

SUNY Canton College Council

243rd Meeting

September 28, 2010

**Present:** Ronald O'Neill, Chairman      Jennifer Bernadotte      Grace Burke      Richard Callan  
Timothy Currier      Cecily Morris      Chloe Ann O'Neil      Thomas Sauter  
Roger Sharlow

**Absent:** Anthony LeBarge

**Others Present:** Joseph Kennedy, President      Ryan Deuel      Charles Fenner      David Gerlach  
Christine Gray      John Nixon      Randy Sieminski

***Call to Order***

Chairman O'Neill called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

***Minutes of May 22, 2010***

Mr. Currier made a motion to approve the May 22, 2010 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. O'Neil and carried.

***Advisory Committee Appointments***

The following advisory committee appointments/reappointments were presented for approval:

Nursing Advisory Committee:

Ms. Margaret Sorensen, Adirondack Medical Center, two-year appointment

Ms. Linda McClarigan, Alice Hyde Medical Center, two-year appointment

Mr. Tim Farrell, St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, three-year reappointment

Service Members Advisory Committee:

Mr. Joseph Agresti, U.S. Army, Fort Drum, three-year appointment

Mr. Matthew Flynn, NYS Dept. of Labor, Div. of Employment & Workforce Solutions, three-year appointment

Mr. Randy Burke, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1231, three-year appointment

Mr. Gerald F. Lambert, Canton Central School District, three-year appointment

Mr. Thomas Coakley, St. Lawrence University, three-year appointment

Ms. Nellie Coakley, Vet Center Program, U.S. VA, three-year appointment

Ms. Katherine Lauzon, North Country VA Clinic, three-year appointment

Mr. Glenn Nichols, American Legion, SLC, three-year appointment

Mr. Thomas Robinson, NYS Div. of Veterans Affairs, three-year appointment

Mr. Patrick Rourk, St. Lawrence County Veteran Service Dept., three-year appointment

Mr. James Hassett, U.S. Army, three-year appointment

Mr. Scott Toth, Army ROTC at Clarkson, three-year appointment

Mr. Todd Conners, American Legion Post 1479, three-year appointment  
Mr. Frances Byington, Amvets Post 4, three-year appointment  
Mr. Kent-Eric Hedberg, SUNY Canton Student Veterans Assn., three-year appointment  
Mr. Peter Wycoff, three-year appointment  
Mr. John Lancaster, National Council for Independent Living, three-year appointment

Mr. Sauter made a motion to accept the advisory committee appointments/reappointments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sharlow and carried.

### ***Harry King Resolution***

The following resolution was presented for approval:

*WHEREAS, Harry E. King is a graduate of the Class of 1940 and received his Associate of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering Technology; and*

*WHEREAS, since graduation Mr. King returned to Canton and founded the Air Conditioning Engineering Technology program in 1946; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King dedicated himself to teaching at SUNY Canton for thirty-seven years; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King has trained and mentored hundreds of successful graduates who have gone on to be community leaders and supporters of Canton; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King established and continued to fund a scholarship for three Air Conditioning Technology students; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King was voted Distinguished Alumnus in 1979; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King was honored as SUNY Canton Distinguished Faculty in 1981; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King was recognized by the naming of the 2003 Honors Convocation Ceremony; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King's commitment to SUNY Canton spans three generations of students through his active teaching, service on the Alumni Association Board, and presence at nearly every open event the College has sponsored; and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. King was loved by all students and the SUNY Canton community for his inspiration and dedication; therefore be it*

***RESOLVED:*** *That the College Council of the State University of New York, College of Technology at Canton, salute Harry E. King for his many contributions to the College, its students, and its alumni on this the twenty-eighth day of September, Two Thousand and Ten.*

Dr. Burke made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morris and carried.

### ***New Program Proposal***

The Veterinary Technology, B.S. program proposal was presented by President Kennedy.

Mr. Callan made a motion to approve the Veterinary Technology, B.S. program proposal. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morris and carried.

### ***Chairman's Report***

Chairman O'Neill reminded College Council members of the upcoming ACT Conference in October. Anyone wishing to attend, should let Mrs. Basford know as soon as possible.

Mr. O'Neill shared a copy of the New York State Education Law (356). This outlines the responsibilities of the College Council members.

Chairman O'Neill mentioned the new residence hall construction celebration that was recently held on campus. It was a great celebration with a huge crowd. He stated that there are some amazing changes happening on the campus. The long-term success of the college is a result of making the right short-term decisions. The Convocation, Athletic, and Recreation Center (CARC) is a perfect example of this. The college's success and growth would not be possible without the leadership of President Kennedy and the work of his dedicated staff.

### ***President's Report***

Enrollments are at an all-time high. The College broke a 33-year-old record for the most applications in the school's history with more than 5,500 applicants this year. This has allowed us to be more selective. We have denied the largest number of students in the history of the college; close to 1000. This has moved the college into a new market place. When you are in a smaller market, you are looking at students who are primarily interested in two-year degrees. The expanded number of applications has defined us as being more successful in a broader market. The number of first-time, full-time freshmen is virtually the same this year, but our enrollment numbers increased. This is because our returning student numbers increased by several hundred students.

Mr. Sharlow asked about the denials, and a concern was raised in regard to a student with a GPA lower than the standard being denied even though they may be a good student. It was explained that our denials have increased from 160 to 1000 over the past year; however, we have instituted special programs to help students with low GPAs in gaining retention. We also give opportunities to academically-suspended students to prove themselves and then return to SUNY Canton.

Dr. Burke asked if a report card on retention would be released. President Kennedy stated that System Administration would be releasing a report card on the campuses in May, and we will also be doing one for ourselves.

### ***Academic Affairs Update***

A new program was created this semester that was called the Jump Start program. The program brought in thirty-six students who were less academically-prepared than others. They arrived on campus a few weeks before other students and were graded on Math, English, and behavior. If they passed all three, they were allowed to enroll at the college. Thirty-two students are still with us. Two left for behavior issues and two left for academic issues.

Another new program that has been implemented this semester is the Be Proud program. Our Pre-Criminal Justice students, many of whom are also less academically-prepared, are taking one class at a time for three-weeks. At the end of the three weeks, they begin a new course. They are in class all day with the same instructor and complete all of their homework in class as well. This program allows students to focus on one subject at a time. After one block, there has only been one failure out of sixty students.

We hope to receive approval very soon for our Applied Psychology, B.S. program. The Civil & Environmental Technology and the Electrical Technology, B. Tech. programs were both approved by the State Education Department (SED) in June. Our Sports Management, B.B.A. program was approved in June as well. Our Health & Fitness Promotion, B. Tech. program was approved by SUNY in August and has been forwarded to SED for their approval. We are awaiting approval from SED for our Mechanical Technology, B. Tech. program. With the four-year engineering degrees, we are taking a risk and moving away from our two-year engineering programs.

Vice President Gerlach recently sorted our enrollment data by program. Nursing was one of the largest with 550 applications received, of which 120 were admitted. This is the largest Nursing class ever admitted. Surprisingly, the four-year programs have moved to the top for most applications.

### ***Student Affairs Update***

An Honors Floor was created this semester. There are 25 students on the floor with a high school GPA of 88 or higher. There are two faculty mentors who coordinate recreational and academic activities.

The center of activity on campus has become Southworth Library. Daily student traffic has increased by 54%.

Our Information Services infrastructure is being upgraded. This is a \$3.5 million capital project. This will replace campus-wide cabling, network, and equipment. It will also expand our wireless network.

Our Winterterm and Summer Session enrollments continue to climb. Enrollments have grown 30+% each term for the past two summers (1265 for Summer 2010).

As Chairman O'Neill mentioned earlier, the new residence hall is well underway. The residence hall will be filled for the Fall 2011 semester. President Kennedy would like to start building another residence hall when this one is completed.

### ***Administrative Affairs***

Vice President Gray shared a handout and reported that our operating budget is \$18,898,000 with state tax make up declining. She indicated that during the budget building process our total expenditures were \$23 million, but we are only funded at about \$19 million. Our \$4.3 million problem was helped because our targeted revenue for 2009-10 was exceeded by \$2.3 million due to enrollment growth. In order to alleviate the rest of the shortfall, we may have to look at putting salaries in the IFR account; however, that is not a desired solution. The retirement of 20 employees will also help in our balancing effort. Mrs. Gray indicated that we would need

to look at the number of Spring adjuncts as well. She stated that this problem would not be without its challenges but thinks we can make it.

Dr. Kennedy interjected to report that next semester we would have two part-time vice presidents, Linda Pellett and Chris Gray. He reported that the Provost search was underway and that we had two strong candidates so far. We hope to hire someone by Christmas.

Ms. Monica Rimai, from SUNY System Administration, has shared that SUNY still plans to implement their new Strategic Plan, and rumor has it that SUNY may look to the campuses for funding on this. Mrs. Gray stated that the funding for System Administration receives some state support but generates no revenue. They are working to develop a new funding formula as the old does not work anymore. Implementation for the new formula is planned for the first of the year.

Vice President Gray reported that there have been discussions at SUNY Central about enrollment caps. These caps refer to new students – first-time, full-time students and full-time and part-time new transfer students. The capped levels would be set at the 2009 figure which would be good for us, because it was a record year. However, it is hard to predict when to stop taking applications in order to hit that cap. The Business Officers also discussed having a 1-2% leeway on either side of the cap to help with this issue. The thought process behind these ideas stems from us not receiving the Executive Budget or a tuition increase. Because the legislators did not give anything to SUNY, essentially took away from us, SUNY is trying to get the constituents of those legislators to complain – hence the imposing of caps – enough so they will have to give us something. Another reality of not receiving a tuition increase is that the college still needs to run, so in order to make up the revenue to cover the expenses, the college will have to raise fees.

Dr. Nixon asked about the CARC and Dana Hall. Mrs. Gray indicated that the CARC is coming along with completion planned for March/April. And, Dana Hall is also moving forward.

Mrs. Gray also shared information about the Facilities Master Plan that is being worked on. She reported that it is an update for all state universities. We are in the final group. Consultants have been chosen and have visited our campus. We are developing an advisory group. The update should be done by next year at this time.

### ***Chief of Staff Update***

Mr. Deuel reported that over the summer there were 50 students on campus from Russia, Ukraine, and Bosnia for a three-week program that included different excursions and courses. This year, we have 350 dual-degree students in Bosnia and plan to have 70 graduates in May/June. Ryan indicated that we thought we would have more students, but we lost some due to funding as they have to pay cash. Dr. Kennedy had Ryan explain why SUNY Canton in Bosnia is so amazing. Ryan explained that there are three different ethnicities, which only a few years back were at war, going to school together. Ryan also reported that we have an agreement in the works with the American University in the Emirates, but their accrediting body is holding things up. A clip of videotaped message from former U.S. President William Clinton was played where he congratulates SUNY Canton and President Kennedy for their partnership with Bosnia.

Mr. Deuel reported that we have been working with the Fort Drum Consortium. They have stated that by 2012, there will be 19,000 soldiers on base, so we are trying to capitalize on this.

There was not much to report on the Government Relations side other than we are in a budget crisis. There has been talk about Assemblywoman Russell and Senator Aubertine taking up pieces of PHEEIA which could result in more cuts to us. It is expected that we will have a mid-year cut.

Mr. Deuel was asked about the digester project, and he stated that it is moving along. The first five milestones are complete; we had some problems with NYSERDA signing off on a few items, but that is resolved now. He explained that the unit is coming from a German designer, and ground work should start in March.

### ***Advancement Update***

Vice President Gerlach reported that his department and the college have been very successful with enrollment growth, baccalaureate growth, and retention of all of the Admissions staff this past year. He indicated that Mr. Sieminski continues as the Director of Public Relations and has assumed the role of Director of Athletics. He also reported that David Norenberg has assumed the role of Director of Admissions.

President Kennedy asked Mr. Gerlach to explain how we recruit better students. He told the group that the GPA level for review was moved from 73 to 75 which means that the 200 students that fell between that range will not be accepted next year. The college is looking at how we recruit athletes and is expanding our instant admits. The instant admits provides an instant gratification for many high school students and may help them to choose SUNY Canton and stop applying to other colleges. Mr. Gerlach also reported that they are doing targeted bus trips and have had 90% of the students on these bus trips come here.

The new residence hall construction celebration was a hit. Vice President Gerlach showed the group a video feed from the residence hall and spoke about the lay out. He indicated it would be open on August 18, 2011. Among the events at the celebration that the students held was a raft race, and the winning raft of students will have first choice of rooms in the new residence hall. Some other activities included fireworks, bands, and a soccer game.

Mr. Gerlach reported that we received a National Science Foundation Grant in the amount of \$600,000. This grant will not only help 18 full-time students with superior performance and financial challenges, but it will lead to other grants just because we received it.

Vice President Gerlach indicated that there would be more information coming on the comprehensive campaign, *Building Champions*.

Mr. Gerlach provided a Naming Guidelines handout and pointed out that page 1's bulleted items would help to explain the different naming opportunities. He also announced the upcoming dedication of the kitchen in the Alumni House for the late Joel M. Canino.

Lastly, Vice President Gerlach announced that the Annual Scholarship Luncheon will be held on Friday, October 1 at Noon. He explained that this luncheon provides an opportunity for the donors to meet the scholars that received their donation. He welcomed the College Council members to attend.

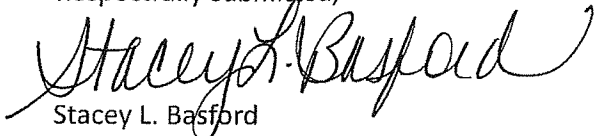
***Student Government***

Miss Bernadotte shared that the shuttle van runs from 7:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. around town and to Walmart. She asked about University Police transporting students to the bus station in the early hours of the morning. She indicated that some students had been refused. Mrs. Gray stated that she would check into it.

***Adjournment***

Mr. Sauter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Miss Bernadotte and carried.  
The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Basford

Secretary to the College Council