

**Meeting of the SUNY Morrisville College Council**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building**  
**May 2, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Council Members Present:** Sarah Blood, Student Representative; Chairman Arnold Fisher; Don Huller; Hugh Riehlman; Charlie Root and Perry Tooker.

**Excused:** James Dunne, Thomas Morrone and Matt Morgan.

**SUNY Morrisville Staff Present:** John Angerosa; Charles Blaas; Rich Carreno; Michael Corpin; Ray Cross; Jessica DeCerce; Joyce Malloy; Michael Oppedisano, Faculty Congress Speaker; and Marian Whitney.

The Council members met at the Nelson Inn , Nelson, NY and, after a brief tour, traveled to SUNY Morrisville for the Council meeting. Chairman Arnold Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the February 7, 2003 meeting were approved. Motion by Hugh Riehlman, seconded by Perry Tooker.

**President's Report:**

Dr. Cross told the Council members that we were behind in our renovations at the food-processing project at the former Nelson Inn (now Nelson Farms), but we will be ready to open by the end of May. There is incredible potential here and things are happening politically as well. Our goal is to develop a bachelor's degree in Marketing to process food commercially, market food and distribute it. We already have 40+ customers with probably another 60 waiting in the wings.

If the Nelson Farm goes well, one of the ways we are going to have students market products is on the web and the SUNY Morrisville.biz domain is just one part of a larger picture. Our students are building web pages to market New York foods over the web so you can buy and sell through these pages. We are looking more like a business all the time!

Dr. Cross told the Council that four members of the staff got together and wrote a chapter in a book entitled Ubiquitous Computing. Dr. Cross, Jean Boland, Jessica DeCerce and Anne Englot wrote a chapter all about laptop computers. "SUNY Morrisville Unplugged" talked about our experiences.

Some time ago, we introduced the four phases of technology that we wanted to introduce to our students. They were 1) laptop computing; 2) nomadic learning (part of our wireless concept); 3) continuous communications; and 4) use of cell phones for purchases on campus. Phase three would issue every student a cell phone to replace the phone in their room. We've been working on this aspect for a couple of years and we're getting closer. We're working on a contract with Nextel to provide service for the same price students currently pay. Each student would have two lines: one will be their Morrisville telephone number for local calling and a second line will be available for long distance service. Parents will be able to phone free of charge and the student package will provide 200 minutes during the day and unlimited long distance evenings and weekends. This actually doesn't move us closer to Phase 4 (using their cell phone to make purchases), but IBM was here yesterday and they are looking very seriously at moving us to a high speed network to make that possible in the future.

Dr. Cross told the group about an amazing product he's been using – an HP Compaq Tablet. The price is getting close to that of our laptops – it has note-taking capability, has an incredible amount of storage space and can accommodate power point demonstrations. It's a pretty good product and we're taking a look at it to possibly pilot its use in one of our curriculums – probably Journalism.

**Budget:**

Dr. Cross asked John Angerosa to give an update on the budget situation in Albany . John reported that when the Governor submitted the Executive Budget, some things related directly to SUNY: cut EOP funding 50% and cut TAP by one-third. The one-third cut would eventually be returned to the student if and when they graduate. The legislature has restored both of these items.

The Governor's capital budget has been left alone. It's a continuation of the five-year plan. The second five-year plan for us in the Governor's budget is worth about \$16 million. The legislature approved that because it's an economic stimulus. We have already gone into design for part of the capital plan which should be complete in September.

The Governor suggested student tuition should rise to \$1200 but it was increased only to \$950. The increase in out-of-state tuition has not been determined yet, but we would like to keep it parallel with that of resident students. Our current headcount is 240 students, which will probably decrease with an increase in tuition. We may have to increase resident costs to all students to make up for our loss of out-of-state students.

### **Commencement:**

At Commencement, we're going to present an honorary doctorate to Rev. Betsee Parker who has volunteered her time since September 11<sup>th</sup> at the World Trade Center working for the Medical Examiner's Office. A colleague who read about Sheila Johnson's award at last year's commencement nominated her. Jim Hastie went to New York to meet Rev. Parker and her husband and was impressed. Rev. Parker is currently pregnant and has been advised by her doctor not to travel. We will, therefore, present the honorary degree to Rev. Charles Flood, the colleague who nominated her, in her absence. We would like to invite her to return to campus to participate in Convocation and we will honor her at that time.

Our speaker this year is Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sheila Johnson will be there to help us robe Rev. Parker. I hope that you'll all be able to attend.

Dr. Cross told the council members that Dick Miller, Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer at SUNY Central, has taken the position of President at Hartwick College . We'll certainly miss him – he's been a big help to us. Dr. Cross also had a phone conversation with Tom Haas, who is currently the Vice President of the Coast guard Academy in Connecticut . Tom is the new president for Cobleskill. And the current president at Alfred, Bill Rezak, is retiring this year. Alfred is in the final stages of selecting a new president.

### **Student Government Report:**

Sarah Blood reported that SGO just got back from a SUNY Assembly meeting this past weekend. New SGO officers for next year are: Tiffany Taylor, President; Greg Clark, Vice President; John Jones, Director of Budget; Mike Wells, Public Relations; Michele Bersaw, Secretary; and Jonathan Stukes, CAB Chair.

Sarah also reported that SGO attended the annual conference in Atlanta in April. It was a great trip! Since their return, they've been working on a number of things including next year's budget.

Dr. Cross thanked Sarah for her service on the College Council and her leadership as SGO President.

### **Academic Affairs Report:**

Dr. Blaas reported that we submitted our program announcement for our BSN in Nursing which has been received and distributed. Also, we're working on a name change from Architecture Technology to Architectural Studies and Design, and a BBA in a marketing area. Kate VanArnham is scheduled to visit on May 29<sup>th</sup> to help facilitate some of our programmatic developments.

Last week we celebrated academic excellence across campus with the annual EOP Awards banquet, the Science & Technology Honors Dinner, a Tutor Recognition Luncheon, the Liberal Arts tea, the Helyar Program breakfast, Phi

Theta Kappa induction and the SGO ceremony. This is just part of what made up an exciting week on campus.

Recently, a considerable amount of attention has been given to academic program review. Every five years, academic programs go through an evaluation that includes a self-study on the part of the faculty and on-site visits by an evaluation committee consisting of one internal and two external committee members. Although it's very time-consuming, the process is very productive and works well to determine where to put resources, etc.

Mike Oppedisano and the Faculty Congress Awards Committee identified Mark Manchester as this year's Distinguished Faculty Award. We're also expecting approval for Art Thompson to be named as the recipient of this year's Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. We are awaiting confirmation on that.

As you know, Wayne Hausknecht rejoined the faculty in wood tech this past fall. There was a severe accident in the lab a few weeks ago where a piece of wood got caught in one of the saws and flew back at him, shattering his arm and requiring lengthy surgery. He is now recovering from his injuries and Steve Law is picking up his classes for the remainder of the semester.

### **Dean of Students:**

Mike Corpin pointed out that the recent SGO trip to Atlanta was for leadership national certification. All the students who attended the conference passed the exam. Only two schools attending had 100% certification. SGO is currently working on a class project to improve the signage on campus as their legacy gift.

Mike talked about developing ways to train club advisors and student leaders concerning what is available for them to be engaged in while they're at Morrisville. If we can work with faculty, staff and advisors, we can create positive training methods for our students that may even allow sororities and fraternities to exist at Morrisville in the future.

He also indicated that Colleen McSweeney in Counseling is working on a grant regarding the prevention of violence against women. The grant would provide for educational programs designed for the campus and the community-at-large. Amy Williams has left the Counseling Center and they are searching for a new counselor. We will also be looking to fill some residence hall director positions over the course of the summer.

The office of University Police has hired a new officer, Richard Whitaker, from the Norwich area, and they hope to hire another officer soon. The two officers we recently hired have left the college.

Mike also talked about the national security alert and what we doing to make sure our campus is safe. Rick D'Alessandro has attended many meetings of the Homeland Community Assessment team to detect, modify and respond to any homeland threats directed at the college and is investigating grants that will allow us to upgrade our current security systems.

This coming weekend is Spring Weekend here at the college and many events are planned, including a semi-formal.

### **Administrative Services Report:**

John Angerosa distributed a budget for the Perkins III (VTEA) monies for the 2003-2004 academic year. He indicated that the target of this year's program is retention. The budget includes an increase in student retention coordinators and will combine recruitment with retention methods. The second part lists equipment necessary for the various programs. John indicated that, institutionally, we have gotten more funding than any other two-year institution. It appears we'll end up with a better budget than we had last year. After discussion of the proposed Perkins program, a motion to approve the 2003-2004 VTEA Budget was approved. Motion by Sarah Blood; seconded by Charlie Root.

We have a lot of building projects that will be going forward this summer. Fountain View dormitory should be open by June 13<sup>th</sup>. Our methane digester and heifer barn will be out to bid this summer and, hopefully, be ready by snow. Our new riding arena at the Equine Center should go out to bid in the next two weeks and that should also be ready by fall and will support the members involved in that program.

**Associate Vice President**

Rich Carreno told the Council members that the traditional SUNY Day in Albany was changed to a lobbying day this year. In the past, it consisted of students, staff and alumni visits with local legislators, but this year, Presidents were put on teams with SUNY people to meet with key legislators. The displays were part of the legislative reception. Pete Lamacchia had students demonstrate the face recognition software and Paul O'Neil's class designed a video tour of the campus that we can also use at the State Fair this year that will change the whole look of our exhibit. Five or six other programs participated. There was no good way to get a lot of exposure or visitors.

Rich indicated that we have 16 faculty/professional positions open. A lot of our faculty and staff are serving on search committees which seems to be the nature of the spring recruiting season.

**Faculty Speaker Report:**

Mike Oppedisano distributed a report detailing committee work that is currently being completed. The Assessment Committee has completed Phase II of the Assessment Plan to be sent to the GEAR Group. They are also overseeing the collection of data for the GenEd areas involved in Phase I and, finally, they are preparing the GenEd areas that will be involved in writing Phase III of the plan due next year at this time.

The Faculty Awards Committee nominated Mark Manchester for the Distinguished Faculty Award and we are awaiting approval for a faculty member to receive the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Another committee is working on the Course Classification Report containing a list of courses that will satisfy the requirements in the areas of Humanities, Math/Science and Social Science for each degree at Morrisville.

Other items recently discussed in Faculty Congress were Workplace Visitor and Pets on Campus Grounds policies; a standing committee for assessment issues not currently addressed; and the tenure process. Elections for new officers will be held in May. All four offices are open, as Mike does not plan to run for re-election.

Dr. Cross and Dr. Blaas expressed their appreciation to Mike for his leadership at Faculty Congress and their attention to the Distinguished Faculty Award and the Chancellor's Award for excellence in Teaching. We also need to pursue the other Chancellor's Awards for Librarians and Professional Staff.

**Council Business:**

- a) The resolution to approve curriculum advisory committee appointment of Chris Hurd for Electrical Engineering Technology. Motion by Perry Tooker; seconded by Charlie Root.
- b) The resolution to approve the Constitution of MoPRIDE (Morrisville People Respecting Individual Diversity and Equality). Motion by Sarah Blood; seconded by Hugh Riehlman. Dissenting vote by Charlie Root.
- c) The resolution for the elected student member of the College Council, Sarah Blood, to receive a citation was approved. Motion by Don Huller; seconded by Perry Tooker.
- c) The resolution to approve a citation for Mike Oppedisano, Faculty Congress Speaker, was approved. Motion by Perry Tooker; seconded by Charlie Root.

**Other Business:**

Dr. Cross informed the Council that this is his fifth year at SUNY Morrisville. At the five year mark, an in-depth evaluation is conducted by SUNY Administration and you may be hearing from them in that regard.

Dr. Cross also told the Council that we would like to start an image transition to view SUNY Morrisville as a four-year college that also offers two-year degrees. If you are a student looking to enroll at a four-year college, you aren't going to attend a two-year school. Therefore, we need to work on this image transition.

Dr. Cross also indicated that once we get that new building in Norwich , we plan to bring a full-time, stand-alone program to the Norwich campus. Kate VanArnam's visit will help give us some direction for that type of a program.

Don Huller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Perry Tooker. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Charles Root

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Root", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Secretary to the College Council

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