



Meeting of the Morrisville State College Council
5th Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building
December 1, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Chairman Arnold Fisher; Matthew Morgan; James Dunne; Susan Dietrich; Hugh Riehlman Charles Root; O. Perry Tooker; and Rashida Conteh, student representative.

SUNY Morrisville Staff Present: John Angerosa; Richard Carreno; Ray Cross; Jessica DeCerce; Anne Englot, Faculty Congress Speaker; Joyce Malloy; and James VanRiper.

Chairman Arnold Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and thanked Vice Chairman Matt Morgan for covering the last meeting for him. The Chairman requested a moment of silence in memory of Don Huller who recently passed away, and requested a motion be made authorizing the President to draw a resolution to honor Don's work with the College Council. Motion by Perry Tooker; seconded by Jim Dunne.

Minutes:

The minutes from the September 29, 2006 meeting were approved. Motion by Hugh Riehlman; seconded by Matt Morgan.

Faculty Speaker Report:

Anne Englot reported on the Faculty Senate Plenary Meeting and she distributed her report to Faculty Congress. Chancellor Ryan addressed the group and supported two items: internationalization of the curriculum at all SUNY Centers and development initiatives for the faculty as well. The government leaders on the separate campuses got together and are in the process of tabulating a survey to see what's happening regarding government on the various campuses. Anne will let us know how this turns out.

The President of the Faculty Senate received a seat on the Board of Trustees; there are no voting rights but the president will be allowed to participate in the discussion. The next step will be to have the President of the Community Colleges sit on that board as well. Matt Morgan asked Anne to also support ACT having a seat. Matt indicated that ACT has no problem with the Assembly or Senate; they're just following the blueprint.

The Ad Hoc Committee created to discuss the M-T-W, Tu-Th schedules met on the 20th of November. There will be more to report after the committee has completed some of their tasks. A number of programs have a large section of labs and that is something that needs to be determined. SGO should look at that as well.

Honoring Distinguished Faculty – there is a meeting of that committee Monday.

Draft calendars for 07-08 and 08-09 school years. The first semester of both of these calendars has been approved by Faculty Congress since it's the same on all drafts. The only difference is during the spring semester and will be decided when the poll results are tabulated. This should be done by the end of the semester.

The ABC list of BS degrees has gone to committee. They haven't yet met but they will determine which social science and math requirements are mandated by the degree. Students will be allowed to participate in structured semester again and the faculty are waiting to hear the details.

A change has been made in the judicial board process and the members of the board have some concerns. Jim VanRiper and Geoff Isabelle will meet to have a discussion on this so that their concerns will be responded to. Dr. Cross stated that the faculty are concerned (in this instance) about all students receiving due process; however, if we are going to establish a high tolerance for poor behavior, we need to act quickly. If something happens on campus that is inappropriate and if there are witnesses, that matter is going to be addressed quickly. We won't tolerate inappropriate behavior.

President's Report:

Before beginning his report, Dr. Cross held up a plaque of the Madison County bicentennial poster. Our _____ designed it and our students participated in the design. We are beginning a new marketing campaign and Dr. Cross played some of our new commercial spot "mymorrisville.edu." Our goal is to evoke emotion that will cause students to look for more information on the web. Our website also has downloads, instant messaging, student stories and things of interest to students. Prospective students can IM admission counselors; e-mail is not the preferred form of communication anymore. We also have VIP pages for prospective students so they can tailor the information that comes to them.

Student Government Report:

Dr. Cross told the Council about health problems that SGO President Garran Murphy is experiencing. Rashida Conteh is here today on behalf of SGO and maybe we can get her to tell us about herself. Rashida indicated that she is originally from Africa. She came to the U.S. in 1999 and is interested in our Nursing program. She is currently enrolled in Individual Studies and will transfer into Nursing in a year and a half.

She was the SGO vice president and is currently handling both positions. Selena Nixon will become the new vice president.

SGO is working on the calendar for next semester, as well as student issues regarding operation account access and increased dining hall hours. New constitutions have been submitted for review and SGO is also trying to resurrect some clubs that have become inactive.

President's Report (continued):

Dr. Cross also introduced Gabe Durand. Dr. Cross invited Gabe to come to the meeting and he is an Auto Tech B.A. degree student. Gabe did his internship last summer working at GM where he shadowed technicians. Dr. Cross wanted him to come to the Council meeting to see what it is we do.

Dr. Cross told the Council about his recent trip to Las Vegas where he participated in the Chronicle of Technology conference along with vice presidents from Duke and Temple. There was an audience of about 300 presidents and the topic was: "Technology – a gimmick or a tool?" There was a great deal of interest and it was an honor to be involved as a speaker.

New Academic Programs:

Jim VanRiper reported on new programs. Our BS degree for Health Promotion and Human Performance is still on the governor's desk waiting for his signature. Dr. Cross has talked to Libby about it a few times – SED was supposed to put in front of him a document that authorizes master plan amendment. We expect the BBA in Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management in December and the BS in Nursing has been approved by SUNY – we should have that in February. We plan to develop degrees in the following three disciplinary related areas – the first, Science, Technology and Sociology will open the door that will prevent us from having to go through Master Plan Amendment for Journalism and Criminal Justice. An AAS in Criminal Justice in Norwich is almost done – the bachelor's degree is right behind it.

Funding will be provided to us for the renovation of the barn (Applied Design Center) programs.

Methane Digester. The generator is not operating yet. Every pipe connection leaked below ground so we had to

replace all of those. We are generating some pressure – an auto-igniter will burn off excess gas.

Biodiesel Project. We have been told that we will receive \$4M to crush soybeans somewhere in Cortland County.

We were hoping for an announcement for the week of Thanksgiving, but that didn't happen. The old Homer Oil site is a problem because it's located in downtown Homer. The amount of money it will cost us to control the odors would be as much as building a new facility. We are looking at a couple pieces of property along the railroad.

We are also looking at putting a biodiesel plant in Binghamton. Three railroads come together there and we're trying to figure out how to put crude oil or processed biodiesel in railroad cars so we could use railroad tanks as storage. What you would do is solidify the biodiesel, heat it while traveling and drain it when it gets to its destination.

Kaufman Foundation Grant. This is a grant to partner with other colleges on the South Side Innovation Center. Dr. Cross will be traveling to Kansas City with Nancy Cantor and a number of other individuals to give a presentation to the Kaufman people.

Oneida ARC. We are looking at a proposal to partner with the ARC to package fruits and/or vegetables in a table-ready manner. There is no place in New York where you can buy New York potatoes diced and ready to use. There's a lot of interest in doing this, but we cannot do it unless we can get the money to do it. Dr. Cross thinks he can control the labor costs if we concentrate on institutional markets. In the State of New York, apple juice bought in the store is from China, not New York!

Strategic and Operational Plans. Dr. Cross distributed the Morrisville College strategic plan and operational plan. These two documents go together and culminate in seven goals in the back. This is the rationale of why we are moving in the direction we are – the operational plan is how we will get there. These two documents show us what we are doing and is a constant monitor for us. Anything that is in red (started last spring) has been completed. So, this shows the timeframe for our projects, who is responsible, etc. We want you to know what our goals are and how we are progressing toward them.

Dr. Cross would like to hold an upcoming College Council meeting in Norwich so everyone can see the new building.

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

New programs: internal marketing campaign – we have eight programs that have been approved or will be approved. They were presented at a recent all-college faculty meeting and were very well received. A couple of faculty members – Kim Mills in particular – who have been very active in integrating technology in the classroom, sought funding from the New York Farm Viability Institute. They had already received a \$50,000 grant and NYFVI was happy enough with their results to give them a follow-up grant of \$170,000.

Nelson Farms received a grant for \$40,000. Cornell used to get all that kind of money, but now Morrisville is getting some of it. Matt Morgan pointed out that “NYFVI is only two years old and this is only the second round of grants. That is a huge grant and shows they have a great deal of faith in Morrisville College.”

Vice President for Administration

Just briefly, the BOT has submitted a 2007-08 budget request and hopefully, it'll be included in the Governor's budget in January. It includes a 12% increase which is a very good situation for us, but we don't know if it will actually happen. On the capital side, we did pretty well – we just got a list this morning. They are requesting a little over \$1B in capital money. That will mean \$5M for us in critical maintenance such as roadways and MTW lines. We have also been promised \$4M to redesign Galbreath and \$7M from economic development monies for our Equine Rehabilitation Center. John also talked about the projects that are currently being completed: the Rec Center, STUAC and Seneca Dining Hall.

Morrisville Commons has been so successful in terms of being a desirable residence hall that we are looking at building another residence hall on the land immediately south of that building. We have enough room to build another residence hall if the numbers work and we would begin that project in early spring. The benefits are worth it. We're talking about running a bus loop to those dorms every hour and another parking lot would also be added.

Dr. Cross commented that two nights this past week he met with students in the residence halls. They would like it if we could do minimal kinds of things to the dorms like having more single rooms and improved bathrooms – it was almost unanimous. By having more dorms, we can update our older dorms to do these types of things.

Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Rich Carreno reported that all our labor agreements expire this year. Normally, negotiations would begin now, but because we will have a new Governor, that process will be delayed. Most of the agreements expire April 1st but UUP expires July 1.

Next year is our centennial year and we have a committee that is working on our celebration. Jim Hastie is chairing the committee; we have a new logo; and activities will kick off next year with the “green tie ball” – you will be hearing more about that. The committee will add a centennial flavor to all of our regular events.

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, May 19th for Commencement. We do not have a speaker at this point but that usually comes together early in the spring.

Later this month, we will be closing down the campus between Christmas and New Years in order to save some money on utilities. One of the dorms will be open for remaining students and athletes, so we can close down the other buildings until the end of the winter break.

Other Business:

Matt Morgan said that we are honored that our president was chosen to co-chair the State Task Force on Agriculture for Governor-elect Spitzer. It's a tribute to the great work that Morrisville College has done. Dr. Cross commented that we have a bi-partisan Governor who doesn't ask how you're registered; he just asks that you do the job. Dr. Cross said that he will get to spend an hour with Elliott on December 19th when the committee presents their report to him. Matt said that in some of our counties, farming is still the #1 industry and we can't lose track of that.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m. Motion by Charlie Root, seconded by Perry Tooker.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Root
Secretary to the College Council