

**College Council Meeting**

**Monday, February 8, 2021**

**5:00 pm Council Meeting**

**TEAMS**

**Present:** Chair Patricia Fogarty, Mr. Michael Colomaio, Ms. Eva Benedict, Mr. George Welch Sr., Mr. Charles Craig, Mr. Fredrick Sinclair, Ms. Baylee Durantini, Mr. Jack Benjamin, Mr. Al Mosher, and Mr. Ron Nasca

**Also Present:** President Dr. Skip Sullivan, Provost Dr. Kristin Poppo, Vice Presidents Dr. Craig Clark, Ms. Betsy Penrose and Dr. Gregory Sammons, Chief of Staff Ms. Wendy Dresser-Recktenwald, Chief Financial Officer Mr. Joseph Greenthal, Faculty Senate Chair Mr. Earl Packard and Executive Assistant to the President Ms. Trish Haggerty.

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph Pelych and Mr. Alan Mosher

1. **Call Meeting to Order-Chair Fogarty**

Chair Fogarty called the meeting to order at 5:01pm

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting-Chair Fogarty**

A motion was made by Mr. George Welch to approve the minutes from our last meeting, Mr. Ron Nasca seconded the motion. The minutes from December 7, 2020 were approved as presented.

1. **College Council Chair’s Report-Chair Fogarty**

* Presidential Search Update-Chair Fogarty updated the council that we are awaiting SUNY’s approval of the committee members for the search. We will share the rest of those members as soon as they are approved. We received 11 Search firm applicants, we put forward three of them and SUNY rejected one of them based on history of performance. CFO Greenthal had set up a grading platform to choose our firms, and the one asked to drop was the 2nd choice, we have put forward the 4th choice per SUNY’s request. We are waiting on SUNY to set up presentations from the chosen firms.

1. **President’s Updates/Institutional Advancement Report-President Sullivan**

* President Sullivan updated everyone on the current semester preparations and the re-opening plan that was approved by SUNY. We started in-person classes on Feb. 1st, students were one week prior to that to quarantine and be tested. The college administration and staff are working hard to make everything that we can normal for the students. He also shared with the council that we are testing every student and every employee every week. It is a heavy lift both financially and from the staffing side. COVID is impacting students and their experience but it is also testing and trying for employees. President Sullivan shared that the SUNY budget is looking very favorable, and that is a direct reflection of the state budget. SUNY is working hard to get federal stimulus money for bailout. These funds would offset some of the cuts we have been planning. Student athletes are practicing and hoping to compete in a shortened season this year, but we are still waiting on guidance. The MGC is moving toward meeting its goal of $8 Million. Thanks to everyone who has contributed. Jay wilder continues to work with alumni and supporters who have contributed and supported the campaign. CFO Greenthal and EA Haggerty have been working with SUNY to get presidential search underway. President Sullivan reminded the council that he is not involved on any level with the search. HR has been extraordinarily busy, and on top of accommodations they are dealing with COVID testing all employees. He asked that we applaud the work and extra hours put in by the HR staff.

1. **Action Items –**

* **Leadership Through Civic Engagement, Student Nominees – Vote Requested**

VP Sammons explained this process and reviewed the students that were nominated. He also shared that there were no faculty or staff nominates this year.

* + Ruth Crowley- very active with the civic engagement office, president or VP of several clubs and organizations. She is a Forensic Science student, did her internship with the FBI. She used her internship knowledge and shared it with her classmates. Director of Civic engagement director and VP Sammons support this nomination. **VOTE:** Motioned by Mr. Charlie Craig and seconded by Mr. George Welch. Approved nominee Ruth Crowley.
  + Alec Harrigan: Nominated by a faculty member and a fellow student. He’s been a member of our STAR center in the leadership center and revitalizing those clubs. The ARAS, revitalized. They revitalize towns and village spaces through their club. Alec led our club with several projects that led to grant applications. Student Representative Ms. Baylee Durantini added that Alec is a great person and student. **VOTE:** Motioned by Ms. Eva Benedict and seconded by Mr. Charlie Craig. Approved nominee Alec Harrigan.
  + Alexa Sass- Very involved in our FIGHT club. And civically engaged. VOTE: Motioned by Mr. Charlie Craig. Seconded by Ms. Eva Benedict. Nominee Alexa Sass approved.

1. **Senior Staff Updates**

-**Human Resources/CCET (Chief of Staff Dresser-Recktenwald)**

COS Dresser-Recktenwaldbriefly wanted to compliment and thank her staff and the health and wellness staff for coordinating testing of all employees. She specifically named Maria Bordeaux and her hard work. They completed their compression study and attrition study and were the first to submit to SUNY. She shared that we have 19 faculty or staff out on accommodations. We are being flexible with those that have childcare issues. She did share that they are seeing evidence that COVID is trying on employees and their mental health.

-**Student Affairs (Vice President Sammons)**

VP Sammons updated the group on COVID operations. We were approved by SUNY for our updates which essentially was to test our entire population. Entry testing and pool testing for our first week was 90% compliance. HR is involved to get employees tested. They meet with SUNY administration daily to answer questions and make sure we are meeting our benchmarks. There is also a weekly meeting on changes and updates at SUNY’s COVID group. We have had 10 positive cases since move in. Eight of those cases were found during move-in testing. We have one student athlete case that has resulted in quarantine of the entire team. Tonight, we have one Greek positive that caused the Greek house to quarantine in their off-campus home. Across the street at AU they have 30 positive cases. VP Sammons said that this is concerning because we are in the same “germ pool” as them with all the students interacting. We are providing student life and activities for our students. The fitness center opened today at 33% occupancy, for one-hour periods throughout the day, with 30-minute disinfecting periods built in. Open Gym, open swim, tubing hill and rock hill will all be open soon too. Local artist who sculpted some Bills ice sculptures is coming to campus to do a big blue ice sculpture and hopefully we will get some students competing for best ice sculptures. We are also working on opening the guest policy to allow students to have guests. VP Sammons reported that the Orvis Gym floor is done and beautiful. The food pantry is still open and running and the SOS fund is getting a lot of applications from students in need.

-**Economic Development (Vice President Clark)**

Vice President Clark said the ANGEL fund is up and running and they are reviewing one good project currently to receive funding. The Wellsville business park is open and has several potential occupants. There is one potential person to come in and use the equipment that is in there. The Great Lake Cheese project expansion is the big news. Building a new 500k sq. ft. facility at the crossroads in Belmont. This expansion will add 200 jobs. Doubling the milk use from 200,000 to 400,000 gallons of milk. He said the clean energy projects in the county are moving forward. Rochester careers and construction project are planning to have 800 students there and try to recruit juniors and seniors to the trade. The county also had a micro enterprise grant funded that has 18 companies interested. Working on approving 8 different groups right now. On April 10 all three local colleges will be competing in a start-up business competition.

-**Enrollment Management (Vice President Penrose)**

Vice President Penrose said it is a tough time for recruiting. Spring enrollment head count shows us down 5%. It is mostly in continuing full-time enrollment. We are currently down 210 students in FT returning students. This impacts the residence halls. We have 1819 students vs. just over 2000 last year. We do not have SUNY comparisons yet she will report that those numbers when they are available. For Fall we have improved in accepted students. We are down 6.8% in accepted students. Paid deposits are also down. She said we are way down in applications and 80% of that decrease is in EOP, low income students. A concerning number is that 21.7% fewer HS grads went on to college in 2020. This continues to be a concern. They are working hard to recruit 2020 graduates who were admitted but didn’t attend college to anywhere. We have about 85 of those students who did defer until fall. Enrollment Management is working on hosting a lot of virtual events. On campus visitation started back up today. We are going to offer on campus visits for admitted students in April. Planning May visits in NYC. We have distributed $2.2Mil in CARES act money to students in 2020.

-**Academic Affairs (Provost Poppo)**

Provost Poppo shared that the HART committee that Greg spoke about has created a fund in to raise money that will help support students needs. She also shared that for the winter term project, we accepted all students back without appeals to try to help retention. We had quite a few of the students stick around and use that grace. She said it is difficult though for students who fall under a 2.0 GPA, because they lose aid. We are trying to maintain data for our grants, Dan Jardine in institutional research has worked hard to keep up that data. Provost Poppo shared a few slides from some of the things we were able to purchase through the Wilson Grant, the mechatronics lab, and it paid for a faculty member in this program. Funds through a SUNY PIF grant that also helped fund the Clean Energy Lab. Another big purchase with the Wilson grant funds was the New Milking Robot in the Agricultural Automation program. Also, a Robotic Feeding system for the cows. They were also able to purchase a new drone for the farm to monitor animals feeding and grazing patterns, and also new iPads for the farming students. Oishei grant monies were used for HVAC Renovations and renovations for the senior lab in the Workforce Development Building. They are going to be building a 3-story heating and cooling system lab for use. This will allow us to double the number of students we can have in that program. Provost Poppo shared drawings of this project plan done by an architecture student. She said the last project was culinary renovations in the student dining area. Chair Fogarty asked a question about the SOS fund vs the HART group. Provost Poppo explained that we took the two initiatives and merged them in to one. Pat suggested email contacts for HART for contributions.

-**Business Affairs (Chief Financial Officer Greenthal)**

CFO Greenthal shared a financial update. He explained that the CARES Act and stimulus money intended for higher ed was given with stipulations. We received $4.4million, and half of those funds went directly to students while the other half was used to offset refunds that we gave back due to students being sent home early. The next package will have $2.2Mil going to students and $4.7M will be going back to the college to help reimburse expenses for COVID the college has had. These funds will help fill the financial gap for 19-20. To date we have $7.8Million in COVID expenses. $600K in just PPE and products we have needed for COVID. This does not include the testing or campus changes. CFO Greenthal shared that the Governor’s budget was received, and funding for SUNY looks better than anticipated. The budget calls for 5% decrease in much of the higher ed funding, vs the 20-50% we thought would happen. We are expecting $6Billion to come to the state of NY, that is 1.7% of the total to come to SUNY. As of right now, salary increases will be in those budgets, predictable tuition and maintenance of effort are frozen for a 2-year time frame. We must have flexibility in procurement. He reported that in the Capital/Facilities side we have some projects moving forward. Large Infrastructure project for sewer, water, IT, electrical systems to be upgraded and updated. With intentional landscaping and grounds work to tie the campus together when finishing these projects. Roof projects are taking place. The Orvis gymnasium roof was done with issues which ended in us getting a new gym floor. The Pioneer Lounge area is going to be turned into an eatery. CFO Greenthal showed pictures of the Pioneer Lounge and the updates taking place. He also shared pictures of the farm project and the milking room that was added on to house the new robot. There is a viewing room on the milking room. Efficiency for milking is supposed to increase and improve total milk production. This again was funded by the Wilson Foundation. Shared a picture of Gymnasium floor. Facilities was also very busy over break trying to improve the spacing and social distancing layouts and of course trying to increase student amenities where possible.

**8. Constituency Reports**

-**Alumni Representative (Mr. Jack Benjamin)**

Mr. Benjamin updated that alumni had a virtual wine tasting event at Heron Hill and had 30 participants and 7 donors. The next event is in March. Hoping for a good attendance. Chair Fogarty thanked him for the report.

-**Faculty Representative (Mr. Michael Colomaio)**

Senate has elected six members for the presidential search committee, the faculty elections will be held in April. New college council rep, new chair, and a new president. Senate approved the assessment.

-**Student Representative (Baylee Durantini)**

Ms. Durantini wanted to share that students have a full executive board, which they are excited about. They just had their first meeting. Chair Fogarty thanked her.

**-ACT Update (Mr. Ronald Nasca)**

Last ACT meeting was on Jan 18th. Talked about dues, conference this year, scholarship luncheon. They are trying to determine if the conference will be in person, virtual or hybrid. There are some factors with contracts at Turning Stone. They have $50k in the account and the 2019 conference was $41k leaving only $9k. If dues are not collected, then they will not have the funds have an in-person conference. If they have a scholarship luncheon, dues will need to be charged at least in part. Jim Campbell is the ACT liaison and Elizabeth Right will be the new ACT Liaison. Teare is the connection locally for all the groups. Conference is slated for this October.

**9. Unfinished Business**

**10. New Business**

A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Charlie Craig, Mr. Ron Nasca seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:29pm.

**Meeting Minutes Recorded by:**

Ms. Trish Haggerty

Secretary to the College Council