

SUNY Delhi

College Council Minutes

(Please note: these minutes will be presented to the College Council for approval at their next meeting on September 2021)

The College Council of SUNY Delhi met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Present were:

Council: J. Ellsworth, R. Pucci, J. Schoonmaker, W. Oliver, N. Tetteh

Administration: M. Laliberte, T. Aguirre, C. Bishop, K. Bucci, J. Padovani, R. Piurowski, D. Sohns, M. Sullivan

Observers: E. Frisbee, L. Tessier, G. Spielman

College Council meetings are broadcast per a January 11, 2016, Amendment to the Public Officers Law Regarding Broadcasting of Open Meetings.

I. Chair Schoonmaker called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes: **Chair Schoonmaker** asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021.

Wayne Oliver moved to approve the minutes. **Jeanne Ellsworth** seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. President's Report – President Laliberte provided the following updates:

We are preparing for the fall 2021 semester. The spring 2021 semester went well and students are finishing up the semester and finals are next week. We have COVID-19 pool testing each week for faculty, staff, and students. We had 250 students vaccinated last month until we came to a halt on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. There will still be online courses for the fall 2021 semester but the majority of the courses will be in person. The direction for testing next semester is not clear and also social distancing could be 6 feet, 3 feet, or not feet at all. The May 2021 commencement will be virtual we didn't have enough time to plan an outdoor commencement and have all the safety protocols in place for a large event. Everyone is ready for the semester to end on a good note.

College Council Members approved the President's report.

IV. College Leadership Team Reports:

Carol Bishop: There has been two rounds of stimulus money that has been awarded to students in the amount of 2.4 million. The state budget passed and there was a 5% state cut. The budget also dealt with the TAP gap.

Wayne Oliver: Is there flexibility in the tuition categories?

Carol Bishop: The Governor proposed in his budget multiple layers for tuition and it was mostly by degree type. His proposal didn't pass.

Wayne Oliver: Was it based on lower and higher curriculum?

Carol Bishop: There are five tech sectors that have associate degrees and it would have included non-resident associate rates. The proposal would still need to be approved by the Board of Trustees.

President Laliberte: It was more about course fees. It would be fees in each major which would cost more.

Wayne Oliver: The example could be the nursing program. Would it be all colleges or just SUNY Delhi?

President Laliberte: It would involve all and the nursing programs would cost more across the board. In the classroom.

Katie Bucci: The institutional effectiveness has been working hard on the Middle States process. The formed work groups for each standard have been working hard. There are 60 people committed to the process and are doing a great job. We are working on three ILO's for the fall 2021 semester and they include; responsibility, applied knowledge, and diversity. The academic programs and student life are looking forward to programming involving the three ILO's. It will also include inside and outside the classroom. Assessment will focus on the third year period 2021-2024 and it will involve all units on campus. There is a new syllabus template that focuses on learning outcomes and it was approved by Faculty Senate. Katie was sending a link regarding the library and telling your story through COVID-19 and she encouraged College Council Members to participate. The Center for Teaching and Learning will be presenting awards at the virtual Employee Appreciation Day on May 25, 2021.

Wayne Oliver: Do you have a benchmark moving forward with RAD?

Katie Bucci: We will assess it through the Resnick Achievement Center and also Residence Life. We will also map it through teaching and learning outcomes. Tomas Aguirre is the Chair of the Diversity Task Force and they have a great group working hard on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Diversity is also a new SUNY General Education.

Thomas Jordan: We are currently working on a retention initiative. We have been analyzing the numbers provided by JoAnna Brosnan the Director of Institutional Research how we can better handle the retention numbers. I have been visiting various classrooms the past few weeks are our students are doing amazing things. The construction plan for Farnsworth Hall should be finished by the fall of 2021. The students will be running the Bluestone restaurant by August 30, 2021. September 21st through September 27th will be a soft opening. The regular hours of operation will begin October 1, 2021.

Wayne Oliver: Is Bluestone all set now for students and labs?

Thomas Jordan: We cannot begin until August 30, 2021 because there are going to be a few large gold events.

Thomas Jordan: It has been tough for students to be online when COVID-19 came. We have many students who are struggling with online courses. We are hoping that classes will be back on campus fall of 2021.

Nii Tetteh: It has been very encouraging to students because athletics has been competing this spring. The students are going to need support to go back to in person classes since they have been online. I think that students knew how important it was to keep everyone safe.

Wayne Oliver: Is SUNY Delhi have NCAA full membership and out of the probation period?

Tomas Aguirre: Bob Backus Director of Athletics and Cathy Foto Associate Director has done a great job keeping up with the NCAA standards. Our athletic students have the highest GPA's on campus. The coaches work very hard with retention initiatives.

Wayne Oliver: What percentage of students is in athletics?

President Laliberte: It is around 300 students.

Dawn Sohns: We have been concentrating on social media and communicating with parents and students. Karyn Wendrow took a position at SUNY Oneonta and now we have hired Abigail Mott as our Digital & Social Media Manager. The May 2021 commencement will be virtual and Rikka Olson and Kenny Fass are working with Julee Miller and the commencement committee.

Jack Schoonmaker: Jack was requesting that the college council have access to Delhi Today and the Broncobrag email. George Spielman will follow up with CIS.

John Padovani: We had a successful spring 2021 semester. CADI had a rough year due to COVID-19 pandemic. We had many students involved in community service. The office of residence life offered 180 programs virtually. When there are changes to the code of conduct it must be approved by the college council members.

Rob Piurowski: The enrollment post the May 1, 2021 deadline was up 10%. We have extended the deposits for new students to June 1, 2021. There is enrollment struggles in Business, Hospitality, Applied Technologies, and Liberal Arts & Sciences. The programs that are strong are welding, electrical, HVAC, and Nursing.

Wayne Oliver: What is the enrollment trend?

Rob Piurowski: We are trying to focus on students in our surrounding area. However the graduating classes in Delaware County are small in size. We are also competing with community colleges.

Wayne Oliver: I am sure COVID-19 has a lot to do with enrollment numbers.

Rob Piurowski: We are also looking at programs to see if we can incorporate academic minors.

Wayne Oliver: What about the New York City boroughs?

Rob Piurowski: We are now competing with Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester.

President Laliberte: Students today don't know what they want to do and costs come into play after filing their FAFSA. We can appreciate too that online courses are not for everyone.

Michael Sullivan: The College Foundation always provides portraits for students. We will do that gain and give them opportunity to dress in their cap and gown. We are also working on fall 2021 alumni events. We are thinking at this point in time they will be virtual. We had a webinar in the school of nursing with Dean Susan Deane and past students. We have also moved our phonathon to a student virtual program. We have a contract with the new vendor for two years. I had a phone conversation with Ray Pucci regarding the hotel plan for Delhi. The placement of the hotel will be next to MacDonald's where the softball field currently is located. We will be working with the Southern Tier Economic Development. The O'Connor Foundation also provides us with \$30,000 in scholarships during the 2021-2022 semester.

Lisa Tessier: The virtual UFS Plenary was held April 22-24 2021. There were five resolutions; Implementation of 360 Reviews for SUNY Management/Confidential Employees, Holistic Student Space, On Academic Planning for Responding to Future Crisis, Recognition of COVID-19 Pandemic Response and the Need for Continued Support, and TIAA Divestment. Lisa gave the College Council members a brief overview of each resolution.

Elizabeth Frisbee: The campus went through a consultation process in the fall of 2020. The challenge is that the president and the college leadership team lack communication with the campus community. There was talk on campus about a vote of no confidence and to discuss the Campus Effectiveness Taskforce, which was developed as a result of the consultation process in fall 2020.

Katie Bucci: The College Leadership team is willing to work on the recommendations in the report. I am going to Co-Chair with Elizabeth Frisbee a campus effectiveness task force to improve on the recommendations and also to learn more about shared governance. We cannot continue in the past and we should all be willing to move forward.

Nii Tetteh: We have been working on the budget for next year but we will have to wait until September 2021 to approve. It is a work in progress.

Jeanne Ellsworth: I am concerned about the vote of no confidence.

Katie Bucci: Elizabeth Frisbee and I feel that we can move forward and positively work on the recommendations. It will take a team effort but it certainly can be accomplished.

The College Council members approved the Leadership Team reports.

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business: None

VII. Chair's Comments: We will look forward to our next meeting in September 2021.

VIII. Adjournment: **Chair Schoonmaker** asked for a motion to adjourn. **Wayne Oliver** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Jeanne Ellsworth** seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.