

## SUNY Delhi College Council Meeting

September 19, 2023

### Minutes

**In attendance:** Jack Schoonmaker, Julia Rios, Jeanne Ellesworth, Wayne Oliver, Ray Pucci

**Guests:** Mary Bonderoff, Lauralea Edwards, Lisa Tessier, Alice Krause, Michael Sullivan, Mark Sullivan, Louis Reyes, John Padovani, Nazely Kurkjian, Joyce Shim, Shawn Brislin

#### **Part 1 – Call to Order/Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 4:32. Julia Rios was welcomed as a new College Council member, as the student representative. Dr. David Brower joined the College Council meeting in his new capacity as the Interim Provost.

#### **Part 2 – Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from May 2<sup>nd</sup>'s meeting were approved.

#### **Part 3 – Chair's Comments**

Brief comments to welcome and go right into the remainder of the agenda.

#### **Part 4 – Acting President's Comments**

Dr. Bonderoff expressed enthusiasm regarding SUNY Delhi's largest incoming class in many years. Many thanks to our admissions office for working diligently to increase the number of students. Looking forward, we are working to maximize our relationship with SUNY Oneonta through a memorandum of understanding, to accept students who were denied yet eligible for enrollment at Delhi.

There have been many positive outcomes from building relationships with industry and other partners. Specifically, Barnard committed \$75,000 in scholarships for students in construction management, \$215,000 was donated to establish a spay and neuter clinic, \$400,000 of mechatronics equipment was donated, and \$110,000 in nursing simulation for critical care was recently approved by SUNY. Hopefully, a grant with DCEC that we partnered on submitting will be finalized shortly.

Dr. Bonderoff and Nazely are heading to Washington, D.C. for a system-wide Advocacy Day. We will be meeting with government representatives and emphasize the critical needs for space in the applied technologies program.

The strategic enrollment management process has greatly informed our multiple proposals to obtain funding from SUNY (transformational and incremental funds). This includes monies to support food insecurity, students with disabilities, and mental health. Relatedly, Dr. Bonderoff and Julia Rios were part of a SUNY-wide mental health campaign .

We are working on fully realizing seamless transfer through our participation on the SUNY Transfer Task Force. We're focused on streamlining transcript reviews and reducing barriers to transferring to our institution. Additionally, Dr. Brower put two faculty names forward to be on the SUNY Health Care Task force.

Fortunately, there was a very quick turnaround to process a teach-out program with Medaille University's veterinary science programs.

In summary, we are continuing to closely examine finances and be good stewards of what we are receiving. Every purchase and hiring request are being reviewed. Decisions are made based on data and benchmarking our peer institutions.

### **Part 5 – Staff Reports Highlights**

Interim Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) Lou Reyes reported on the establishment of a CDO tech sector network to facilitate best practices and optimize resources. He is also collaborating with local organizations and campuses to support one another. We are working on a Campus Climate survey, waiting for the green light from SUNY Administration. A Resident Director provides 5 hours of weekly support to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office.

Wayne Oliver asked about how we intend to incentivize participation in the climate survey. Like the Activities Fair, it would be constructive to have faculty require students participate.

Through the CDO's listening tour, concerns were raised regarding the accessibility of campus. He is combing through the comments to share themes with leadership. Quick changes have been made in response to some concerns.

Lou thanked Ray Pucci for meeting with him offsite to support interfaith relationship building in the local community.

Dr. Brower highlighted several priorities and goals within Academic Affairs including student success and retention, recruitment, facilities and equipment, faculty and staff professional development, and alumni outreach. He has been meeting with peer Chief Academic Officers to strengthen collaboration at Oneonta and Cobleskill.

The Academic Program Assessment Committee (APAC) will be taking a look at all academic programs and identifying how to best move forward with those. Relatedly, curricular programming is underway. We are already planning to work on the spring schedule.

There has been ongoing restructuring in the Resnick Academic Achieve Center, which focuses on student success. The EOP and CPASS programs are in the process of hiring more staff to support underserved students. Additionally, a pilot for students on academic probation is going very successfully. 28 students decided to participate. The end goal is to review this information to eliminate the dismissed students after 1 semester and provide sufficient and structured support to continue their education.

Interim Provost Brower put together a Micro-credential task force, with representation across campus. This is a campus-based project, with credit and non-credit opportunities that meet local and industry needs. This relates directly to SUNY's Transfer Task Force, especially as it pertains to prior learning assessment for shifting demographics.

Shawn Brislin is spearheading the facility master planning process. Space continues to be a challenge. We believe our programs will withstand the looming enrollment cliffs in 2025.

Michael Sullivan shared several alumni events that have occurred since May – from Boston to Yankee Stadium to Saratoga. In November, SUNY Delhi will be hosting its first west coast alumni event. The regional attendance has been strong. There are some declines in participation right in Delhi.

Homecoming weekend is approaching, with the second annual year partnering with Campus Activities to sponsor the festivities.

Will be inducting 4 new members to the Athletic Hall of Fame. There is a date error in the report. An invitation will be shared with the College Council members.

The campus campaign will be starting again soon. We are continuing to run a phone-a-thon. Advancement is also working on major gift solicitations through maximizing the information available in the software system. The donations mentioned by Dr. Bonderoff earlier are direct results of her efforts pitching to alumni and making meaningful relationships. Kudos to Dean Meckel and vet sci faculty for their efforts clearly articulating the vision for the spay/neuter gift, as Farnsworth will be open next Fall.

Shawn Brislin discussed intensive summer projects in Computing Information Services and Facilities. We continue to examine spaces and work with the Construction Fund to address program capacity challenges. Morgan McKee joined capital construction in July. He will help keep projects on task. The SUNY Construction Fund looks at retrofits, energy efficiency, and rehabs more than newly constructed buildings.

John Padovani tasked the Division of Student Life with several goals this year, focusing on student retention and success, revitalizing first year experience programs, DEI programs, and student engagement. There has been an increase in programming and events. Family weekend is coming up. Trips are planned to the Jets, Cooperstown, and more. John has also asked the division to be better stewards of finances.

Up 180 students in residence life. We were 1 bed short of 100% design capacity. Residence Life also established a first-year building “passport” program to encourage engagement, which has a financial incentive component. We are working to expand first year experience as a cohesive effort from orientation to the end of the first academic year.

The orientation (welcome weekend) was a great success. The Mayor’s Task force is being revitalized. The first meeting will be October 24<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, a food truck was purchased by CADI. It was used throughout the summer and other key dates/times. It’s been very popular with students and community residents.

Julia Rios shared that there have been 3 Student Senate meetings. The executive board is fully staffed. There are already three new clubs that are being proposed by first year students.

Dr. Joyce Shim shared that Nursing is seeking pre-licensure lecturers. In addition to the simulation care grant, there was a successful reallocation for the BSN program. Moreover, we launched the first fully online Criminal Justice master's program. Lastly, Dr. Shim is being intentional about the utilization of AI in the classroom.

Mark Sullivan shared perspective on admissions forecasting and outcomes over the last several years, with improvements made for several programs on campus and online.

Lisa Tessier shared University Faculty Senate meeting dates. She will report back to the Council.

Alice Krause reported a strong year in shared governance, with tremendous growth and activity overall. She is working on strengthening processes and measuring our own governance. They have made great strides in communication and collaboration. A huge factor in this progress was a supportive and engaging administration. From the beginning, Dr. Bonderoff has championed increased engagement.

Dr. Lauralea Edwards is working on shifting the campus culture with identifying assessment champions from each area. This should help with accountability and the composition of the assessment committee.

### **Part 6 – Old Business**

Old business was pushed to be discussed at a later time, as there is no action required. To maintain a quorum, we needed to move on to new business.

### **Part 7 – New Business**

#### 1. Code of Conduct/Student Policy

The Code of Conduct was revised to focus on student groups and organizations. It's difficult to identify individuals who violate college policy. The hazing policy needs to change as well, with an emphasis on groups rather than individuals.

Wayne Oliver asked about the potential effectiveness or fairness of a group violation. John shared that the conduct process is largely educational, not punitive in nature. To clarify, we still can sanction individuals.

The Council reviewed the materials and discussed the code. They unanimously voted in favor of making the code changes and changes to the student policy.

#### 2. Strategic Planning

Dr. Edwards shared a presentation with an overview of the forthcoming Strategic Planning process. Our proposed themes align with the SUNY Chancellor's pillars. DEI will have an overarching lens throughout the plan. Alumni and philanthropic efforts will also overlay the core themes. The themes are Student Success, Sustainability, Advancing Personal and Professional Potential, Civic-minded Community, and Innovation. A timeline for the next steps was shared. There was a motion to approve these themes, and seconded. The themes were unanimously approved.

#### 3. Presidential Search

Wayne Oliver provided an update on the presidential search. The search will kick off on October 4th, with the Chancellor's charge. The survey has been closed, but Wayne will look into reopening it to gather more responses. There also weren't enough people participating in the listening sessions. Wayne will also look into identifying another listening session.

#### 4. Middle States follow up meeting

Schedule the College Council meeting with the new liaison at 12 PM with a zoom link on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Part 8 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.