

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE
College Council Virtual Meeting - In person Quintyne Hall room 100
and
Virtual via Google Meets
October 13, 2021

Council members present in person: Patricia Hill Williams, Jim Durant, Robert Sweeney, Jake Iaccino

Council members attending virtually: Randi Shubin Dresner, Kathleen Ferrell, David Curry, Kenneth Card, Paul Caroleo

Excused absence: Richard Redmond

College Administration: John Nader, Sunil Samuel, Greg O'Connor, Matthew Colson, Laura Joseph, Pete Grizzaffi, Carolyn Fedder

Virtual Guests: Orla LoPiccolo, Brett Southard

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 10:05am and welcomed all to a new academic semester. She stated that she was pleased that the group could move forward and meet in a safe and healthy manner. Dr. Williams confirmed that all had received the April 7, 2021 minutes and entertained a motion to approve them. The motion was moved by council member Robert Sweeney seconded by council member Kathleen Ferrell.

Motion carried

Chairs report

Dr. Williams shared that the Car-Mencement in May was a beautiful event and that she was glad that Chancellor Malatras was in attendance.

She remarked there were several occurrences on campus over the break. In June, the student center was renamed Quintyne Hall. The dedication went very well and Dolores Quintyne and her family are thrilled and are still adjusting to the idea. The family revisited the campus recently.

Dr. Williams added that she attended the moving 9/11 20th Anniversary Memorial ceremony that was held under the Amphitheatre.

The Farmingdale family experienced two losses in August and September. John Dzinanka, Director of the Physical Plant and Tony Mastroianni, an alum, longtime college council member, and alumni association member passed away. On September 28, a lovely memorial concert was performed in the Roosevelt Hall Little Theatre in memory of John by his former band members.

Chair Williams welcomed our new Vice President for Enrollment and Student Engagement, Sunil Samuel, and the new SGA President and student representative on the Council, Jake Iaccino.

Dr. Williams reminded all that the ACT Annual Summit will occur virtually on Friday, October 15. She hoped all council members have registered as much coordination went into arranging the conference. Council member Ken Card is serving on the ACT scholarship committee. A Farmingdale student will receive a scholarship and a video of student recipients will be shown. In the two months of planning of the conference, Chair Williams recommended that the committee get creative and reach out to

Potsdam's Crain School of Music to arrange an orchestra performance and to Purchase, (known for music and dance), for performers for the program. She felt this would demonstrate to attending council members the diversity of programs throughout the SUNY campuses. SUNY has videotaped an interlude, (an advantage the pandemic has offered by way of using technology) to share the talent of students. Chancellor Malatras will speak based on his call for questions prior to the summit. The College Council Role and Responsibilities report that councilmembers Ferrell and Shubin Dresner drafted in 2017 was shared with the ACT Strategic Planning Committee in Albany. It was considered in making changes to the strategic plan. A draft of the plan will be presented during the business section of the conference and discussed. Pat Brown from Oneonta chairs the Strategic Planning Committee, Kevin Law, (SBU council chair) co-chairs, and Long Island is well represented on the committee. All council members have an opportunity to participate and send recommendations and comments back. Pat Brown will also present on bylaws.

Dr. Williams informed that the Council members will be placing an ad in the President's Gala journal which will take place in person on November 18.

Chair Williams attended the virtual Meet the Candidates forum for Suffolk County. Sal Ferro, who serves on the Farmingdale Foundation board, is running for town board in Huntington and mentioned Farmingdale in his remarks. Dr. Williams said another candidate running for Town of Babylon clerk is a Farmingdale alum who indicated she would like to reconnect with FSC. She encouraged council members to take advantage of the many opportunities there are to advocate, influence, and let people know about Farmingdale.

President's Report

Introductions: Dr. Nader introduced Jake Iaccino, new SGA President, and student representative on the College Council and the new VP for Enrollment Management and Student Engagement, Sunil Samuel. Mr. Samuel came to us from Hofstra University and faced many challenges on his arrival including student vaccination compliance and safely moving students into the residence halls this fall. Pete Grizzaffi, Chief Information Officer and Chief Information Security Officer, has become a member of President's Cabinet. Dr. Nader remarked that Mr. Grizzaffi's IT expertise has been invaluable over the past year and in the current environment we are facing.

Vaccine Mandate: SUNY's mandate took effect when the Pfizer vaccine received FDC approval. Through constant outreach, and extensive follow up, 99% of students with and on-campus presence complied. 35 students were disenrolled. Provost Joseph's office and areas in academic affairs, including the faculty and the registrar's office, assisted second semester seniors by finding remote courses and providing independent studies so they could graduate on time. An overwhelming number of religious exemptions requests were submitted (465) and less than 1/3 were granted. A three-member committee worked extremely hard to work through them fairly.

Changes to organization structure: Dr. Nader said that Enrollment and Student Engagement have been brought together under VP Samuel and Marketing and Communication now falls to Matt Colson VP Development and Alumni Engagement, Marketing and Communications. Dr. Kevin Jordan, assumes the role of VP for Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Excellence and we expect new programming to come out of this office.

Offshore Wind: FSC delivered three training programs over the summer at the request of the Executive Chamber and SUNY. One was a non-credit introduction to the field, one has credit bearing courses, and was offered in conjunction with GE and delivered in part at FSC and part in the GE 's Alternative Energy Learning Center in Schenectady, NY. We offered this programming and enrolled approximately 100 students in a brief period. FSC will also co-host the OSW Training Institute, the website is near launching and a research contract with BW Offshore has been finalized.

SUNY Construction Fund: The College has been approved for \$130M in building improvements through 2025. The work will be disruptive but will also transform the campus. Seven buildings are affected and space constraints will be a challenge. Additional funding is being sought from the SUNY 2 for 1 program, for a Criminal Justice forensics lab in Sinclair Hall.

Academic Overview: Dr. Nader informed that FSC is one of a few approved for a Certificate in Cannabis Production and Management and courses are running this semester. We are talking with Queens College about providing introduction and instruction in this field. The Cannabis Management board is being created and we hope to get further guidance from the state level in that may inform our curriculum going forward.

Provost Laura Joseph reported that 73% of our courses will be taught in person this spring. The balance will be our traditional online, clinical rotations, and internship experiences. Additionally, an A/B schedule will be incorporated as a backup plan in case of COVID resurgence and the need to pivot to that mode of instruction. Development of new programming continues, including a proposals sent to SUNY for joint Master's degrees in Health Education and Technology Education with Old Westbury.

Another Master's Degree proposal in Nursing Administration will go to SUNY next month in an online format. Bachelor's programs are in development for Artificial Intelligence Management and Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

Provost Joseph said we are working with Queens College to offer a Cannabis Production and Management Certificate Program to develop weekend programs and gauge interest in the industry. We await input from the NYS office of Cannabis Management on regulatory framework and licensure requirements. SUNY has new general education requirements which includes knowledge areas in diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice, and global awareness. Targeted implementation is fall 2022.

Enrollment Overview: VP Samuel announced that he is happy to be part of the Farmingdale family. He informed that enrollment for the fall exceeded targeted goals. Many students returned to campus, some after a hiatus of studying virtually and are again engaging in campus activities. Our number of applications dropped, but our admit rates increased. He noted that our academic profile stayed the same or increased meaning that we are enrolling stronger students. Due the declining number of transfer students, we are looking for creative ways to work with community colleges including use of articulation agreements. A Finish your Degree campaign and STOP OUT program to bring back students are also employed. Mr. Samuel will also focus on retention because it is key to meeting targets for the spring and next fall. Mr. Durant asked what the freshman target was this fall, Mr. Samuel responded the goal was 1515 and 1670 were enrolled.

Chair Williams noted that VP Samuel attended the LI Partners of the Americas 40th Anniversary event in July at which certificates were presented to the College and President Nader. Farmingdale recognized

for its exchange of students and professionals with St. Vincent's and the Grenadines, including Provost Joseph.

Foundation Overview: VP Colson reported that in the past the Foundation has struggled to exceed a million dollars in fundraising. He and VP O'Connor have worked together to maximize every dollar possible to support students and for the betterment of FSC. Murray Pasternack a Farmingdale alum, gave two gifts of \$500,000 this year. New scholarships focused on student need have been endowed from alums Sal Ferro and Inge Schaefer. Mr. Colson said alums are proud of their education, credit their success to Farmingdale, and now want to pay it forward. In addition, he is working with the family of Dr. Matilda Fava, recently deceased faculty member, on a Study Abroad scholarship. The Foundation received a Gold Star rating from the Guide Star organization for transparency in sharing information. Mr. Colson feels we may raise \$2M this year. More planned giving gifts are being promised to Farmingdale, and they serve as a gateway to ask for major gifts. The number of alumni donors has doubled due to increased communications. Faculty and staff donations also increased, and faculty and deans are involved in fundraising. Charles Adair, Dean of Arts & Sciences gave \$100,000 for scholarships in honor of his late wife. To increase engagement alumni town halls are held virtually to reach the many donors who are not local. There may be a President's road show eventually. Councilmember and alum, Jim Durant is establishing an endowed scholarship for Aviation students. Mr. Colson thanked the council for placing a journal ad for the upcoming Gala. It is a critical signature event and major founding stream for the Foundation.

Chair Williams requested that Mr. Iaccino share what he is hearing from students and what he has observed thus far. He said that most of his interactions have been positive ones and students are pleased to be back on campus. Many juniors and seniors would like a return to the environment that existed on campus prior to COVID. As a sophomore, he did not have an opportunity to have memorable experiences on campus last year. The SGA hopes to establish a new culture for students to enjoy. He said he is honored to serve as SGA President and student representative on the College Council and is committed to public service and giving a voice to others. He has worked within local town government for the past four years in the Town of Huntington and he will use his experience to advance Farmingdale for all.

Chair Williams said that she was pleased that FSC is moving forward in a positive manner and thanked Dr. Nader, the administration, faculty, and staff for the job they did in the pandemic environment.

Other Business: We will hold two winter commencement ceremonies. On Sunday, December 19, an Alumni graduation for Spring and Winter 2020 and Spring 2021 graduates, and on Tuesday, December 21, a traditional ceremony for current winter graduates.

With no other business to discuss chair Williams entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Durant and seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Fedder

Approved December 1, 2021