- Recently held -Horticulture Gala honoring Dr. Gary Brown
- Homecoming Sept. 28 at 12–3 pm - all alumni, faculty, staff, council members invited
- Events calendar will be sent to College Council members monthly
- Rededication of Ralph Bunche Plaza – Tuesday, Sept. 24th at 3:00 pm
- Dedication of the roadway, Frank Cipriani Drive – today at 12 noon

Review of the alcohol policy is still in progress by the task force. Two years ago we implemented a plan leading to a smoke-free campus, and it has been expanded to ban electronic cigarettes near buildings.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Caroleo and seconded by Randi Shubin Dresner. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

ap

10/3/13

Next Meeting: Nov. 20, 2013

[Approved 11/20/13]