



*(Please note: these minutes will be presented to the College Council for approval at their next meeting in fall 2016)*

The College Council of SUNY Delhi met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2016. Present were:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Observers</u>
N. Deming	C. Vancko	B. Kaplan
A. Cucci	C. Bishop	J. Redinger
M. Fisher	B. Jones	J. Yando
J. Ghaleb	B. Martin	
K. Mario	J. Nader	
C. O'Beirne		
W. Oliver		
J. Sutaris		

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[http://www.delhi.edu/administration/college\\_council/160216collegecouncil.mp4](http://www.delhi.edu/administration/college_council/160216collegecouncil.mp4)

- I. **Chair Nancy Deming** called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** **Chair Deming** asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2016. **Jhilmil Ghaleb** moved to approve the minutes. **Joseph Sutaris** seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- III. **President's Report – President Vancko** provided the following updates:
  - This is a year of transitions. President Vancko's official last day is July 20; Dr. Michael Laliberte's first day is July 21. President Vancko is moving to Maine after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
  - President Vancko has been in discussion with Dr. Laliberte, who will be here the week of June 13. He would like to meet with the cabinet, as well as academic, student life and other key players and get to know the campus grounds.
  - SUNY Delhi is also losing our distinguished provost who has been named president at Farmingdale State College. We have a plan for conducting a provost search, and hopefully will have a new provost on board January 1, 2017. We will have an interim provost from July 1 to December 31.
  - Barbara Kaplan is also retiring at the end of June. Everyone is working very hard to make sure every effort is made for the transition to be as smooth as possible. The position has been posted. Bonnie Martin, Barbara Kaplan and President Vancko will form the search committee and hope to have finalists for Dr. Laliberte to consider during his June visit, so his assistant can be on board when he starts.
  - The state budget is a disaster, a huge disappointment. We were let down on every possible issue. There were two issues with predictable tuition. First was the ability to raise tuition a specified amount per year. Although there was some pushback from students, we did that for five years and it was very helpful in filling faculty positions and funding other campus initiatives. The more serious problem is that the legislature did not grant authority to the Board of Trustees to raise tuition. We have to cover mandatory salary raises and general inflation issues. SUNY worked very hard and even students supported a predictable tuition increase. At the time the plan was originally brokered, the legislature agreed to Maintenance of Effort, providing a minimum amount of state support, which is continuing to decline. 17 years ago, state funding provided 75-80%; now that number is under 20%.

That also went down the tube; we lost the commitment to maintenance of effort. Governor Cuomo did what he could to help us and put it forth in his executive budget. President Vancko is at a loss to say where we're going from here; it's going to be very difficult. Carol Bishop has prepared a presentation about the budget for later in the meeting.

- A few weeks ago, the campus had an unusual visit from Congressman Paul Tonko (out of district congressional rep) who spent the day here. Faculty members met Congressman Tonko at a STEM conference and invited him to visit. He is very interested in our Mechatronics program and was very impressed. The student panel was excellent; the Congressman said he would like to know how to get more students like them.
- Several new academic programs are in the pipeline. The Residential Construction Option has been approved for Construction Management. The MS in Nursing Administration has been submitted. A bachelor degree in Human Resources Management was posted Friday. The proposal for a bachelor degree in Facilities Management will be developed over the summer. President Vancko and John Nader believe it is important to develop three to five programs a year, which takes a tremendous amount of effort but is important for the college.
- Electrical and carpentry students earned first place in the NYS Skills Competition and will travel to Louisville for the national competition this summer.

**Anthony Cucci** asked about graduate programs. He has heard an overwhelming response from students that they want a Master's of Organizational Leadership, which would bring in construction management, business and hospitality students. They could start online, but also have face-to-face classes.

**John Nader:** we haven't looked at that; we have looked at nursing and CJ as possible master's programs. We were originally approached about a Master's in Hospitality Management.

**President Vancko:** is not averse to Anthony's suggestion, but would like to see our Master's in Hospitality flourish before offering that degree. We don't offer a bachelor degree in organizational management or communication. If you have a strength, you can make the argument for an advanced degree.

**IV. Chair's Comments:** The Board of Trustees formally appointed Dr. Michael Laliberte on the same day John Nader was appointed president at Farmingdale. There will be big changes; it's going to be a very interesting time. Michael Laliberte is eager to be here, eager to go to work and meet students as well as faculty.

**Chair Deming** noted it was Carol O'Beirne's last meeting and thanked her for her wisdom and good humor. She will be missed.

**Carol O'Beirne:** it has been an absolute pleasure. She had no idea what would be expected or what she would learn. It was fascinating and really enjoyable to meet the faculty. She is sad about not being here for the changeover but wished everyone good luck.

**President Vancko** thanked Carol O'Beirne and presented her with a gift on behalf of the College.

**Chair Deming** said that Anthony Cucci has been a terrific support for the Council and the Presidential Search Committee and asked him to remember Delhi when he's governor. She thanked Anthony for doing a great job, always speaking up and speaking well.

**Anthony Cucci:** SUNY Delhi has changed his life more than anything. He thanked the Council for trusting him and his administration to be the voice of the students, the reason we are here.

**Chair Deming** thanked Barbara Kaplan for her service to the college and the Council.

**Chair Deming:** President Vancko and Provost Nader have done amazing things in advancing Delhi from a tiny place with limited options to what it is today – a first rate place. She said there are not enough words to thank each of them and them as a team.

**President Vancko** said we have been a good team and it's been a joy. She has looked forward to coming to work every day. There is so much energy and excitement at a college. It has been an awesome thing for her personally.

**John Nader:** Hopes the College Council appreciates the quality of the cabinet that has served President Vancko for the past several years. He has had the opportunity to visit other campuses and sees the level of commitment of our faculty. He is extremely fortunate to have been here for over 30 years and is looking forward to the new opportunity.

**V. Old Business: none**

**VI. New Business:**

**Carol Bishop** provided a high level budget overview in a power point presentation, which is posted on the web along with these minutes.

- SUNY Delhi (NYS)
- The Research Foundation is a separate non-profit. The Research Foundation administers all campus grants and sponsored research.
- CADI provides auxiliary services.
- The College Foundation provides philanthropic support and coordinates fundraising.
- DC4, the Delhi Campus Child Care Center, is housed on campus property. SUNY provides minimum support to offer daycare for students with children; if there are empty spaces, faculty and staff may use it.
- The fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.
- Student room rents pay costs of residence halls, debt service, energy costs, salaries, rooms.
- IFR is the Income Fund Reimbursable, self- generating operating account. The largest chunk is from student fees; there is also some administrative revenue (CADI rent is charged there).
- SUTRA is the State University Tuition Reimbursement Account, out of which summer school and study abroad programs are funded.
- SUNY Delhi's annual operating costs are about \$42 million.
- The projected budget for 2016-17 is conservative, based on flat enrollment.
- Because there is no Maintenance of Effort, NYS can now do mid-year cuts.
- We have to cover the TAP gap, about \$1,500 per student for a total of \$1.3 million. This is being funded out of cash reserves, the IFR and SUTRA.
- Payroll accounts for approximately 80% of our core operating expenses.
- We will spend about \$1 million less than budgeted for energy expenses this year, thanks to the mild winter.
- OTPS = Other Than Personal Service (departmental operating costs)
- If enrollment remains flat, the gap between revenues and expenditures will continue to grow.
- We generate about \$2 million of reserves each year to cover the gap and will be ok for a few years.
- Although the campus does not have input in negotiating union contracts, we have to cover the payroll.
- The good news is we have reserves, but that is not a sustainable plan if enrollment doesn't grow.
- There is no capital funding.

**President Vancko:** In the past we have been able to use reserves for one time needs (new furniture for classrooms, re-equipping labs, etc.) to improve the quality of life for students and faculty. We are not going to be able to do that if we have to use reserves to plug the operating gap. We are expected to

manage the budget, but the only control we have is personnel costs. When a faculty or staff member retires or resigns, we need to take hard look to determine whether we can fill that position. It is not a fun place to be, but we can't keep using reserves.

**Wayne Oliver:** are union contracts state negotiated?

**President Vancko:** yes.

**Joseph Sutaris:** can you buy energy contracts going forward?

**President Vancko:** New York State can.

**Anthony Cucci:** how long can we maintain with a tuition freeze?

**Carol Bishop:** we won't be able to fill positions.

**President Vancko:** if enrollment is flat and there is no tuition increase, there is no way to balance the budget except by managing personnel costs. We are committed to hiring full time faculty and staff. But we also have to balance the budget.

**Carol Bishop:** we need to be smart about it and deal with it now.

**President Vancko:** we may not be filling positions.

**Jennifer Redinger** teaches 35 students in a new degree, Event Management. This past semester, six students had to go home because they couldn't afford to stay here, even though they loved it. Maybe we can think about more online degrees that students could complete from home.

**Wayne Oliver:** what are savings for students in an online program?

**Jennifer Redinger:** Students save on housing, food and a car by living at home and are also able to work at home and help their parents pay their bills.

**Anthony Cucci** saved \$3,500 this year.

**President Vancko:** our students borrowed \$22 million last year.

**Jennifer Redinger** served as a reference for a student who can't finish her degree; she is looking for \$500 every summer to pay for her internship.

**Joseph Sutaris:** relative to other SUNY schools, Delhi is still more affordable at about \$7,000 for two semesters.

**Barbara Jones:** other campuses are raising room rates; ours is the lowest in SUNY. We have worked hard to keep room and board expenses down. We appreciate the financial need of our students; the Student Life Division just worked on scholarships. We have students who can afford it and many who cannot. Our middle has shrunk.

**Anthony Cucci** asked about EOP funding.

**President Vancko:** NYS increased funding significantly this year, but we didn't qualify.

**Barbara Jones:** we have approximately 600 students who work the maximum amount they can on campus; they may also be working off campus.

**Anthony Cucci:** there are many student employment opportunities on campus; even more than at larger schools.

**President Vancko:** when you look at the percentage of reserves over operating expenses, SUNY Delhi is in a strong position, much better than many other campuses. We have to maintain that control.

**Chair Deming:** one area for the Council to be more active is working with the College Foundation, seeing how to help provide more scholarships for students. Graduates become alums and can give back.

**Anthony Cucci:** the Foundation sponsored a student giving event on campus for first time and it was very successful. It opened the door to showing students what alumni can do.

## VII. Staff Reports

**John Nader:** a growing number of faculty are giving presentations and delivering the results of their research. This is our first year with a Recreation and Sports Management Program and, thanks to Mike Branigan's efforts, we will have articulation agreements with at least seven community colleges. The degree offers student athletes the opportunity to stay at Delhi four years. Dr. Bret Meckel just completed the Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Technology proposal with three to four courses in a variety of areas. Forty percent of our 2015 Veterinary Science Technology graduates continued their education rather than going directly to work.

**Bonnie Martin** is cautiously optimistic about enrollment. Applications started off slow, but have leveled off. Last year we held more closely to our admission standards, and as a result, we accepted fewer students. We started the academic year with about 120 fewer students than the previous year. This year we are seeing more students apply who meet our standards; we have already seen 600 more than last year. We can no longer put undue pressure on students to place a deposit before May 1. The Accepted Student Days have been well attended. Admissions is trying hard to yield students we have accepted. We will providing a bus for students from Manhattan with one faculty member for the next Accepted Student Day on April 25.

**Michele Fisher:** historically, what is the summer yield?

**Bonnie Martin:** we don't have a lot of data because of the previous importance of May 1.

**Wayne Oliver:** are scholarships incentive scholarships?

**Bonnie Martin:** we use a small amount of operating funds for merit scholarships, offered to students with averages in the low 90s. We have also offered 19 presidential scholarships, using high school program funds. Foundation scholarships are usually very specific.

**Anthony Cucci:** how many students enroll from Delaware Academy?

**Bonnie Martin:** 12 students enrolled from Delaware Academy last year as first time full time freshmen, and 80 from Delaware County.

**Jared Yando:** in Construction Management, we have solidified articulation agreements in several programs. There is a necessity for students to get a four year degree – students are taking advantage of opportunities.

**Barbara Jones:** The end of the year is very busy. We are awarding a lot of scholarships to CADI student employees who will be notified soon. We have been working on Bronco Trails, mapping a lot of the campus with different colored trails and will communicate information about the Trails to the community. We are also working with Bassett and Public Health for grant money. Chief Martin Pettit and our University Police just sponsored an impartial police training for all officers, including village and

state police. CADI is sponsoring a food show next week. Café on the Green will be opening soon.

**Anthony Cucci:** Student Activities funds are being well used. Little Dicky is in concert this Friday; Nick Hannon was here. We have an Open House on April 23. Next week is Greek Week, with fraternities and sororities pairing up. There are a lot of banquets coming up, a Cinco de Mayo event, the West Indian coalition fashion show and UDE Fest (last year's most successful event) will host a carnival in G lot. TDK will hold its 15<sup>th</sup> annual softball tournament and commencement is May 21. The Students of the Year will be announced at the Senate Banquet on May 4.

**Jennifer Redinger:** Relay for Life is a community event, but also very big on campus, with over 20 clubs participating this year, doing everything from a car wreck to Olympic games, etc. Relay is scheduled for 10 am to 10 pm on April 30 at Delaware Academy. Jennifer is proud to see the representation of our students this year.

**Jared Yando** is finishing his final year in the College Senate, which will have elections to fill many vacancies. Jared has been trying to clean up the bylaws. He thanked the Council for allowing the Senate Presider and Faculty Senator to attend council meetings.

**Joseph Sutaris** doesn't know what issues other College Councils deal with, but in his years on the Council, all the discussions have been about moving the college forward. If you look at all the accomplishments and academic advancements, we can successfully conclude it's been a great presidency. About 100 years of leadership will be leaving. The College Council, as well as the cabinet, has challenges going forward. Every metric is checked; this has been a highly successful run.

**VIII. Adjournment:** **Chair Deming** asked for a motion to adjourn. **Anthony Cucci** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Carol O'Beirne** seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm.