



Meeting of the Morrisville State College Council
5th Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building
December 10, 2005 – 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Chairman Arnold Fisher; Don Huller; Matthew Morgan; Hugh Riehlman; Charles Root; and O. Perry Tooker.

Excused: Susan Dietrich and James Dunne

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

Minutes:

Chairman Arnold Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The minutes from the October 7, 2005 meeting were approved. Motion by Perry Tooker; seconded by Don Huller.

President's Report:

Dr. Cross told everyone there was a card in their folder promoting Nelson Farms. Items can now be purchased on-line and they have some nice gifts available. Also, the lunch items today will be served from the Copper Turret menu. Gift cards are also available for purchase from the restaurant and he distributed a gift card to each College Council member for their use. The restaurant is coming along nicely and it should be open to the public around February 1st, 2006.

Dr. Cross distributed Morrisville lapel pins with the new college logo to the Council members as well. He also told the Council there was a poinsettia plant for each of them and please be sure to take one on the way out today.

Enrollment Projections: Our goal for enrollment this year was 2956 annual average FTE. We started the year with 3015, so in order to get an annualized average; we need to have 2900 students in the spring. The principal reasons for our enrollment being down in the fall: 1) we have raised our standards somewhat; 2) the Norwich enrollment did not go up; and 3) we did not get the Bachelor level programs on line for this past fall. We now have approval to offer these courses in the fall and we hope there will be ten new programs.

Also, we want to keep as many of the possible dismissal students as we can since we feel that part of moving to a four-year institution is to give a student more than one semester to achieve their goals. We are working on the dismissal process on an individual basis rather than a blanket overall GPA. Matt Morgan indicated that we should get some transfer students into the upper level as well. Of the possible 270 students who withdraw during the year, at least 50% of them drop out because of financial aid. Charlie Root asked if the standard has been raised – are the students who are dropping out the least prepared? Jim VanRiper indicated that those are the students we want to give a second chance to. We will provide them with that extra help. What was talked about in Faculty Congress is a structured semester dictating what courses the students will take. Dr. Cross commented that we are trying to get a better handle on our retention issues and we are making a good faith effort to try to help them.

Construction Projects: The Theater should be completed by January 20th. It's going to be a beautiful facility that will seat about 290 people. The STUAC Food Court should be completed by the end of September, 2006. One of the things we lack is a student union and this is a step in the right direction. There will be a coffee shop and a laptop area

as well as additional booth and table seating.

The Methane Digester is scheduled to start up in March or April of 2006. A number of our students who come to Morrisville would like to show their cattle. So, we asked the Ag Engineer students to build a Dairy Show Barn which is currently under construction.

The Copper Turret is coming along nicely and will open at the end of January, 2006. Houses #1 and #2 continue to be worked on by the students. House #2 is in the process of being closed in and the fireplace is being built. House #1 now has kitchen cabinets – this was a good educational opportunity for these students. Some of the students want to stay another two years to continue the work on the houses.

The new residence hall is somewhat ahead of schedule. The workers are putting the brick on now and they're averaging 4-5,000 bricks per day. They're scheduled to start the wallboard January 9th.

E⁴ Proposal: We presented our Biodiesel project to Charlie Fox at the Governor's Office along with Nathan Rudgers and Peter Smith (NYSERDA) and a number of other people who attended the meeting in Albany. They were all very supportive verbally. We'll present the proposal to Jeff Lovell at the Governor's office soon. We have asked the Governor for \$2M. Sen. Paul Tonko came here and spent time talking about the project – he was very enthusiastic. Matt Morgan said that Paul was very impressed and he wants to work with us on the project. Peter Smith from NYSERDA would also like to help us with the funding.

Budget Proposal: This year's request to the Governor is an aggressive budget request. The Chancellor has broken down his request to get funding in certain areas including energy, EOC, EOP, etc. Last year, we paid \$600,000 more for the same amount of natural gas as the year before. This year, it's going to be even more – we need to take a long-term position as it relates to energy. The Chancellor has also asked for funding to hire research faculty. If we're going to put SUNY on the map, we need to spend money on research. In addition, he has proposed \$550M in new capital funding, some of which is for critical maintenance. He wants to add something to this every year, investing in our infrastructure on a regular basis.

We have asked for \$8.5M for an Applied Design Center. If we get the funding for this, it opens the door for new programs. We have also asked for \$4M for an Equine Rehabilitation Center so that we can offer facilities for physical therapy for horses, post-surgery care, etc. and bring this into our bachelor's programs.

Faculty Speaker Report:

Anne Englot talked about the semester as being quite lively. There is interest on the part of the faculty to discuss a lot of different issues. One of the things they've talked about is allowing a student who has dropped a course to attain Dean's List or President's List status. They feel that if a student takes 12 credits and the GPA is at the appropriate level, they can attain that status. The Academic Deans had concerns regarding the wording so it was sent back to Faculty Congress. With moderate changes, it will again be forwarded to Academic Council for approval.

Structured Semester: This concept was also discussed at Faculty Congress. It is the intention to reinterpret the current academic standards to allow students that would have been dismissed to remain at the college. This is an attempt to give those students a chance to improve and then continue their education at Morrisville.

An ad hoc committee on syllabus has been reconvened by Bill Drew and the committee. A more complete list of items to be included on a syllabus was presented and will be sent to the Academic Affairs committee.

It has been proposed that an International Film Festival organized by Residence Life be held on campus the week of February 19th through February 25th.

14 vs. 15 week semester. This committee is gathering information and will report back to Faculty Congress in the spring.

A committee is looking into a proposal to reword the promotion procedure – Art Thompson is the Chair. An open

forum will be held next semester to get input from faculty re: procedure since the faculty/staff handbook is apparently unclear about going through the promotion procedure.

Tom Hogle brought forth a resolution in support of our colleagues at Alfred University.

There was some discussion concerning M-W-F schedules and Tu-Th schedules. This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Matt Morgan told the group of a discussion he had with his son this morning. Matt asked him if he liked attending school at Morrisville and he said he did. When he asked him if he like the faculty, he said 'I love the faculty.' He told Matt some stories about some of his classes and instructors. Matt said 'this institution is personal – you don't get that at a lot of schools.'

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jim VanRiper announced that Kim Mills and Sheila Marshman put in a grant for \$100,000 to develop products that would directly benefit farmers within one year. They are developing products to take on-line. They were given \$50,000 for this year and will receive more next year. It's very optimistic!

Jim VanRiper discussed the status of our new programs. We are planning a fall 2006 start for a BS in Human Performance and Health promotion; an Early Childhood AAS at Norwich; a BBA in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management; a BBA in Agricultural Marketing and Management; a BT in Horticultural Business Management; a BT in Information Technology: Cybersecurity; a BS in Nursing; a BS in On-Line Communication and Journalism; a BT in Entertainment Electronics Technology; and a BT in Technology Management. Regarding a degree in Rural Development and Leadership, we don't have the expertise for this. We haven't stopped the process of developing – there's a real need for leadership in rural development and the BA degree will be offered on the Morrisville Campus and some of the courses will be offered in Norwich.

BT programs under development for fall 2007 or late are Diesel Technology; Sport Management; Architectural Studies and Design; Construction Management; Product Design and Development; Furniture Design; Graphic Design; Energy Engineering Technology; Energy Systems Management and Nutrition Management. A BS program will be developed in Energy Engineering and AAS programs will be developed for Automotive Motor Sports and Autobody Technology.

Vice President for Administration

John Angerosa reported that SUNY has requested a deficiency budget for \$29M to cover the skyrocketing costs of utilities as well as other increased costs. We don't know if that will be approved or not, but the entire state is in the same situation, so we are hopeful.

The SUNY 06-07 capital plan has \$900M in requests for critical maintenance. One of those requests is for a rehab of Bicknell Hall for \$3.2M. Mr. Angerosa also indicated that we haven't heard anything recently about the guaranteed tuition policy but it's still out there. The policy would hold the cost of tuition at the same price for four semesters.

The Rec Building should be finished by spring. Our new residence hall will be completed in May, 2006 and Cayuga and Oneida will also be rehabbed – we hope to get a common design for both buildings.

Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Rich Carreno indicated that last winter we followed a liberal leave policy for the December holiday period. We relocated people to the IcePlex in an attempt to save money on utilities during that time. While there were actual savings, we experienced a lack of productivity. This holiday season, employees who wish to work can work at their usual locations during the ten day period. There will be about 35 people working and we think we can still realize some savings with reduced temperatures.

The Morrisville Area Improvement Network (MAIN) has been meeting and the final goals have just been completed

for their strategic plan. The final strategic plan will be shared at the next meeting.

Council Business:

a) Endorsement of Policy #5002 – Student Alcohol Policy. Charlie Root pointed out that we need to modify the policy to more directly speak to the ramifications of violating this policy in New York State. With those changes, the Council agreed to recommend and endorse the policy. Motion by Matt Morgan, seconded by Charlie Root.

Other Business:

Dr. Cross informed the group that Morrisville will be rolling out our new NCAA logo and issue a press release very soon. We're trying to get some momentum going for our new status to Division III.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Root
Secretary to the College Council