

SUNY CANTON COLLEGE COUNCIL

266th MEETING

December 5, 2014 ~ Revised

Present:	Ronald O’Neill, Chair Joseph Rich Melissa Cummins	Timothy Currier Thomas Sauter	Marie Regan Roger Sharlow
Absent:	Grace Burke	Cecily Morris	Chloe Ann O’Neil
Others:	Zvi Szafran Charles Fenner Shawn Miller Lenore VanderZee	Courtney Bish David Gerlach Travis Smith Michaela Young	Elizabeth Erickson David Hartle Karen Spellacy Al Mulkin

Call to Order

Chairman O’Neill called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Mr. O’Neill provided some introductions and explained to the Council that the presentation by Deputy Chief Mulkin would allow the Council members to ask questions about the recent Yik Yak incident.

Presentation

Mr. Mulkin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Yik Yak incident (see attached). He went over the timeline and explained the steps that were taken. The group had a discussion on what happened and how it was handled. Mr. Mulkin explained that there have been after-action meetings as well to discuss what happened – what went well, how we can do better, etc. It was noted that the person who made the threat has been arrested and is in jail; no bond has been set at this point. The Council expressed concerns that they were not notified when it was happening. Dr. Szafran explained that he was set to call Chairman O’Neill when the second post came through, and that is when the lockdown took place. It was suggested that maybe the Council members could be set up for campus alerts through NY Alert. Mr. Mulkin explained what the Emergency Resource Response Group (ERRG) was and the different matrix levels. It was stated that this past Wednesday the Student Government Association (SGA) awarded the University Police with a proclamation for a job well done regarding this incident. The Council members stated that they appreciate the efforts on how the situation was handled.

Advisory Board Appointment

Mr. Currier made a motion to accept the Advisory Board Appointment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sauter and approved.

Minutes of September 9, 2014

Mr. Rich made a motion to accept the September 9, 2014, minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Regan and approved.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Chairman's Report

Chairman O'Neill stated that he went to the annual ACT Conference on October 24-26, 2014 and noted that it was sparsely attended.

President's Report

Dr. Szafran shared some key points of things that are being worked on or have happened:

- Working to develop new degree programs – mechatronics engineering, agriculture management, hospitality management, applied areas of computing
- Working to establish the State's College of Homeland Security on our campus in partnership with Clarkson. This participation would allow for the first master's degree to be offered on our campus.
- Working to identify ways to get a legislative earmark to renovate Dana Hall, which would be the home for this new college.
- Working to meet with every academic department to hear their challenges and opportunities. Have met with most.
- Have had some recent accreditation visits – Dental Hygiene program and ABET site visit for the two-year programs – which went very well.
- Gave a welcome to the Funeral Services program that included off-campus Funeral Directors.
- Attended the Advisory Board meeting for Alternative and Renewable Systems.
- Held an open forum for faculty to discuss the Student Comment Form and the possibility of having an advocate-based tenure program. Both of these topics were well received and will be further reviewed.
- Will be approaching Open SUNY with a proposal to offer more of the core online programs.
- Have begun revamping Open Houses to improve them – a faculty/staff band has been added, along with involving Deans in some roundtable discussions and getting faculty more engaged. The attendance numbers are good.
- Working to bring in additional International students.
- Have met with the Greek Council, SGA, and others to ensure their concerns are being met/addressed and that their suggestions are heard.
- Inaugurated a speakers' series by industrial and community leaders on campus.
- Hosted a very large career fair on campus.
- Revised the Emeritus policy to be completely administrative and in line with SUNY policy.
- Held two successful Labor/Management meetings.
- Attended some nice Alumni events.
- Working on a possibility for a solar farm to be on campus and a meat packing company as a StartUp NY effort.
- There have been two namings on campus – Joey's for the Renzi Family and the Athletic Classroom for the Coakley Family.

- Working with other campuses on some community outreach – Town Gown Alliance, Institute, and Joint Leadership. There is a possibility for a joint bus service that would extend our current services.
- Performed a Chemistry Magic Show during the Read Aloud Program.
- Attended a Middle States Accreditation Conference where they announced that their criteria has been changed. This is good to know ahead of time.
- Had a meeting of the Technology College Sector Presidents. SUNY sees this sector as the innovative sector.

Academic Affairs Update

Karen reported that enrollment numbers are up slightly for first-time, full-time students, but transfers are down from last year. They should be better as we get closer to spring.

SUNY has a transfer mobility project that almost all bachelor degrees and associate AS and AAS degrees need to meet a transfer path. All of the degrees are being reviewed to be sure the criteria is met.

Some degrees are going through a name change. The Electrical, Civil, and Mechanical four-year technology programs now have ABET accreditation and can add Engineering to the title. Once campus approval is given, they will be sent to SUNY and State Ed for approval. Consideration is being given to change some of the bachelor of technology degrees to a BS or a BBA; the determining factor of making them a BS or a BBA is the number of liberal arts courses in the degree. This will help Admissions when they are recruiting because a lot of people do not know that a bachelor of technology is a four-year degree.

She reported that there are other degrees that we are considering – Game Design, Mechatronics, Business Analytics, Hospitality, Material Science, two-year Legal Studies program, four-year Accounting program. Market research is being conducted to see which ones are best to pursue and can be funded.

Administrative Affairs Update

Ms. Miller reported that the target revenue was met and exceeded by \$400,000 this fall. The NY State full-time, part-time is down a bit, but it was made up by the differential of out-of-state revenue. She is watching 2015-16 closely and also sits on the Enrollment Management Committee where she can watch for the impacts to the budget. She expressed some concerns about the budget – NY State is still not funding the collective bargaining increases, and each campus has to pay the tap gap. As of December 1, SUNY Canton has paid out \$637,000 in tap gap funds. SUNY is discussing whether or not to ask to continue with the tuition increases through 2020. The funding of collective bargaining increases would help SUNY Canton more than receiving the tuition increases.

Lasting, she shared that the allocated legislative funds for the projects in Chaney Dining Hall and for the nursing labs have not come through yet.

Advancement Update

Mr. Gerlach shared that the Audit Committee of the Foundation reviewed their 990 (tax return), and there were no issues.

The staff have been traveling all over and have had great travel/events with the President. He has been well-received. He reported that they are working on some significant gifts and are keeping their fingers crossed.

Mr. Gerlach mentioned that the Foundation has been approached by the College to use some of the land that the Foundation owns for a solar project. The Foundation Board has passed a resolution approving the use of the land if the College can make this project happen.

He shared that their phone-a-thon is complete, and their annual appeal is still drawing in funds. The After Canton publication is done, and PR did a wonderful job with it. The Council will be receiving a copy. Also, they are on track for their fundraising for the year.

Faculty Affairs Update

Liz Erickson reported that the Provost search is underway, and hopefully by the beginning of the spring semester, on-campus interviews will be scheduled.

They had their first vote on the academic calendar, and it was determined to keep the calendar the same as this past fall with no fall break and a full week at Thanksgiving. She explained that the academic calendar is a sub-committee of Faculty Affairs now.

She also shared that all of the Campus Governance Leaders received a request from the SUNY Provost to look at the SUNY matrix, which could be used for additional State funding, and the Presidential 360 Review, which is what the Chancellor uses to evaluate the campus presidents. Liz met with Dr. Szafran and Karen to decide which ones SUNY Canton would like to be measured on and which ones not to be. The determination was moved forward to the faculty/staff for review. Liz has been involved in some follow-up phone conversations with the SUNY Provost and others to get details on how SUNY will move forward with this. It sounds like the measures will be grouped by sector.

Public Relations Update

Travis Smith reported that his team has been working on the After Canton publication. The College has received designations for the following: STEM Jobs Approved College for 2015, Military Advanced Education Top School for 2015, and named 50 Most Affordable Public Schools for Out-of-State Students by Affordable Colleges.com. Travis also shared that SUNY Canton is marketing in Syracuse with a giant banner as an advertisement.

Student Affairs Update

Courtney Bish directed everyone to the SUNY Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response document in their packet. This document will need the College Council's approval before March, so she wanted to share it with the Council now. She asked that they review it, and she will bring it back to the Council for a vote at the next meeting. She indicated that this came down from the Governor's Office to SUNY for campus response to sexual assault. SUNY had already been doing this, but there have been major revisions. Some key points: need to make sure that victims know how to receive confidential support both on- and off-campus; need to include a victim's Bill of Rights; need to have a bystanders' policy in place so someone cannot be penalized for another charge if they are sexually assaulted; need to make victims aware of available remedies such as changes in course schedule, no-contact orders, adjudication, etc.; need to redefine "consent" clearly; need to train all students on Title IX and sexual

assault in the fall of 2015 (working to create an online module for this); and all of the student-athletes, student leaders, organizations, residence hall staff, etc. have to have orientation and training on this prior to them performing the duties of their position. The Title IX Committee is meeting and working on plans of how to implement all of this. Mr. Sauter asked about the process, specifically if this was a typical top-down SUNY policy where they are going to give the Council a final document and say do this. It was clarified that this is the final document, and it contains changes from the document approved in the Fall. These changes stem from the Governor's charge to the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor to be sure that campuses are tackling sexual assault. Mr. Sauter stated that sexual assault is a crime in the State of New York and feels this document gives students the option of having a non-criminal adjudication of an incident. He wonders what the burden of proof is in that and if peoples' civil rights are protected. He referenced the section on page 9 of this document that refers to a person being able to have an "advisor." He is concerned that that should say lawyer instead. Courtney clarified that it can be a lawyer; it can be anyone. The use of "advisor" is in the broadest sense. She also pointed out that our campus policy does specify "lawyer," as well as other options. Mr. Sauter states that he does not think that is good enough as this potentially has long-lasting, life-changing impacts on both parties. Mr. Mulkin explained that this document stands out from the other one by making sure it gives both parties the same rights because before it was leaning towards the victim having all of the rights. Courtney acknowledged that she understands Mr. Sauter's point and added that this is a topic that has been debated at the SUNY level in regard to if this is the right approach or not. Mr. Currier asked if the distinction was that they could choose to take this through the administrative process or the criminal process. Courtney stated yes and added that they could do both. Mr. Sauter referenced the recent case that happened on Jefferson Community College's campus and reiterated that sexual violence is a crime and should only follow the criminal process. Courtney stated that their office never talks a person out of going that route, but they have to provide the option. Dr. Szafran added that it is a bigger topic than just having SUNY say to adopt it; it is also coming from political initiatives at the State and Federal levels. It is made very clear through those initiatives that the victim has the choice of going through the criminal process, other means of adjudication, or no means of adjudication. Mr. O'Neill commented that it has always concerned him as to why alleged crimes on a college campus are treated differently than ones committed off campus; there seems to be choices where there are not normally any. Dr. Szafran reiterated that there are still choices off campus as well; they still have the choice to not report it. Dr. Szafran pointed out that choosing to involve or not involve the police is the same for on- or off-campus crimes. The difference is that a campus is an individual entity and allows for an additional step, which complicates things. Mr. Sauter does not feel that the campus judicial process and the criminal process are even closely related. He points out that the campus judicial process relates to a person's ability to be part of life on campus, and the criminal process may send someone to state prison for five years. He further notes that the worst that could happen on campus is that a person has to go home. He is bothered that the State is telling the Council to consider a policy that would allow a sexual offender to just be simply dismissed from college. He does not feel that possibly having the offender on the street is justice for either party. Mr. Currier stated that this protects the victim more. Ms. Regan pointed out that she believes that if a student chooses to do it administratively it would be because there was a hope for more confidentiality. Courtney shared that generally that is a big concern – having to face their attacker. Ms. Cummins shared that most of the time a person who has been sexually assaulted or harassed has a mindset of being afraid to face their attacker. She added that they do not want to see them when they go to class, and they do not want to report it to the police as they feel it is their fault in some way. Dr. Szafran noted that all of these things are to give the victim options. He also noted that it is SUNY's way of providing a fair process for both the victim and the accused. Mr. O'Neill mentioned an example of

concern to him – if there is an alleged rape that is dealt with administratively and the student was kicked out of SUNY Canton and goes down and commits another crime there is going to be a lawyer that comes back and talks to SUNY Canton. Mr. Sauter asked how this affects the Clery reporting – if an allegation is adjudicated administratively, that is not a criminal case, so does it not get reported as a criminal case on campus? Mr. Mulkin replied that it does get reported as a crime on campus. Which way it is reported is due to various factors – Title IX is one of the factors which leads to a lot of requirements. Mr. Sauter also asked Mr. Mulkin about what they do about having evidence for a crime that is going the administrative route. Courtney and Al explained that evidence is not gathered if they do not choose to go that route, and if they decide to not pursue that route after beginning it, the officers are no longer involved. However, there are instances where they would have to investigate – if there are more than one report of the same crime.

Courtney also shared that the men’s basketball team will be playing in the Barkclay Center in NYC on December 16; a group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni are being transported down for the game.

Lastly, she shared that Heritage Hall’s East Wing will begin renovation in the spring. They will do one wing per spring semester until all traditional halls are done.

Student Government Association Update

Melissa Cummins stated that they are focusing on getting students more involved and instilling school pride. They are looking into having banners for each club to hang in the Campus Center. They sponsored a commuters’ stress-free lunch in the commuters’ lounge to connect with them one-on-one as they are a large population of our students and hard to reach. Melissa shared that they finally got a new secretary. They also have monthly discussions with the President, so they can bring up student concerns.

University Relations

Lenore shared that the first sponsor application for StartUp NY has been submitted for SUNY Canton. It is a small company that will move into space on campus. The company is Adirondack Operations.

She also shared that an amendment to the campus plan was submitted today.

There has been positive responses from the legislature for support with the College of Homeland Security and the new degree programs.

She shared that Congressman Owens has agreed to be our Commencement speaker for this coming May; he was very pleased to be asked.

Another company that is interested in StartUp NY is an off-shoot of United Helpers. They are looking to start a food hub and meat processing firm. This would help with the agricultural-management program. There will be meetings to come. Dr. Szafran added that the Renzi family is also interested in helping with the agricultural-management program as well.

UUP Update

Dave Hartle shared that they have been very active this semester; they have held monthly Executive Board meetings, a Labor/Management meeting, a Contingent Concerns meeting, and two General Membership meetings.

The discretionary salary awards were distributed by Dr. Szafran. It was also noted that the deficit reductions are coming due to be paid back in 2016; it is roughly figured that it will cost the campus about \$500,000 to pay this back.

He announced that they will be holding Chapter elections again next spring. And, on March 10, 2015, the State-wide UUP Chapter will be holding an outreach effort called Tech Sector Day at the Legislative Office Building in Albany.

Executive Session

The Council went into Executive Session under the Open Government Law, Section F.

Mr. Sauter made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sharlow and approved.

Return to Open Session

In Executive Session, the Council took action to approve two naming resolutions to be moved forward to SUNY for consideration.

Adjournment

Ms. Regan made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cummins and approved at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michaela Young
Secretary to the College Council