

Meeting of the SUNY Morrisville College Council
5th Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building
December 12, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Greg Clark, Student Representative; Chairman Arnold Fisher; James Dunne; Don Huller; Matt Morgan; Hugh Riehlman; and O. Perry Tooker.

Excused: Thomas Morrone and Charlie Root.

SUNY Morrisville Staff Present: John Angerosa; Charles Blaas; Rich Carreno; Ray Cross; Jessica DeCerce; Joyce Malloy; Ted Nichols; and Diane Tice, Faculty Congress Speaker.

Chairman Arnold Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes:

The minutes from the October 24, 2003 meeting were approved. Motion by James Dunne, seconded by Don Huller.

President's Report:

Dr. Cross pointed out the photographs of the Council members and Morrisville College Foundation members in the Board Room. He indicated that a seal is being made in the wood shop that will hang over the credenza. We're doing some things to the room without spending a lot of money to do it.

Today, Ted Nichols is going to present and give you an update on Norwich. Progress on the building is slightly ahead of schedule. We have a good contractor, so that's a positive note, and our initial response from the community has been extremely favorable. In our fund raising efforts, we have formal commitment of roughly \$650,000 and we have verbal commitments as well. Ted will talk more about the possible programs and degrees that will be offered to give it full campus status. We are very excited about the building and the stimulus to the economy for the area.

Budget update: Dr. Cross had appealed to the Chancellor to get the tuition money we were promised. Dave Richter called to say we would get the money and it would be put in our base budget which is very positive. We are still short but believe we have made sufficient cuts – close to \$500,000. We are also trying to generate revenue by possibly selling some timber from the Georgetown property, the Galbreath farm and other properties.

We still have to be very careful about spending money. There will be no Christmas party at the house this year and I will not travel to Florida this winter for the annual fund raising trip. We will pick these things back up when it's appropriate.

Capital bonding bill: The legislature has drafted a bill that, if approved, would bring another \$16.5 million to the campus for remodeling of the Student Activities Building, Galbreath Hall, etc. The money is restricted to facilities because it's a bonding bill. John Angerosa indicated that we had to submit a list of projects in priority order and that is what they will react to. Our facilities need to be upgraded for equine, nursing and auto. Those programs are exploding and, since we are dealing with technology, we are looking at different kinds of needed space.

Hotel on campus: Dr. Cross told the Council about the proposed hotel, possible investors and his belief that this will really happen. Hopefully, next September, we may be having an open house at a hotel in our community which is very exciting. We are down to two potential builders and should know soon which one we will go with and how this will come together. It will have a huge impact on the community and programs in hospitality management, as well as stimulate other activity. This will give us the ability to increase our conference activity in the IcePlex, host junior hockey tournaments, etc. The DOT is planning to resurface Main Street in fall, 2004 through the winter. There will be many changes to the village once that happens and the hotel will serve as a stimulating investment for the rest of the community.

Construction: The new equine arena should be completed this week, giving us 35 new stalls. New heifer barns are

being built behind the dairy facility.

Nelson Farms has provided a gift basket for each of you with products that are produced at Nelson Farms (salad dressings, barbecue sauce, glazed walnuts). The wood products area made the cutting boards and the wrapping was done by the horticulture students. We have a number of grants that we are pursuing so that Nelson Farms can finish the front and outside of the building. Once completed, we hope to have a retail store to sell the products.

Enrollment looks very similar to where we were last year at this time. Preliminary data suggests our retention is up from last year.

Faculty Speaker Report:

- Diane Tice gave an update on the initiative for SUNY-wide value-added assessment and reminded the group that the Faculty Senate was against it. The Trustees listened to concerns and shelved it to allow campuses to develop their own assessment initiative. A new MOU has been put forth and it will be considered in January.

Faculty Congress has also been working on Gen Ed Assessment. The Provost's office provided the opportunity for two representatives to attend a meeting on Best Practices. It is hoped to maintain the individuality of each campus.

Faculty Congress also passed unanimously Policy #6104, the Awarding of an Additional Degree. A person who has already been awarded a degree can return to campus and receive an additional degree as long as they meet the requirements of the next program and have 30 hours at Morrisville. They have also endorsed a draft statement on Civility and Respect with some revision to the document and a draft statement on Diversity to be included in the handbook. An ad hoc committee is being formed to investigate the addition of a minor to a baccalaureate degree.

Faculty Congress has concluded their meetings for the semester. Next semester the Gen Ed committee will adopt a definition for critical thinking. They will also consider another policy regarding the treatment of animals on campus.

Dr. Cross told the Council about the Civility and Diversity statements that were drafted and sent to Sr. Council, Faculty Congress and SGO. These groups will have an opportunity to help write the statements before they are adopted. Dr. Cross indicated that the discussion of these topics is helpful for the adoption of the policy.

Academic Affairs Report:

Dr. Blaas indicated that today is the last day of instruction for the fall semester except for final exams. There have been many academic program reviews this semester including Health Related Studies, Chemistry, and Computer Science. These have included good discussions about where we are going relating to our on-going efforts at the baccalaureate level. Dr. Blaas and Dr. Cross just met with the faculty from the School of Science and Technology to have discussions in that regard. We will continue those discussions with the remaining schools next semester.

Dr. Blaas felt that the assessment issue has been appropriately placed with the institution. This is a significant victory for the faculty that they were able to move away from university-wide assessment.

He reported on his trip to the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, New York with Wayne Hausknecht to investigate a collaborative program that will fit with our Design/Wood Technology program. It would be a two-year degree in boat design and restoration. The Antique Boat Museum is very supportive of this as is Don Babcock, an alumnus of Morrisville and a director of the Museum. We believe this could be a niche for us -- we could create a design center and develop a four-year degree in product design, graphic design, furniture design and perhaps boat design.

Student Government Report:

- Greg Clark reported that SGO is reviewing the Civility Statement. They have made some changes and will vote on it at their first meeting next semester. Dr. Cross encouraged them to take their time -- the process is as important as the final outcome.

The State Assembly meeting was held at the Sagamore in Lake George. As a group, students from different

campuses wrote a proposal to stop the campus wide assessment. Greg reported that he and Michael Woods both passed tests to become National Certified Student Leaders. They joined the rest of the board in this certification. Three new officers were recently appointed: John Rodick, Director of Budgets; Rebecca Burke, Campus Activities Board Chair; and Harold Coleman, Secretary.

Other items discussed at recent meetings including payment for the 2000 yearbook, the restoration of two pianos, extended library hours, and constitutions for new clubs.

Chairman Arnold Fisher congratulated Greg on the work that the Student Government Organization has accomplished. It's been a busy semester!

Administrative Services Report:

John Angerosa reported that our 2003-2004 enrollment is projected at 2882 students and our state funding depends on that. For 2004-2005, total SUNY funding is expected to be the same amount we received this year. It has been suggested that a moderate tuition increase occur every year rather than a large increase every 3-4 years.

Our capital budget is tied up right now and that's the money we will use to renovate the Student Activities Building . The architects originally gave us an estimate on that project of approximately \$5 million, but when it came back to us, the estimate had increased to \$7.5 million. We had the option of terminating the project or modifying it. We've now split it into three parts – the renovation itself, a food service component and the relocation of athletics.

Recently, there has been renewed emphasis on fire inspections and the inspectors now have the ability to issue fines for each infraction. The college is required to have evacuation drills and there is a list of items we have to address within a specific time frame. We have a really good record. We follow a prescribed compliance plan and don't see any regulations that we can't comply with. These recommendations will be completed no later than summer.

Associate Vice President

Rich Carreno informed the Council that in 1987, New York State adopted the Ethics in Government Act. This act requires the annual filing of financial statements for people who are called policymakers and earn a certain amount of income. It also deals with unpaid boards in general regarding conflict of interest. College Council members should not be engaged in activities which are in conflict and they also must establish a code of ethics. Rich distributed a draft Code of Ethics for consideration by the Council.

Dr. Cross suggested that the Council adopt the first reading of the Code and vote on it for adoption at our next meeting. Motion by Matt Morgan, seconded by Perry Tooker.

Dr. Ted Nichols, Dean, Norwich Campus

Dr. Nichols thanked the Council for their interest in hearing more about Norwich and the exciting things that are happening there. He said he and his family have received a warm welcome from everyone in the Norwich, Chenango County and Morrisville areas.

The Norwich campus wants to contribute in a substantial way to the quality of life in Chenango County , to build new partnerships, to provide education and training and to help employers compete to keep our young people in the community.

The Norwich campus has developed an education employment program with NBT that will provide internships and tuition benefits from the bank. These are the kinds of partnerships we are trying to build. Other partnerships include Chenango Child Care Services and Liberty Partnership. Liberty Partnership operates out of Chenango County for career development and academic support services to needy, economically-disadvantaged young people. The staff works with the school district and parents to find ways to challenge students academically and pursue higher education opportunities.

Construction is well underway on the new facility and the exterior is largely completed at this point. Progress will be

made during the winter on the inside of the building. Dr. Nichols invited all of the Council members to stop by for a tour. Completion will be in the spring of 2005 with classes to begin in the fall of 2005. New stand-alone programs we're developing will be in the areas of human services, criminal justice and early childhood development. We've received a lot of support for those three programs specifically. In addition, we are looking at two baccalaureate degrees in health and human services and rural development and leadership.

We have a great start with the Equipment Campaign. Dr. Cross, Jim Hastie and I have been meeting with various individuals, Foundations and community members to discuss donations to the campaign. The new building brings promise and demonstrates that Norwich and Morrisville are committed to working with them. The design of the building is great -- beautiful! Vertical lines, curves, smoked glass -- the Norwich community will be very pleased with it.

Dr. Cross commented that he and Bill Smith went to visit Dan Robinson at Central New York Mutual and they have committed to make a contribution. Dan talked about one of his most serious problems -- insurance fraud. There is nothing that really prepares people for this -- what would that kind of degree look like? It's possible that particular BA degree could be a niche that Norwich could help to develop.

Council Business:

a) The resolution to approve curriculum advisory committee appointments of Russ Wrisley and Mario Restive for the Mechanical Engineering Technology Program. Motion by Jim Dunne; seconded by Perry Tooker.

Other Business:

Matt Morgan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Hugh Riehlman. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Malloy
Assistant Secretary to the College Council

To view attachments to these Meeting Minutes, [Click here](#) !