

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE

College Council Virtual Meeting via Google Meets

April 7, 2021

College Council members present: Patricia Hill Williams, Kathleen Ferrell, Randi Shubin Dresner, Jim Durant, Robert Sweeney, Kenneth Card, Natalie Rodgers

Excused absence: Richard Redmond, Paul Caroleo, David Curry

College Administration: John Nader, Kevin Jordan, Greg O'Connor, Matthew Colson, Laura Joseph, Michael Goodstone, Katy Tatzel, Carolyn Fedder

Guests: Susan Conforti, Orla LoPiccolo, Lloyd Makarowitz, Brett Southard, Pete Grizzaffi

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 10:02am and asked if all were in receipt of the February 24, 2021 minutes. She entertained a motion to accept them. The motion was moved by council member Robert Sweeney and seconded by council member Kathleen Ferrell.

Motion carried

Chairs Report At the last executive meeting of Association of Council Members & College Trustees, it was agreed to continue with the scholarship for students and move forward with dues for campuses this academic year. There will not be an in-person ACT assembly in October 2021. On March 4, the Strategic Planning Committee of ACT met with Chancellor Malatras. The meeting was centered on the association's revised plan and the direction ACT would move towards. It also focused on finding out what the Chancellor's vision is for ACT. Dr. Williams attended as ACT Chair and she stated that the committee, chaired by Pat Brown from Oneonta, had good representation from Long Island. In his comments at the meeting, the Chancellor said that he believes council members are the true advocates for their campuses and that they should perform actively out in communities, sharing information with the public and private sectors. His feeling is that as leaders and voices in the community, council members can benefit the campuses they serve. Chair Williams informed that Jim Campbell, Government Relations in the Chancellors office, has retired, and now Travis Prouix is in the position and he would be working with ACT going forward. Chair Williams added that she has been involved in several of the many webinars held by Long Island organizations this year. She had the opportunity to recommend some presenters as trailblazers and was pleased to hear Farmingdale mentioned during the sessions.

President's Report Provost Laura Joseph informed that the virtual Middle States site visit is nearing and thanked Associate Provost Michael Goodstone, and co-chairs Susan Conforti and Jen Gonder for their hard work on the strong self-study report that was developed. Many supporting documents are in the evidence inventory. Council member, Randi Shubin Dresner, represented the College Council in a working group and as a liaison on the steering committee. Dr. Goodstone stated that the self-study was an effort by the entire campus. He added that council members have already met Dr. Haq, our Middle States liaison, and requested that they participate in meeting with the evaluation team on Monday 4/19 at 4pm. He asked Council to review the self-study and be able to speak to their role and involvement, how they are engaged, and how information flows to them. Dr. Goodstone specifically mentioned that they give attention to Standard 7, regarding governance leadership of the institution. He also asked that council members be familiar with the assessment reports that are shared annually and the College's strategic plan. Dr. Conforti added that council members should share the guidance that they have

provided to the campus over the past 10 years and their advocacy for the College. Dr. Nader said he will contact council members the Friday before to answer any questions and confirm details with those attending. Dr. Nader said he expects a good experience and added that the document, which identifies strengths and areas for improvement, has an extensive evidence inventory.

Executive VP Greg O'Connor reported on the many capital projects that are presently going on and that are planned for the next few years. The Lupton Hall roof replacement should be finished by September and the windows and heat are expected to be completed by 2026. Thompson Hall will be rehabilitated by 2025 and design contracts are being awarded for renovations to Sinclair Hall. Knapp interior work will start Sept 2021 end 2022, and will house access programs and grant programs. The Laffin Hall facade repair will begin May 2021 and we are looking to make a new welcome center on the first floor. The Gleeson Hall exterior facade and parking lot projects will take place from Sept 2021-May 2023. The sewer lift system is out to bid and the underground fuel tanks are being replaced. Starting August 2021, all of Roosevelt Hall will be renovated except for the Little Theatre. Ten facilities projects totaling a \$130M investment in campus will occur between now and 2025. Scheduling classes with all work being done will be a challenge. Chair Williams remarked that all of the projects are very exciting, especially the welcome center planned for Laffin Hall. Construction fund money is external and we have done well with receiving critical maintenance funds, they will have a great impact on the campus.

Dr. Nader reiterated that at the last council meeting in February, a general resolution was adopted to authorize the renaming of Conklin Hall for a local civil rights leader. Chancellor Malatras and our local legislators are in support of the idea. Given our mission, student population, and our demographics, this is a wonderful step in supporting our mission. Dr. Nader presented a formal resolution for renaming the building in honor of Delores Y. Quintyne. He thanked Dr. Williams for the introduction to the Quintyne family. Chair Williams asked for a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Sweeney made the motion to accept and Randi Shubin Dresner seconded.

Motion carried.

Dr. Nader remarked that appropriate interior and exterior signage will be installed and a renaming ceremony will be held sometime in June.

Plans for Fall 2021 Provost Joseph shared that 85% of our course sections will be offered with some on-campus modality as well as our traditional online and hybrid classes. Due to current social distancing guidelines, we have limited spaces that we can utilize. Development of an A/B schedule will allow for flexibility. If the guidance changes, we can easily pivot to fully in-person or back to remote if necessary. Fall registration will open on April 19. Council member Jim Durant inquired about mandatory vaccines for students. Dr. Joseph responded that there is no system wide mandate for students to be vaccinated at this time. Dr. Nader added that he called Dr. Merryl Tisch, BOT chair, to express his support for mandating vaccination for students and added that FSC will be promoting all campus members to avail themselves to it. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine will be available to Farmingdale students at SUNY Old Westbury. We await further vaccine guidance from SUNY.

Fall Enrollment Katy Tatzel, Marketing and Communications, said in fall 2020 we enrolled 10,000 students but there was a significant melt in spring 2021. Despite that, we still hit 99% of our target. In this challenging environment, total enrollment throughout SUNY is down 20%. We hope to enroll 10,000 again in fall 2021. Our admitted student numbers are up, our in-person tours will be starting again, and we are in front of community colleges to increase the transfer numbers. The College

magazine, FSCNow, 2021 edition, will be coming out soon. Ms. Ferrell asked if the decrease in enrollment is due to COVID or part of the nation-wide projected downturn because of population declines. Ms. Tatzel said it is more the latter, we have a smaller pool. We are segmenting communications to increase our market shares in specific populations and have realized uptick in our numbers across nearly every demographic area.

Carmencement will be held on May 22 at 10am and 2pm. Dr. Nader noted that in meeting with students, they expressed that they want a traditional graduation ceremony. He said that he empathized with students but in considering their request, it was determined that monitoring vaccines and/or negative test results would not be feasible and that our stadium could only accommodate about 400 students, without guests or spectators, to comply with current CDC guidelines. During Carmencement, each student's name will be read, they will be given a diploma cover, program, cap, tassel and other gifts. It will be radio simulcast, livestreamed, and family members can ride with them. Dr. Nader said that the events will be as participatory as possible. Other campuses are having no guests or spectators and Stony Brook is doing 10 ceremonies. We will possibly have the 2020 graduates and spring 2021 graduates back for an in-person event in the future. Dr. Nader credited student representative on the college council and SGA President, Natalie Rodgers, and the SGA for their support, suggestions and assistance in making Carmencement better for graduates. Chair Williams thanked Ms. Rodgers for her participation on the College Council and all she does to advocate for the student issues and concerns and to benefit the College.

Chair Williams asked that invitations to the Quintyne event be sent to council members.

As there was no other business, Chair Williams entertained a motion for adjourned. Ms. Shubin Dresner made motion to adjourn Jim Durant seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Fedder

Approved October 13, 2021