

## FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE

### COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

October 10, 2018

Council Members Present: Dr. Patricia Hill Williams, Chair; Ms. Kathleen Ferrell; Dr. Kenneth Card, Mr. Paul Caroleo; Mr. David Curry; Mr. Messiah Gaymon and Ms. Randi Shubin Dresner via phone.

Excused Absence: Mr. Robert Sweeney; Mr. James Durant; Mr. Richard Redmond

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

Guests: Orla LoPiccolo; Kathy Coley; Carolyn Fedder; David Phylfe; Nick Georgiev

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. The order of the agenda is reversed to insure that a quorum be met for the approval of minutes.

**Chairperson's Report:** Chair Williams informs that she extended a welcome to our new College Council member, Richard Redmond who is not able to attend today. Mr. Redmond had a long career with the IBEW Electricians Union as a representative working locally, nationally and internationally. He is also Farmingdale alum. He and his wife Ellen are involved in community service and are well known and respected on Long Island. Chair Williams has volunteered with Ellen at United Way, LI. Richard is replacing Ernie Mattace on the Council.

The council was represented at several campus activities including the Legislative Breakfast, the ribbon cutting at the new Amphitheater, the Lieutenant Governor's event, Convocation and the SUNY Student Leaders dinner.

The ACT Conference this year will be attended by Dr. Williams, Randi Shubin Dresner and Kathleen Ferrell. For the second year in a row we have a student receiving the ACT scholarship. Chair Williams says we should be proud of Lauren D'Arco our Nursing student with a 3.96 GPA who represents the technical campuses. Thanks to Carolyn Fedder for preparing a nice report on the College Council to submit to the BOT.

**President's Report:** Dr. Nader reports that Richard Redmond visited campus and he looks forward to working with him. We have been making improvements to our buildings, grounds and facilities. We have a pressing need for space to carry out our academic mission. About a year ago the space task force was appointed. A comprehensive report for making better use of space by examining the academic schedule was presented. We are incrementally following some of the recommendations. Tech equipped classrooms have been added, two dozen classes have been moved to less subscribed timeslots and two temporary parking lots have been created. The report co-chaired by Charles Adair, Jack Petrich and Allison Puff incentivizes hybrid online courses, lab delivery and regular communication regarding challenges and the things we are hoping to do with campus. We are working with Empire State Development, REDC and Broad Hollow Science board to make use of the 60,000 vacant building at the BHSP. We could potentially take over one quarter to one third of the building, using space as faculty labs, classroom labs or office space. Dr. Bruce Stillman of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories visited campus and supports the idea. There is an application for a REDC grant to make changes to the layout

and HVAC system that would make the space more suitable for our purposes and the needs of small businesses. Paul Caroleo asks about building up on existing buildings and height restrictions, VP O'Connor says there is three stories airport restriction.

Applications, selectivity and enrollment are going up. At the Legislative Breakfast we advocated for the new building of Applied Social Sciences. We are over 10,000 students now and we need this new space more than ever.

VP Pat Calabria reports that we are popular due to our academic programs that get our students jobs, our campus beauty, and our location. Our applications continue to rise and get better and the GPA for those who enroll is 89. We hit all targets for the fall 2018 with growth of 1.8%. Kathleen Ferrell questions the free tuition and increase in applications. Pat states that Excelsior makes up the last gap for tuition after all other financial aid and scholarships are applied and it requires students to stay in NYS for five years so it has not had the effect that was anticipated. Dr. Card adds that room and board remains a barrier and some Excelsior students cannot afford it. Dr. Nader says he and VP Nancy Connors have been considering offering scholarship dollars to recruit residential students who want to live on campus. Our residence halls are down and part of that is because students from Brooklyn and Queens are not meeting our increasing admission requirements.

Randi Shubin Dresner joins the meeting by conference call at 10:30 a.m.

VP Greg O'Connor shares a presentation on the campus' financial picture. We have attracted outside money, including the Smart Energy Workforce Development Award through SUNY, NSF funding and a gift from Amazon for some initiatives. The Foundation has renewed commitments from Tortora Sicox, Art Corwin, Santmann scholars and D3, which now employes 40 Farmingdale graduates.

We are a tuition dependent institution, making improvements is driven by that. Mr. O' Connor reports that State tax support and students (tuition, fees, room/board) are our primary sources of funds. State tax support has been flat, only 13% of our budget comes from the state, 60 million of the budget comes from tuition. Spending is largely personnel costs. (PSR AND TS). Other than personal services (OTPS) is used for equipment, technology updating labs, and infrastructure. The budget needs to be reviewed and rebalanced starting from the department level to make a new plan going forward. The Capital program is a five-year plan made in part of campus contributions and money from the SUNY construction fund for critical maintenance. Many projects were completed in the past two years with this money, and a list of current and future projects that will enhance our enrollment and programs is shared.

Dr. Nader says that Chancellor Johnson is not supporting an additional increase in funding for campuses but she is advocating for online programming. We are in the top five of SUNY system for financial strength. Patricia asks about the Chancellor's initiative to help Foundations with grants and funding. Nancy says there has not been a lot of outreach as of yet. The Chancellor's passions seem to be energy and fundraising.

Centennial commencement in the spring. An outdoor ceremony is being planned on May 21 in the evening with a fireworks celebration at the end. 1100 graduates are expected. Chancellor Johnson has been invited to be the speaker. A special centennial working group will be planning special events leading up to commencement day and they look to engage alums and the community. Dr. Williams suggests that a College Council member or an alum be part of the working group. Kathleen Ferrell

suggests that students all rise by department at commencement and that each department does an individual ceremony. Dr. Nader notes that we considered this but parents like their students named being called and the idea of two ceremonies does not work well for our many working students. Orla LoPiccolo suggests seating by students by department at commencement.

Kathleen Ferrell asks if promoting the BHBP proposal to chairs of the Regional Council would be beneficial. Dr. Nader says there were a lot of perfect scores so it couldn't hurt.

Chair Williams ask for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2018. The motion is made by Paul Caroleo and seconded by Kenneth Card.

**MOTION CARRIED**

A Chair Williams asks for a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the special meeting on June 20, 2018 was made by David Curry and seconded by Messiah Gaymon.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Other Business:**

Dr. Nader adds that a detailed Annual Report was submitted to the Chancellor's office and the Board of Trustees which inventoried our accomplishments. He thanks the Cabinet and their areas for their work in compiling information for this document. Randi Shubin Dresner requests that the power point used at Convocation be shared with the Council. A version is posted on the President's web page under Convocation.

Patricia points out dates to remember for the semester. The President's Gala on November 15 is honoring faculty member Prof. Sharon Struminger, student Lauren D'Arco, alumni honoree, Maureen Knott and corporate Honoree Aramark. Chair Williams announces that the Council will be placing a journal ad again this year.

As there is no other business Chair Williams moves for adjournment. Motion is seconded by Paul Caroleo. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

**Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Fedder

***Approved 12/5/2018***

**Dates to Remember:**

<b>Wednesday, December 5, 2018</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. College Council meeting</b>	<b>Conklin Hall, room 100</b>
<b>Thursday, December 13, 2018</b>	<b>3:00-5:00 p.m. Campus Holiday Party</b>	<b>Campus Center Ballroom</b>
<b>Wednesday, January 16, 2019</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Winter Commencement</b>	<b>Nold Athletic Complex</b>
<b>Thursday, January 17, 2019</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Snow date Winter Commencement</b>	<b>Nold Athletic Complex</b>