Council Members Present: Dr. Patricia Hill Williams, Chair; Ms. Shanice Blades, Dr. Kenneth Card; Mr. David Curry; Ms. Randi Shubin Dresner; Ms. Kathleen Ferrell; Mr. Ernesto Mattace, Jr.

Excused: Mr. Paul Caroleo; Mr. Robert Stricoff

College Administration, Staff and Guests: Dr. Hubert Keen; Dr. Lucia Cepriano; Dr. Tom Corti; Dr. Veronica Henry; Mr. George LaRosa; Dr. Henry Sikorski; Dr. Laura Joseph; Ms. Karen Gelles; Ms. Kathy Coley; Chief Marvin Fischer; Mr. Alan Hlavenka

Dr. Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 18, 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Mattace, seconded by Ms. Ferrell, to accept the minutes as written.  

MOTION PASSED

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:
Dr. Williams attended the ACT Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs in October, a very nice annual event, and she encouraged other council members to consider attending in the future. Dr. Williams, and Kevin Law, Chair of the Stony Brook Council, were the representatives from Long Island in attendance.

Dr. Williams reported that the ACT By-laws were amended and elections were held. Angela Henry, Chair of the Council at Empire State was elected president.

Presentations were made re: Community Service by SUNY students, though there was no report regarding Farmingdale students even though our students engage in community service. There was also a presentation regarding Shared Services and Dr. Williams was disappointed to observe that Farmingdale was not mentioned. Dr. Williams reminded council members of the importance of promoting Farmingdale as much as possible.

The Chancellor’s remarks were very clear regarding Open SUNY, promoting on-line courses and SUNY is trying to make them available and acceptable to students and faculty. Dr. Williams mentioned that council members may want to keep updated on this subject.

Council members are responsible for self-evaluation....what are we doing in terms of attending events, participating, and promoting the college, etc. The Chair is responsible for submitting an annual report. Dr. Williams distributed for review a copy of Oswego’s College Council Annual report. Kathy Coley has agreed to work with the Council chair to produce something similar for Farmingdale.

Each council member receives a calendar of events and Dr. Williams reminded the council to support as many activities on campus with their attendance. Another way to support the college is through contributions to the Farmingdale Foundation and the annual campaign is currently underway.

Ms. Ferrell asked if the Chancellor spoke about StartUp NY and wanted to know what the college council’s role is regarding building and land use. Dr. Williams said that the Chancellor spoke in very general terms. Dr. Keen confirmed that 3 project parcels for StartUp NY were presented and one involves the Broad Hollow Bioclence Park, but because the anchor tenant (who has left the area) has a lease, until their lease is cleared we cannot offer the parcel. We offered two additional parcels of land: 9 acres on Route 110 and 11 acres on the back side of campus which does not have easy access. Mr. LaRosa explained that as this project moves forward it will involve Empire State Development and System Administration and we don’t know just yet the extent of the Council’s involvement.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
Dr. Keen thanked Claire Lisi for taking the minutes in Ms. Anita Pallateri’s absence. Dr. Keen stated that we have been discussing the alcohol policy at Farmingdale. He introduced Dr. Tom Corti, Vice President for Student Affairs, who recently completed a review of the alcohol policies on many SUNY campuses. After speaking with different groups over the past year Dr. Corti learned that we are the only technology college that does not allow alcohol use on campus. Our proposed policy is consistent with many of the baccalaureate degree granting SUNY campuses. Why propose a change now? Dr. Corti explained that we are not the same campus today. 61% of our dorm students are over the age of 21. Many are military and international students. The average age on our campus is 24. According to the proposed policy:

- Our contracted food service will hold the liquor license and will be the only ones to serve alcohol at events and all food service employees who serve alcohol will be properly trained. Alcohol will not be served or sold in the retail operations on campus. There will be designated sites on campus where alcohol may be served by the food service vendor to students. Students 21 years of age or older will be permitted to drink alcohol in the privacy of their rooms.

- Preventative: Dr. Corti explained that we employ a full time alcohol substance abuse counselor, and we have a very proactive health and wellness center who work collaboratively with our residence life staff.

Dr. Keen suggested the council review the entire proposal and possibly bring it to vote at a future meeting. A discussion ensued and the council agreed to bring to a resolution at the next council meeting February 12, 2014. At that time the council would like to see a detailed implementation plan in terms of educating students of the policy and what disciplinary procedures will be in place for violations, should they decide to approve alcohol on campus. It was agreed that if the resolution passes, then the policy will be implemented for the fall 2014 semester in August. Dr. Keen stated that Theresa Esnes-Johnson, the Dean of Students, will be invited to attend the next Council meeting to discuss how they handle violations to the student code of conduct.

Facilities Projects:
- The campus celebrated the interior re-decoration of Gleeson Hall, honoring Theresa Santmann who donated the funds to re-do the corridors and atrium of the building.
- New elevator being constructed in Gleeson, slated for operation in January.
- SwitchGear: major project with electrical system to be undertaken on campus during the holiday break.
- The Children’s Center is slated to open in December.
- Nold Hall is scheduled to open in December. Winter Commencement will take place indoors in Nold Hall. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for January. Dr. Keen mentioned there is now an auxiliary gym where the swimming pool once stood. This gym will serve all students.
- Conklin Hall Phase I is just about complete. Funding was held up temporarily, but Phase II will now start up continuous with the first Phase and should be completed by September 2015.
- School of Business framework is up and they are beginning to enclose it. Looking at late 2014 for the completion of the building.
- Renovation of Lehman Hall will take place from 2014 through 2015. According to Dr. Tom Corti the bed count is approximately 165-170.
- Dr. Keen stated that hard work has continued on a Master Plan Amendment to allow the College to offer Master’s degrees. It is an extremely lengthy process to propose a change of Master Plan to enable the offering of graduate study. The self-study is a large set of documents to prove we are ready to offer graduate study. We are anticipating being able to submit the documents by March 1, 2014. We could possibly have approval by the end of summer 2014.
Special Announcements:

• Tomorrow evening is the Business Hall of Fame Gala at Oheka Castle and Forest Laboratories is the honoree this year. Dr. Sikorski said it may be the largest fund raiser and most profitable of the decade. Most of the money is used toward scholarship and campus needs.

• The annual Holiday party will be held in the ballroom of the new Campus Center 3-5pm on Tuesday, December 17th. All council members are welcome to attend.

• Winter commencement will take place 12noon Saturday, December 21 with a snow date of December 22.

• Campus will be closed from end of business day Tuesday, December 24 and will reopen Thursday, January 2nd. Many buildings will be closed during this time to reduce energy usage. Residence halls will be open for the international students.

Dr. Keen said a collection of food for Island Harvest will take place at the Holiday party. He thanked Randi Shubin Dresner for all of her good work at Island Harvest, and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

There being no further business, on a motion made by Ms. Dresner and seconded by Mr. Mattace, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Lisi

Next meeting February 12th at 10am.
[Approved Feb. 12, 2014]