

Meeting of the Morrisville State College Council
5th Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building
December 10, 2004 – 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Chairman Arnold Fisher; James Dunne; Don Huller; Matt Morgan; Charlie Root; O. Perry Tooker and Michael Watson, Student Representative.

Excused: Thomas Morrone; Hugh Riehlman

SUNY Morrisville Staff Present: John Angerosa; Richard Carreno; Ray Cross; Jessica DeCerco; Joyce Malloy; Diane Tice, Faculty Congress Speaker; and James VanRiper.

Chairman Arnold Fisher indicated that the College Council would go into Executive Session for a brief period of time.

Minutes:

Chairman Arnold Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

The minutes from the September 24, 2004 meeting were approved. Motion by Perry Tooker, seconded by Matt Morgan.

President=s Report:

Enrollment. Applications are up at Morrisville and actually are up at all SUNY campuses. They are 50-60% higher than they were at this time last year, which is significant. We're not sure if the process has been streamlined to prevent a bottleneck, or if tuition increases at private colleges is a factor, or if our 4-year programs have helped; but we have had close to 1,000 applicants, we have accepted 330 students and their deposits are in.

There was a discussion about enrollment at the Norwich campus and Dr. Cross indicated that we should see an increase in students somewhere in the area of 200-250 students. Charlie Root said that Chenango County would like to see a decrease in the enrollment going to Broome County, since we have to pay for each of those students who go out of Chenango County .

Budget. John Angerosa reported that there has been talk about SUNY budget cuts and one of the things they're talking about is tuition. Everyone agrees there is going to be a wide-scale reduction to the New York State budget. Morrisville's budget is \$20M of which \$7M is in state aid. If they reduce that and we can't make it up, we have a big problem. We will not be funded for raises for next year, which is a significant amount for us -- \$700,000.

Part of the problem is that the private colleges are also lobbying for additional funding. If we give them the aid they're requesting, they will get more than the public colleges. The other part that is being held up is the matching program for the capital plan – capital construction is outside of these funds as is the bonding money – we still have those.

It's important that the state develop a rational tuition policy. People are more opposed to getting a large increase every seven years than they are to a gradual yearly increase. Our tuition is the lowest in the northeast. Although Massachusetts has a lower rate, their fees are higher, making their overall cost more than ours.

Residence Hall: We are looking into the feasibility of building a 200 bed Foundation-funded residence hall. Once that is completed, we can remodel our existing halls to accommodate student needs better. Students are asking for a commons-type unit that contains four bedrooms and dressing areas, shared living quarters and a kitchen. We could then offer different kinds of meal plans as well. An RFP has gone out to builders who have had this type of experience and we expect a contractor will be selected by the end of February. We have asked the builders to submit a four-bedroom and a six-bedroom plan. In this type of housing, the drawings are already done and we won't have to

hire an architect.

Nelson Farms. Dr. Cross showed slides of the progress inside and outside on Nelson Farms. In addition to the processing areas, it will eventually have a retail store and a tasting café as well. It's coming along nicely. Storage space, however, is at a premium.

Methane Digester. We have been getting a little bit of money here and there for the digester; however, this past week we were notified by Congressman McHugh's office that we will receive a \$200,000 grant and we can begin to build the digester next summer.

Wind/Diesel Concept. We are exploring the feasibility of erecting several windmills on college property or acquiring property that would belong to the college. The back-up system would be diesel powered. We estimate that we could save half of our utility costs if we disconnect ourselves from the grid and produce all of our own power. We are going to seek funding from NYSERDA for the feasibility study.

Landscaping Master Plan: Dr. Cross attended presentations by Aida Khalil's class regarding their proposal for the landscaping master plan. Some of the presentations were excellent and this was a good challenge for our students. They've got some interesting ideas.

Belgian Hitch. One of the things we have been trying to do since reinstating the Belgian Hitch is to get some marketing for the Hitch. Sheila Johnson asked us to participate in a parade in Middleburg, Virginia – she was the sponsor. We were cited on t.v. and on the news, plus we got some write-ups in magazines and newspapers as well. Scott Seymour and three of his students made the trip. Good PR for Morrisville!

Christmas Open House. Dr. Cross reminded the College Council members that they were invited to attend the open house at his residence on Saturday, December 11, 2004.

Faculty Speaker Report:

Diane Tice reported that Faculty Congress has been working on academic policies including Policy 6105: Requirements for Graduation. They have recommended some wording changes and that has been sent on to Dr. Cross and Mr. VanRiper for review by Academic Council. As we move toward more four-year programs, these policies have to be looked at both from a two-year and four-year standpoint. Diane indicated that a simple template has been designed for the college catalogue regarding graduation requirements. The academic calendar has been approved for 2005-06 and 2006-07. Those were also sent on for approval.

Faculty Congress has spent a considerable amount of time on the Faculty Governance response that was requested of them for guidelines for campus based strength assessment. The current goal is to have tools in place to assess critical thinking and information management. Diane explained that originally, the campuses (under duress) agreed to participate with GEAR and the information would not be used to compare campuses. They would be reported by sector. However, a reporter who has been working with Candace deRussey felt that it should be required that all campus data be presented as individual campuses. We are waiting to see what happens next.

Next semester, Faculty Congress will review policies on withdrawing, dismissal and dropping courses; withdrawing from school; and the eligibility for the Dean's list after withdrawal from a course. An ad hoc committee has been formed to address a variety of items pertaining to syllabus requirements.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Today is the end of the academic teaching schedule and we will be starting finals. In terms of program development, the Teacher Education template has left SUNY offices and gone to State Ed. We anticipate approval within a month of so. We hope to get students signed up for that for the spring semester.

We strengthened articulation agreements with Brockport, Plattsburgh and ESF. The Certificate for Surgical Technology is going to SUNY for approval. The Clinical Exercise bachelor's degree requires external review and may require master plan amendment. Any time we propose a new degree, it goes to SUNY for review. Master plan

amendments are required to go to all institutions, private and public and we are required to show need. We have a long list of programs that we are going to propose over the next five years.

A faculty development committee has been formed and we are receiving applications for faculty development spending. We are happy to have this fund back in place to support the faculty.

We are also moving forward on our strategic planning for the next five year period. One of our goals is to build better relations with the community colleges. We are going into a project with SUNY Oswego and the Institute for Geospatial Technology; we've prepared a one-page grant request that will go to the Research Foundation to request funding. We think we have a good chance to get this since it's a cooperative venture with industry and colleges dealing with energy independence, terrorism issues and geospatial issues. Matt Morgan suggested that the President of Tompkins County Community College be contacted in this regard as well.

Regarding the BS in Nursing, we have been invited to go to SUNY and meet with State Ed – we're waiting to hear back from them. We are hoping to have this program on line for next year. Clinical Exercise Science has to have an external review – the names have been submitted for that.

Vice President for Administration

We have already covered the budget and our next big project will be the construction of a 200-bed residence hall. We plan to start construction right after graduation in May, and the building is expected to be completed by January of next year.

The Theater at the Student Activities Building will also be renovated. We plan to make the aisle larger, install better seating, expand the lighting, and improve the acoustics so the Theater can be used as a multi-purpose facility. At the same time the Theater is being improved, we will also work on the Plaza View eating area as well.

The Rec Building will be renovated to house offices for the Athletic Department and everything is in place to do brick replacement on Cayuga and Oneida Halls. We will also continue the signage project – we have included a directory sign, the alumni sign on Route 20 and we will continue to work on building signage in the spring. The Equine Center signage should be completed in the spring as well.

The traffic pattern on Chenango Road is being changed to accommodate one-way traffic to Route 20 only, eliminating the possibility of an accident at the dip in the road by the back of Hamilton Hall.

The Cazenovia Lake Association has approached us to see if we could produce walleye fish for them. A topographical study has been returned to Stearns and Wheeler for their review. If it is reasonable, they will fund the project and we'll begin that in the spring.

Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Rich Carreno reported that a search will begin for a new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. There will be an ad in Sunday's Syracuse paper as well as in a number of national publications. That process will get underway in the spring semester and we hope to have the candidates visit campus in March. Rich will keep everyone posted on the progress.

The campus will again be shut down between Christmas and New Year's. Anyone who wants to work will be relocated so that we can close the majority of buildings, thereby reducing heat and electricity costs. John Angerosa indicated that this follows a pattern that many schools have used for years.

There have been an eleven retirements this fall. Some positions have been filled on a temporary basis and we will be recruiting for other positions in the spring semester.

We have been working on the Strategic Plan for the next five years. One of the areas we plan to concentrate on is building a stronger relationship with the Village. We recently met with some community leaders to look at ways the college and the village can work together. Some ideas are to provide a resource directory, reinstitute the spring clean-

up, put signs on Route 20, and distribute a village newsletter to the campus community to make them aware of what's happening in the village. They would also like the Horticulture Department to be more involved in the beautification of the village.

Student Government Report

Michael Watson noted that the Student Government Organization has had a challenging, exciting and dynamic year! He attended a conference in the Catskills – it was a good experience. Items covered were leadership and team-building skills. They also attended a national leadership conference in Florida . The full Executive Board became national student leaders through the ELITE Series. There were about 100 students who participated nation-wide and five of them were from Morrisville. Mike indicated that he's attended a number of workshops and he plans to bring these things back to the Assembly next semester to provide this information to them as well.

SGO voted in a new group, BASIC (Brothers and Sisters in Christ). They are also working with Chief D' Alessandro, the Dean of Students and UP officers to create a "host" system for campus dances.

WCVM made a proposal to the assembly for a new system that will allow a better way to promote clubs rather than using PowerPoint. That new system will come in and replace Channel 4. Another group that brought something good to campus was ASUBA – they brought Step Africa to campus. It was a great activity and we'd like to see more of these types of things on campus. Recycled Percussion, a band that uses garbage cans and ladders to make music, was also on campus recently.

Mike reported that SGO is working with Open Rec to see what they would have to do to keep the pool open. It was suggested that they try to work with the community to cover expenses such as heating and supervision. Mike also said that SGO is in support of the new signage on campus.

Students would love to see a Starbucks Café on campus where they could come in and have conversations with students, faculty and staff. SGO would also like to establish a couple of "Pizza with the President" nights so students could gather and get questions answered.

SGO has talked about having a "GPA Jump-Off" – the purpose of this would be to award a scholarship to a student who has raised his/her GPA higher than any other student during the course of one semester to the next. The scholarship award would be for \$200 or \$300. Mike indicated that he is proud of the executive board and feels they've done a good job – that they have the support of faculty and staff.

Arnold Fisher complimented Mike Watson on doing such a good job with SGO. He said they've "brought the organization up to a higher level" and they "should be proud of themselves."

Council Business

a. Resolution to approve the wording of Civility Statement. Matt Morgan questioned what we plan to do with the statement – will it be a program? Or is the intent simply to promote civility on campus? Dr. Cross indicated that his goal was to stimulate conversation regarding civility and it's probable that faculty will include this statement as a part of their course syllabus just as they do with the attendance policy. Motion by Matt Morgan; seconded by Don Huller.

b. Resolution to approve the constitution of the Sports Nutrition Fitness Management Club. Motion by Charlie Root; seconded by Perry Tooker.

Other Business

Arnold Fisher informed the Council that a member of the Morrisville College Foundation Board of Directors, Bob Potter, passed away. Bob was a great guy, very active, was a member of the Morrisville State College class of 1950 and he contributed a great deal to the Foundation Board.

Matt Morgan questioned whether Jim VanRiper can be a candidate for the Provost/Vice Presidential position while serving as the interim. Dr. Cross indicated that he would like to have Jim continue in that capacity; however, the position requires a doctorate degree. We don't know how the search process will go, but we are interested in getting someone into the position that is a good fit for Morrisville. Jim VanRiper will act as the Interim Provost until that person is found.

Matt Morgan reported that the annual meeting of the ACT was held at the Gideon Putnam in Albany . He said it was a great effort, the biggest turn-out in years. He wanted to let the Council know that Jean Boland agreed to help ACT with their website and it will be housed here at Morrisville rather than at SUNY Central. More good PR for Morrisville!

Strategic Planning

Dr. Cross distributed the first draft of our Strategic Goals. Over the next five years, these are the seven areas we want to talk about. They are: 1) programs in strategic niches; 2) maximizing institutional effectiveness; 3) environment of the college; 4) integration of technology; 5) expand academic and student support systems; 6) improve business and community relationships; and 7) enhance and expand institutional resource development.

Dr. Cross talked about the new baccalaureate and associate programs that we are in the process of bringing on line at the main campus and also at the Norwich campus.

Dr. Cross encouraged the Council members to take this material home with them and look it over. If you think of something we should be doing and it isn't included here, please let him know.

Don Huller made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by James Dunne. The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles Root
Secretary to the College Council

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