

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE
COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING
December 6, 2017

Council Members Present: Dr. Patricia Hill Williams, Chair; Ms. Kathleen Ferrell; Dr. Kenneth Card; Mr. Paul Caroleo; Ms. Randi Shubin Dresner; Mr. James E. Durant; Mr. Robert Sweeney and Mr. Cal Jimenez. Mr. Ernesto Mattace joined the meeting via phone.

Excused Absence: Mr. David Curry

College Administration: Dr. John Nader; Dr. Veronica Henry; Mr. Patrick Calabria; Dr. Tom Corti; Mr. Greg O'Connor; Ms. Nancy Connors;

Guests: Mr. Marvin Fischer; Ms. Kathryn Coley; Ms. Claire Lisi; Mr. David Phylfe

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2017 as written.

MOTION CARRIED

- **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** Chair Williams attended the International Energy & Sustainability Conference in October on campus. It was outstanding not only for those who have great knowledge and who are experts in the field, but those who are homeowners and have a need to know regarding energy usage. We were pleased to learn that Farmingdale is on the cutting edge when it comes to energy and sustainability.
- Dr. Williams attended UN Day and spoke with some of the students in Bunche Plaza and shared information with them about Ralph Bunche.
- Chair Williams was invited for an interview on RAM Nation radio. She was impressed with the state of the art equipment at the station which is located in the newly renovated Conklin Hall.
- Chair Williams thanked all of the College Council members for supporting the President's Gala by purchasing an ad. It was a very successful event and the Council was well represented by David Curry and Randi Shubin Dresner.
- Dr. Williams said she is pleased and proud to join faculty and staff who have been inducted into the Social Justice Distinguished Scholars Academy. Dr. Miriam Deitsch inducted Dr. Veronica Henry among others, into this Academy.
- Congratulations to Farmingdale State College on being the first recipient, along with SUNY Oswego, of the Diversity Conference Institutional Award.
- Ms. Williams attended the ribbon cutting at the new LI Harvest Food Pantry in Bethpage. They are continuing to do marvelous things for the LI Community including partnering with an organization that works closely with victims of domestic abuse. Chairman Williams asked Ms. Dresner, CEO of LI Harvest, to elaborate on the program mentioning that Farmingdale students also participate in collecting donations for the pantry.
- **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Chancellor Johnson visited campus in early November to meet with President Nader and a Farmingdale alum who is a personal friend of the Chancellor, as a follow up to their initial introduction in Washington, DC. It was a very brief 90 minute visit and the Chancellor thanked us for introducing her to so

many students while she was here. She even got to shoot hoops with Ram-Bo in the gym. President Nader said he is sure the Chancellor will return for a more extensive visit sometime in the near future and he will keep the Council informed.

- The Provost's Office received six Performance Improvement Fund awards totaling approximately \$935,000. It was a very cumbersome process which lasted almost a year and Laura Joseph, Michael Goodstone, Allison Puff and individual deans deserve much of the credit. We are still waiting to hear on the seventh proposal.
- The President's Gala was very successful and grossed \$200,000. We met with honoree D3's president and they are interested in expanding the scholars program with a significant contribution.
- The College is the recipient of a Tortora-Sillcox grant in the amount of \$75,000. Mr. & Mrs. Sillcox are an extraordinary couple who are very hands on when it comes to working with the students they are financially supporting. We hope to expand the program in the future.
- The College received the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Institution Award, sharing this first-time award with SUNY Oswego. President Nader congratulated Veronica Henry who, along with her team, prepared the application for the award. Dr. Henry, Dr. Joseph, Dr. Greenwald, Dr. Deitsch and others were in attendance at the Diversity Conference in Albany when the award was given.
- As a result of an internal control review it was recommended that we re-visit our campus Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Plan, The Committee has met, divisions and departments are reviewing their individual plans and Chief Fischer is working on a handout to serve as a guidance tool for all staff. Division and department heads will meet on January 25 at Administrative Council to discuss this as the safety of our students, faculty and staff is so important.
- President Nader said he is expecting a guidance document from SUNY on a formal policy as public colleges and universities are expected to provide access to people for free speech. A discussion ensued. Farmingdale's legal counsel, Christine LaPlace, is working with SUNY on this.
- Provost Joseph was attending a meeting of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education so in her absence President Nader shared the positive results of the recent Assessment Report conducted on campus to satisfy the requirements recommended by SUNY and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. We track specific disciplines (math, eco, etc.) to see if we are meeting or exceeding performance standards. We are now performing well although we had been under-performing in the past.
- Enrollment: Pat Calabria reviewed an enrollment report and reported we exceeded 9600 students this semester and looks to be promising for the near future. He mentioned that retention has a lot to do with the increased numbers. Also our good value; central location; relevant academic programs; appearance of the campus and some new and newly renovated buildings (School of Business, Conklin Hall, Library, Books 'n Beans, Nold Athletic Complex).
- Dr. Nader reminded all that with the increased enrollment come constraints on capacity. While we've gone through many improvements on campus, none of these has added much needed classroom space. Dr. Nader has appointed a Space Task force to examine how we use our space on campus and continues to focus on the Building for Applied Social Sciences. Senator LaValle has been great on this and other legislators are taking a growing interest because they know of the success we've had and that we are poised to grow.
- International student enrollment is down but part of that is due to the political environment. President Nader has asked the Office for International Education and Programs to re-focus their efforts to provide more Study Abroad programs. We have 350 students from 72 countries.

- Tobacco Use Policy: Dr. Nader asked a working group to re-visit the Tobacco Use Policy and recommendations were brought forth to include a smoking area on the campus periphery near parking lots. Smoking areas would be located 50 feet or more from buildings. Going smoke free on this campus will be an issue and we think this approach will be an improvement. We will need a promotion campaign, positive reinforcement, etc. Ms. Ferrell thinks we should take a year and move towards a totally tobacco free campus. They have been successful at Stony Brook with their policy. Dr. Nader said that our policy will be drafted for review by the Council.
- PGA Update: Greg O'Connor reported that the calendar for spring 2019 has been adjusted to accommodate parking for the PGA. We are currently in negotiations with the PGA for reimbursement of costs, fundraising and possible internships for our students.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Lisi

Minutes approved by College Council 02/07/2018

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday, January 23

Wednesday, January 24

Winter Commencement 11am – Nold Athletic Complex

Snow date: same time/place

Next meeting of the College Council is Wednesday, February 7 at 10:00am in the President's Boardroom, Horton Hall