Meeting of the Morrisville State College Council  
Whipple Administration Building – Board Room  
Friday, February 25, 2011

Council Members Present:  Chairman Matthew Morgan; Lawrence Baker; Arnold Fisher; Steven Jones; Judith Noyes; Michael Oot; Hugh Riehlman; Stephen Paravati, student representative

Morrisville State College Staff Present:  Jean Boland; Richard Carreno; Jo Ann Godfrey; David Rogers

Chairman Morgan called the Morrisville State College Council meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Chairman Morgan welcomed Dr. David Rogers to the College Council meeting and to his new position as Vice President for Academic Affairs. Chairman Morgan also welcomed Interim President, Richard Carreno to the College Council meeting and acknowledged that the Council was very supportive of both of these appointments.

Presidential Search
 Ms. Armanda (Mandy) King, Director of Human Resources, joined the College Council meeting to provide a quick overview of the upcoming Presidential search process. She will be coordinating all of the details of the search with Secretary of the University, Aimee Bernstein. The first meeting of the Search Committee will be held on March 10 at 12 noon. Chancellor Zimpher will be joining the meeting (via video conference) to charge the Search Committee.

Mr. Carreno commented that the process has been slower than expected, but now that the contract with the search firm has been executed, the process can move forward. Twenty applications have been received thus far.

Minutes:
The minutes of the December 17, 2010 meeting were approved. Motion to approve by Mr. Larry Baker; seconded by Ms. Judy Noyes.

Council Items:
In view of the extremely hazardous weather conditions, Mr. Morgan asked that the Council consider the Resolutions at the beginning of the meeting so that any member that would like to could leave the meeting early.

a) Resolution to approve the appointment of William L. Conole to the School of Business Advisory Board.

     Motion to approve: Mr. Steven Jones; seconded: Mr. Larry Baker.

b) Resolution to approve the appointment of Robert I. Trachtenberg to the School of Business Advisory Council.

     Motion to approve: Mr. Michael Oot; seconded: Mr. Steven Jones.
c) Resolution to approve the appointment of Anthony M. Catsimatides to the Architectural Studies and Design Advisory Board.

    Motion to approve: Ms. Judy Noyes; seconded: Mr. Steven Jones.

d) Resolution in support of a five-year tuition plan for the State University of New York.

    Motion to approve: Mr. Larry Baker; seconded: Mr. Steven Jones.

Chairman Morgan asked that the final decision on the Resolutions be held open for Mr. Riehlman and Mr. Paravati’s arrival so they could both have a chance to be included in the final vote. Both Mr. Riehlman and Mr. Paravati voiced their votes in favor of the resolutions at the conclusion of the meeting.

President’s Report:
Mr. Carreno acknowledged that Dr. Rogers emerged as the successful candidate after two national searches. He commented that he was very happy that Dr. David Rogers was selected as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Rogers has been employed as the Dean for the School of Business since 1999. He combines a strong academic background with campus knowledge that will be extremely beneficial during this time of transition.

Nothing more is known about the budget. The Governor did not put a tuition increase in the Executive Budget. The Executive Budget does recommend a ten percent decrease for SUNY. Mr. Morgan commented that all agencies are included in the ten percent cut recommendation. Mr. Carreno indicated that this could be an additional $1.0M cut for Morrisville which would mean there would have to be staff reductions. SUNY is seeking procurement relief, the ability to enter into public/private partnerships, and a tuition plan. SASU is supporting a rational tuition that would include smaller, more predictable increases that would allow students and their families to plan ahead. Mr. Carreno referred to the sample letter included with the meeting materials. He encouraged the members of the College Council to use the sample letter as a starting point in developing a letter to send to their local legislators. Sometimes informal contact is also very effective if any member of the Council has that connection with someone in State government.

Commencement is Saturday, May 14. Mr. Carreno asked that members of the College Council let him know if they are planning on attending the ceremony. If the weather is good, the ceremony will take place at the Stadium. If the weather is poor, the ceremony will take place in the Recreation Building. May 14 will mark Morrisville’s 100th commencement. Mr. Carreno announced that Council Member, Larry Baker, who has been part of the history of the College for 50 of the 100 years as a faculty member, Dean, Vice President and Acting President as well as a significant amount of volunteer support activities, has agreed to be this year’s commencement speaker.

The dedication of the Design Center will take place on Friday, March 4. Dr. Sheila Johnson will be here as well as Chancellor Zimpher. At 1 pm, both Chancellor Zimpher and Dr. Johnson, along with Amilya Antonetti, will be participating in a leadership panel in the Student Activities Building Theatre. The Farewell Reception for Ray Cross will be at 3 pm in the Hospitality Suite at the Stadium.

The Facilities Master Plan process was started about a year ago and is now nearly finished. This process involves the entire campus. Consultants meet with various constituent groups on campus and in the community. Mr. Carreno shared some drawings that had been prepared by the consultants. The needs that have been identified are: Academic Quad, Student Union, Seneca Dining Center and a Science Building. Mr. Carreno explained that Shannon Hall would be demolished and a Student Union and dining would be built on that site. Seneca Dining Hall would then be demolished and a Science Building would be constructed which would anchor the quad. These buildings would be connected with
an atrium. A galleria would be constructed by Crawford Hall/Library/Whipple Administration Building so it will be much easier for handicapped students to get to the lower level of the campus. A new campus road would be constructed behind STUAC to connect directly to South Street. The consultant will be presenting recommendations to the campus and to the community before the end of the spring semester. This construction would be handled in two phases 2013 and 2023. Mr. Carreno stressed that all of this construction is dependent upon future Capital Program funding.

Mr. Jones asked whether or not the Tennis Courts would be rebuilt at another location on campus. Mr. Carreno responded that a new site at the Recreation Building area is being considered. Mr. Jones then asked about the status of a new pool. Mr. Carreno responded that the area by the Recreation Building is the best site for a new pool. Vice President Boland indicated that an Event Center with seating capacity of 300 is also being considered. She explained that it is actually cheaper to demolish a building and rebuild instead of renovating. Mr. Riehlman asked about a new Diesel Technology facility. Mr. Carreno responded that the plan for that facility is just south of the campus on South Street. Mr. Jones reminded Mr. Carreno and Vice President Boland that there had been previous discussions about the dangerous student crossing on South Street. He asked if there was a plan for a covered walkway or something else in the master plan. Mr. Carreno responded that there have been some improvements made already in that area with increased lighting, decreased speed limit and signage. Mr. Morgan suggested that an underground tunnel might work better than an over-the-road walkway. Vice President Boland responded that there had been some discussion about this need and she would follow up on this again.

Mr. Baker asked whether or not there would be a search initiated for a new Dean for the School of Business. Mr. Carreno responded that there would not be a search initiated at this time since the new President should be involved in selecting the new Dean. Dr. Christopher Nyberg is currently serving at the Interim Dean of the School of Business in addition to his position as the Dean of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

**Cabinet Reports:**

**Vice President for Academic Affairs:**
Dr. Rogers indicated that new academic program submissions are continuing and faculty continue to develop new courses to keep students updated. The Bachelor of Architecture and the Applied Psychology Bachelor of Science degree programs have been reviewed by SUNY and are currently being reviewed at The State Education Department. Dr. Rogers commented that he anticipated that approval of both of these programs will be received in the coming months. The Renewable Energy Bachelor of Technology degree proposal is being reviewed on campus. This proposal should be ready to send to SUNY later on this semester.

Every ten years the College prepares a self-study document that is submitted to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education for review prior to a reaccreditation visit. The self-study addresses the seven standards of excellence that are required by the Middle States Association. Preparation of the self-study involves all faculty and staff on the campus. Dr. Rogers indicated that everything is on track for a fall 2011 reaccreditation visit. Colleges that do not receive full accreditation lose their Title IV funding. Dr. Rogers indicated that additional information will be forthcoming once the members of the Team have been identified and a date set. Mr. Morgan commented that Dr. Elizabeth Sibolski was very impressed with the Middle States design document materials that were prepared last year. Dr. Rogers agreed and indicated that Dr. Sibolski not only serves as the Middle States Liaison, she is also the President of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Dr. Rogers indicated that Mr. VerDow was currently on a recruiting visit in Pennsylvania; however, he did prepare an enrollment update for the Council. Looking at the comparison between 2010 and 2011, SUNY applications are down, but 2011 is the first year Morrisville has used the Common Application so
the total applications that have been received for 2011 is higher. Deposits are also lower right now as compared to previous years. Students generally receive college acceptances by April 1 and deposits are due May 1. Mr. VerDow anticipates that the number of deposits should increase significantly by then. Dr. Rogers indicated that this year the target FTE number is 2976. We expect to meet that number even though the freshman headcount was lower since more students stayed from the second to the third and the third to the fourth years. Retention of students in our four-year programs and increased recruitment of students from local community colleges is critical. Dr. Rogers indicated that faculty will be reaching out to faculty at local community colleges to make sure they realize that Morrisville has programs that are a good fit for their students.

Recently Morrisville State College was recognized internationally for its outstanding dairy operations and efficiency levels and was highlighted as a leader in the industry during the inaugural Global Dairy Feed Efficiency & Food Sustainability Summit in Washington D.C. Dr. Rogers played a video that was produced about the dairy farm operations for the members of the College Council. Mr. Fisher commented that the College used to produce all of their own crops, but now these crops are purchased which allows the College to get quality crops with less of an investment.

**Vice President for Administrative Services and Information Technology**

Vice President Boland updated the College Council on the various Capital Projects currently being completed.

- The Administrative Quad will be completed this spring as soon as the weather breaks.
- The bid opening for the gym renovation and the Fitness Center is this month. Mr. Carreno commented that he anticipates more community use of the Fitness Center once the new area is completed. The gym renovation will include new bleachers, a new floor and will look like a college gym instead of a high school gymnasium. Mr. Paravati commented that a fitness center is critical when prospective students are looking at different colleges.
- Phase I of the Charlton Hall Rehab has begun. The architects have begun the concept design phase and are working through three alternative interior building layouts.
- The bid date for Bailey Hall renovations is in April. Construction should start in June. The projected completion date for “old” Bailey is in time for the start of the Fall 2012 semester and the completion date for the remainder of the project (infrastructure and Bailey Annex) is December 2012.
- The basement of Hamilton Hall is being renovated so that all of the Journalism programs will be located in the same area. Decontamination of the Rifle Range will go out to bid in April and it is anticipated that the work will occur during this summer. Bids for the basement area renovation should start in late May/early June with construction starting in the fall. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in time for the start of the Fall 2012 semester.
- The Mohawk Hall design is progressing. Abatement will begin this summer and the renovations should be completed for occupancy in the fall of 2012.
- Summer projects have been identified: 750 new windows in the Pond Quad, repair parapet on West Hall, Helyar and Stewart Hall lobby and student lounge renovations, renovations on the 2nd floor of the Library, upgrades to change the appearance of some buildings to make a better environment for students, and adding some new lobby furniture for student “hang” space. Vice President Boland noted that an effort is being made to create more space for students to eat, study and learn all over campus.
- The Admissions Office has been renovated and is now a much more welcoming space.

There is an Emergency Tactical Exercise on March 16 that is being coordinated by Amy Roberts and Rick D’Alessandro. The exercise will involve the NYS Police, Madison County Sherriff’s Department and all area emergency personnel as well as the Morrisville State College University Police. The incident will start as an “active shooter” on campus and will evolve to an “active shooter with a hostage” scenario. Vice President Boland emphasized that all officers will be “sanitized” and live weapons will
be removed. The Office of Homeland Security will provide simmuntion weapons and ammunition. Mr. Jones asked whether or not the Fire Department and SOMAC would also be included. Vice President Boland responded that the Fire Department would be included but that she wasn’t sure whether SOMAC was included or not.

The Morrisville Auxiliary Corporation has taken over the bus service on campus. The Morrisville Area Xpress (MAX) has three handicap accessible buses. Additional services will be available this fall with service to Wal-Mart, Oneida movie theatre, and the Hamilton Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Farm Store Plaza and will also be available to members of the community. Chairman Morgan asked how MAX is being funded and how transporting members of the community would be handled. Vice President Boland responded that right now MAX is funded through State funds but a student fee is being considered starting this fall. As far as how transporting members of the community will be handled, Vice President Boland responded that details have yet to be worked out.

**Student Government Report**
A new Director of Public Relations, Wendy Vair, has been appointed. Mr. Paravati indicated that the previous Director was becoming overwhelmed and he recommended that he resign and focus more on academics.

The Pagan Alliance was officially recognized by SGO as a Club recently. The Information Technology Club will be voted on at the next meeting.

A policy change to the SGO Constitution to stimulate growth is being made. A money “incentive” will be offered for clubs to hold more events on campus. The incentive will be open to everyone.

On March 8 hip-hop artist, J. Cole, will be performing on campus. This concert is generating a lot of interest.

Mr. Paravati indicated that he has received some really good comments in response to the SGO Middle States student response groups that were developed.

Mr. Paravati concluded his presentation by commenting that he is pleased with the increased student involvement on campus.

**Faculty Speaker Report**
Due to the extreme weather conditions, Faculty Speaker Roberta Sloan was unable to attend the College Council meeting.

**Adjournment**
Motion to adjourn: Mr. Arnold Fisher; seconded by: Ms. Judy Noyes. Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann Godfrey
Temporary Secretary to the College Council