



**Meeting of the Morrisville State College Council**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room, Whipple Administration Building**  
**October 7, 2005 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Council Members Present:** Chairman Arnold Fisher; Don Huller; Matthew Morgan; Hugh Riehlman; O. Perry Tooker; Michael Watson, Student Representative; and Marisa Bates, Editor of the Chimes.

**Excused:** James Dunne and Charles Root

**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 10:03 a.m. The minutes from the May 13, 2005 meeting were approved. Motion by Don Huller, seconded by Hugh Riehlman.

**President's Report:**

Dr. Cross introduced Anne Englot as our new Faculty Congress Speaker. Anne just recently completed her Ph.D. and you will value her input at our meetings. Arnold Fisher also complimented Anne on all of her hard work to complete her degree. Dr. Cross also introduced Marisa Bates as the Editor in Chief of the Chimes, the student newspaper, and welcomed her to the meeting.

Dr. Cross commented that he had a number of things to go over in his report and portions of them will be covered by Jim VanRiper, John Angerosa and Rich Carreno.

Enrollment is down, although the quality of students being accepted is up. Our number for Norwich was lower than anticipated since we don't have the new programs in place yet. Alfred and Cobleskill have more students enrolled in their baccalaureate programs but they've had them longer than we have.

**Operational Plan.** Dr. Cross explained how the Operational Plan connects to the Strategic Plan and distributed a copy to everyone. The Strategic Plan has been completed and a copy will be mailed to each of the Council members. Dr. Cross pointed out that we plan to move to NCAA Division III and, once that happens, the public will recognize us as a four-year college. We are taking a very active role in the village; the restaurant is just one piece. We will continue to work on the hotel; we still have at least two investors that remain interested.

**Major Budget Request.** We were asked to submit a multi-year budget analysis to the Chancellor. One of the things we're working on with UUP is to get a salary increase for our faculty. We have had two major meetings on this so far and we are trying to obtain more faculty positions. We also need funding for energy increases; we're requesting \$8.5M for an Applied Design Center; and we are also requesting funding for our E4 bio-diesel project. We'll need the Council's help on this – we're asking the governor to include in his budget \$7.5M for our Energy Engineering and Engineering Systems Management degrees. We are also going to ask Bill Magee for funding for a new Diesel Tech Center. We would have incredible enrollment growth if we add a bachelor's on top of that – it fits right in with bio-diesel.

**Copper Turret Restaurant.** Construction on the restaurant is progressing and we hope to be able to open sometime in late October or early November. Dr. Cross showed pictures of the classroom addition that is now being built.

Methane Digester. The concrete has been poured for the digester and there are two separate chambers. The digester will have a flat top and will be covered with dirt. Half of the pipes are in and they are testing them today.

Dairy Show Barn. This is a pole barn and classroom that the Ag Engineering students are building. We have students coming from Vermont and New Hampshire who want to show their cows and we are trying to differentiate ourselves from other colleges by giving them this opportunity.

New Residence Hall. Construction is going along really well on this. Dr. Cross showed pictures on the progress.

Self-Evaluation. Dr. Cross submitted his annual self-evaluation to Albany. He'll meet with the Chancellor in November to go through that.

Foundation visit. We hosted a visit from the Research Foundation on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Attending were John W. Craine, Jr., Sr. Vice President; James R. Dennehey, General Counsel and Secretary; and Nicholas Rostow, Senior Counsel. They were very impressed with the Equine Center, the Automotive Center and especially what we're doing at Nelson Farms.

Sheila Johnson Gala. We had a building dedication on campus on September 12<sup>th</sup> to name the new arena after Sheila Johnson. That evening, an event was held at the OnCenter in Syracuse, honoring Sheila Johnson as our 'Benefactor of the Year.' It was a wonderful event; Matt Mulcahey was the M.C. and we received many compliments.

At the request of Chairman Arnold Fisher, Dr. Cross diagramed how the bio-diesel process works. As an agricultural and technical college, Dr. Cross stated that we are right in the midst of the marriage of agriculture and technology. There are four phases to our energy plan: 1) Create market demand; 2) build bio-diesel processing plant; 3) contract with local farmers to grow soybeans, etc.; and 4) determine how we will work with NYSEG to have a stand-by operation.

### **Faculty Speaker Report:**

Anne Englot noted that although it's early in the year, Faculty Congress has had an interesting start to the semester. They finished their discussion on Policy #6111 (Pass/Not Pass Option). Final wording is in her report. They also reviewed the report from the Committee for New Course Approval. They felt this report was not ready to send forward and the committee will create a flowchart instead of sequential numbers for the approval process.

Because of the increase in new course proposals, an Ad Hoc Committee has been convened to aid the standing committee in the review of these new course proposals and program proposals. Dr. Cross commented that it is very important that we have these new programs and this committee will help speed up that process.

It was brought up in Faculty Congress that text readers for disabled students cannot read pdf files that are attached to e-mails; to remedy this situation, a text file will also be attached.

Fourteen week vs. 15 week semester. This has become a most exciting debate. This has been looked at in the past more than once. The committee will meet to develop a charge, review each member's research in the context of that charge, and task each member with further research. The committee findings will be presented at an all-college faculty meeting in November or January.

300-400 Level Courses. Faculty Congress approved the designation of 300-400 level courses. The criteria are based on ascending skill levels classified under Bloom's Taxonomy.

Items yet to be completed: a) how should we address the issue of a student re-taking a course and doing worse the second time; b) Dean's List policy if student withdraws or drops a course; and c) a proposal to re-write the promotion procedures.

### **Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Program Development. Jim VanRiper noted that in May, we looked at the list of courses at the top of the operational plan. In the right hand column, anything marked F06 is something we would like to get through and on to Albany for the Fall of next year. This is an aggressive list and one of the reasons for the new committee in Academic Affairs. An associate degree in early childhood has gone through the local process and has been sent on to Albany. Because this is a discipline area new to Norwich, it has to go through master plan amendment. This would add Education to Norwich next fall; if it's done quicker, we'll start it in the spring.

Our Clinical Exercise Science degree will now be titled Human Performance and Health Promotion. This degree has been changed to a B.S. and it has been submitted to System Administration. It will also be subject to master plan amendment.

Another degree we are hoping to have leave campus by November 1<sup>st</sup> is a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management. This is an upper division degree designed to help individuals start their own business and is a high priority for us.

Mission Review. This is a process that our institution goes through related to strategic planning where we interact with System Administration to develop a Memorandum of Understanding. We heard from them recently and they have requested additional information and some clarification. We should expect a near final draft soon.

Enrollment. We are down about 250 students this fall from our projected estimate. Multiple factors contributed. We raised our standards and did not enroll approximately 175 students we would have taken in the past. We thought Norwich would take care of that, but the new programs aren't there yet. We are working hard to make up for the enrollment shortfall by increasing our retention efforts, increasing the number of January admits and expanding winter term opportunities. If the problem is not solved, we could be looking at a \$1.7M shortfall in revenues. We're looking at more ways for our students to stay here from first to second semester.

Fall Start-Up. We had a smooth start-up to our fall semester. We've had many positive comments about the quality of the freshmen class from both student and academic affairs staff. There are less problems in the dorms and less problems with University Police. Already, there's been a change in the environment by raising our standards.

Winter Term. We are expanding the number of courses offered between the fall and spring semesters with the hope of increasing enrollment and revenue. Courses taught on-line during winter term will run from December 19<sup>th</sup> to January 19<sup>th</sup> and on-campus courses will run from January 3<sup>rd</sup> to January 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Vice President for Administration

As a follow-up to the previous discussion on the budget and enrollment, John Angerosa indicated that there are three stressors affecting our budget situation:

- 1) Enrollment. We lost \$1.7M in tuition and state aid. If that happens again next year, we'll have big problems.
- 2) Utilities. Two years ago, it cost us \$.06 per decaterm – now, it costs \$.13/decaterm – it's doubled and could get worse. The Business Officers from New York State are writing a position paper saying that this is not something campuses can absorb and we're trying to revive the supplemental budget process.
- 3) Norwich. We increased the square footage so we've increased our costs there, but we were unable to get the new programs for students to enroll in.

This brings us into 2006-2007. We have been required by the Chancellor to turn in a multi-year needs analysis and we addressed these things in our report:

- 1) additional funding based on an FTE from our current 2882; and
- 2) increased funding for equipment.

Our priority capital requests were for funding for our Applied Design Center and our Bio-Diesel project.

Capital Budget. These things are going forward – they are not a request – they will be happening.

- 1) New residence hall. Not a low bid for a lot of reasons. This is rolling and will be enclosed by November. We're so far along on this project we started to think about which of our current residence halls we'll retool. It's been decided that Cayuga will be the dorm to undergo rehabilitation.
- 2) STUAC Theatre. The renovations on this have been started.
- 3) Eatery renovation in STUAC will provide a second venue to the dining hall – a food court.
- 4) Rec Building. This will begin in about a month and will be done next summer. It will have indoor turf and athletic offices.
- 5) An addressable fire alarm project. This will take about 18 months, but work is already in progress.
- 6) The Copper Turret. The biggest addition is a classroom and will be ready for occupancy in the spring semester. The restaurant will open sooner.
- 7) Brick work on Cayuga and Oneida Halls. We've finished this project and we're about to do some caulking at the Equine Center.
- 8) Seneca Dining Hall. There will be a new elevator and when we finish, we will expand the facility and have a better delivery system. That will go forward as soon as we finish STUAC.

Dr. Cross indicated that we have a \$2.5M request before Nextel, but this may not happen due to their merger with Sprint. That request is similar to what we have with Coke. As we move into NCAA, it would be nice to have a covered stadium.

### Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Richard Carreno reported that the UUP contract provides labor management committees and the money associated with that. There is money for retraining fellowships; they're putting together a package for people pursuing terminal degrees to get support on a retroactive basis. This will support the professional development efforts of our faculty.

Multi-needs analysis need to move to a better mix of full-time faculty that will give us a better balance. The Tech Sector is working with UUP to approve legislation directly to increase faculty salaries over a period of years more in line with comprehensive colleges and to get our faculty the support they need to teach in four-year programs. Rich felt very optimistic about the upcoming discussions.

Rich Carreno also reported that a local group in the community (MAIN) is working to try to improve the quality of life in this area. We are working with them in a cooperative way and last week we facilitated a strategic planning session in Madison Hall. So, we are doing some things, taking some steps, to improve the area.

### Student Government Representative:

Mike Watson reported that the Student Government Organization has gotten off to a good start this fall. SGO started out with 17 voting members and currently there are 43 voting members, so there's been growth in the Assembly. The Executive Board is great and does a good job of promoting SGO.

Some of the current accomplishments of SGO:

- 1) Constitution revision of the Student Government. Currently, students have to have a 2.0 GPA, but they'd like to raise that to improve their standards. They are also trying to get clubs to revise their constitutions.
- 2) President Cross submitted a proposal for two new vans and that will be moving forward. Three years ago, SGO helped acquire vans for student use.
- 3) SGO attends three major conferences throughout the year and they are working on having the Executive Board become certified student leaders.

4) They are also looking into an increase of the student activities fee. It's currently at \$65 and they would like to increase it to \$70 or \$75.

Students have an issue with parking. Mike feels that the Operational Plan, Section 3.2, should contain an item for increased parking. Also, the SGO office should be included there as well. Dr. Cross indicated that when the remodeling of STUAC happens, perhaps in the short-term, the office could be located in the basement of STUAC. However, when we put in the connector from the Student Union to the Library and Administration Building, that may be an ideal location for the Student Government Office. Mike Watson indicated that right now, SGO meetings are held in Banks Lounge, but because the Assembly is growing, they may need more chairs in there.

Students have been questioning long distance service with Sprint now that they have merged with Nextel. Dr. Cross explained that there is a lawsuit pending between Nextel Partners and Sprint regarding the worth of Nextel Partners. As of now, they plan to operate both of these systems but over time, they will merge the two companies.

Arnold Fisher commended Mike Watson on the fine job he's doing with SGO.

### **Council Business:**

a) Endorsement of Policies:

#6106 Academic Warning and Dismissal

#6108 Dropping Courses and Withdrawing from College

#6110 Permission to Carry Extra Course

Motion by Don Huller; seconded by Perry Tooker.

b) Resolution to approve curriculum advisory committee appointment of Walter Belonsoff and Francis Fasuyi to the Electrical Engineering Technology Advisory Board. Motion by Hugh Riehlman; seconded by Matt Morgan.

c) Resolution to approve curriculum advisory committee appointment of Linda Hartley and Joanne Lyons to the Massage Therapy Advisory Board. Motion by Perry Tooker; seconded by Don Huller.

d) Resolution to approve curriculum advisory committee appointment of Margaret Chase and Bonnie Diefendorf to the Nursing Advisory Board. Motion by Matt Morgan; seconded by Perry Tooker.

### **Other Business:**

Matt Morgan reminded the Council members about the ACT Conference to be held on October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Sagamore Hotel and Resort in Bolton's Landing.

Dr. Cross indicated that since the Copper Turret will open around November 1<sup>st</sup>, we'll plan to have our December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting at the restaurant.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Root  
Secretary to the College Council