

**FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE  
COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING  
March 16, 2016**

Council Members Present: Dr. Patricia Hill Williams, Chair; Ms. Erica Alter; Dr. Kenneth Card; Mr. Paul Caroleo; Mr. David Curry; Ms. Randi Shubin Dresner; Ms. Kathleen Ferrell. Mr. Robert Stricoff; Mr. Ernesto Mattace via conference call.

Excused: Ms. Erica Alter, President of Student Government

College Administration: Dr. Hubert Keen; Mr. George LaRosa; Dr. Laura Joseph; Dr. Veronica Henry; Dr. Tom Corti; Mr. Patrick Calabria; Dr. Henry Sikorski

Guests: Hon. H. Carl McCall; Ms. Jennifer Loturco; Dr. Lloyd Makarowitz; Ms. Kathy Coley; Mr. Marvin Fischer; Mr. David Phyfe

The meeting was called to order at 10:04am. Dr. Williams asked for a moment of silence out of respect for the recent passing of Mr. Robert Godfrey, president of the Farmingdale College Foundation.

Dr. Williams announced that while we had anticipated this meeting would be 'streamed live' in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, this meeting would be audio-taped as in the recent past.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** Dr. Williams welcomed Erica Alter as a new member of the College Council in her role as president of the Farmingdale Student Government and introductions were exchanged.

Chair Williams requested a motion to move to Executive session as the end of the regular agenda in order to discuss personnel issues.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Dr. Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2015 as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Council was reminded that SUNY Board of Trustees Chair, the Hon. H. Carl McCall had been invited to address the Council this morning upon arriving on campus on his way to visit the LIEOC in Hooper Hall. Dr. Williams explained the meeting would progress as scheduled until Chairman McCall arrived.

Chair Williams thanked Claire Lisi for all of her assistance as liaison to the Search Committee during the recent presidential search process.

Dr. Williams said she had the pleasure of attending the Chinese New Year Luncheon on campus recently, celebrating the year of the monkey, which was quite festive. She also reported that she attended the Aviation Hall of Fame Ceremony at which Chip Gorman was inducted. Mr. Gorman is a 1987 alum and currently serves as the Deputy Director of New York State Parks, Recreation and Preservation for the Long Island region. At the ceremony students in the Aviation program were recognized for their first 'solo' flight. Chair Williams encouraged Council members to attend these college related activities whenever possible.

At approximately 10:10am Chairman McCall joined the meeting and introductions were exchanged. He thanked the Council for their hard work supporting Farmingdale State College in the past and moving forward and also complimented them on their recent work recommending candidates for president at the College. At this time President Keen announced there was a situation on campus that Suffolk County Police and University Police were investigating, which was why some attendees [Mr. LaRosa, Mr. Calabria, Mr. Fischer and Ms. Coley] left the meeting. Chairman McCall thanked President Keen for his fine leadership at Farmingdale and announced to the

Council that President Keen had been appointed the Chancellor's representative to the Search Committee for the president at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Dr. Williams thanked Chairman McCall for his visit with the Council, his service to SUNY and that we look forward to his continued support. Chairman McCall thanked everyone and left the meeting at approximately 10:22am. At this time Dr. Veronica Henry left the meeting to join Chairman McCall and Ms. LoTurco at the LIEOC.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Keen presented a motion for a resolution to name the Teaching Gardens in honor of 1960 alum Robert Ench. Dr. Keen explained that Mr. Ench had been a member of the College Council, former president of the Alumni Association, and served for a long time on the Farmingdale Foundation. And he has raised much funds for the Horticulture Program. Plans are underway to honor him at a ceremony and luncheon on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

**Budget Advocacy** - President Keen said it is a critical time in the development of the state budget. One-house bills are proposed but not fully favorable. We are hopeful a budget will pass which will support the ongoing institutions of the State University. It seems the Assembly does not want to increase tuition and does support additional state dollars. President Keen reported that he and Pat Calabria visited with Senator Venditto and hopes to meet soon with Senator LaValle, accompanied by Chair Williams. Dr. Keen stated that State University tuition is still at a relatively low level compared to surrounding Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

**Enrollment** - Dr. Keen reported that while we have not yet filed our report, we plan to hold the enrollment at the same level this year and not seek to grow. We enrolled about 8700 in fall 2015 with slightly less in spring. If we were to increase our enrollment it would be in the area of transfer students.

**Melville Road Safety** - President Keen said the college is working with the Town of Babylon on a new intersection at Melville Road and the Nold Hall exit/entrance to the College. He and Chair Williams met with state legislators and officials at the Town of Babylon. The current westbound merge lane into the campus will be eliminated and a traffic light will be installed as well as a crosswalk across Melville Road from the campus leading to the strip mall. The Town of Babylon has been exceptionally responsive and will manage the project. They hope to complete it by the summer of 2017.

**Funding** - Dr. Keen reported on some major sources of funding—4 major grants. First in the World FITW is a \$2.9 M from the US. Education Department. This tends to keep students moving towards their degree—degree retention and degree attainment. Farmingdale is the leader of this project with Central Connecticut State University, Kean University (NJ) SUNY Old Westbury, and Bowie State University (MD). Next Generation Vaccines is a \$2.25 M grant from the REDC. It is affiliated with the research of Robert Coleman and involves educating students in biotechnology. Students First and Foremost: \$1.3 M for improving student retention and increasing graduation rates. The largest grant from SUNY 2020 is \$6.65 M for establishing a center for research and technology on infrastructure and developing security for transportation systems. Farmingdale is the lead partner and we are partnering with Stony Brook University and Nassau Community College on this grant.

In answer to a question from Kathleen Ferrell regarding the extent of Farmingdale's collaborations with Old Westbury, Dr. Joseph offered that we do collaborate on academic programs and that we are currently working on an Applied Gerontology program [5 years, Master degree level].

**Tobacco-Free Campus** – While we are anxious to adopt a tobacco free policy for the campus we are facing the issue of enforcement. Kathleen Ferrell shared that Stony Brook University recently announced they are moving toward a tobacco free campus but have instituted a one year grace period of adjustment. Students and staff are encouraged to enforce the policy by reminding their colleagues that the campus is tobacco free. This practice of 'self-enforcement' is not very popular on campus. Dr. Keen feels we are moving in the right direction. There has been no smoking by state law campus buildings since the early 90's and currently smoking is prohibited within a 25 foot perimeter of buildings. Vapor/e-cigarettes are restricted in our policy in the same way as cigarettes. President Keen suggested that we need to work on a more specific plan for enforcement.

**Other Business/Announcements** - Chair Williams wanted to share, in Dr. Henry's absence, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Diversity Summit will be held on campus on Friday, April 1 from 8:00am to 1:00pm and encouraged Council members to attend. Dr. Card shared that his district's [K-12] students have been involved at Farmingdale State College with STEM related after school programs and the feedback from the students when they get to see the practical applications is so important to their future success.

President Keen announced that due to the emergency situation on campus today, the report on Emergency response preparedness by Marvin Fischer will be moved to the next meeting.

Chair Williams asked that an update be given on the Alcohol policy at the next meeting.

President Keen reminded Council members that Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am and 3:00pm. This year former state senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. will receive the Honorary Doctor of Letters. Further information regarding Commencement will be emailed to council members.

Dr. Henry Sikorski distributed the Annual Campaign support letter and pledge cards to the Council members. He said that when Development is soliciting funds from external groups, they are questioned about the participation of the internal groups on campus. He reminded council members that it is not so much the amount that is pledged, but the commitment to support the campaign. Patricia Williams announced that there was 100% participation in the internal campaign by Council members last year and she hopes to attain that goal again this year.

**Save the Dates -**

Alumni Association Awards Dinner	Thursday, March 31 <sup>st</sup> – Crest Hollow CC
6 <sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Diversity Summit	Friday, April 1 <sup>st</sup> – Nold & Roosevelt Halls
Memorial Tree Dedication - Maria Cinque	Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2:30pm – Gardens
Next Council Meeting	Wednesday, April 13 <sup>th</sup> – 10:00am – Boardroom
Teaching Gardens Dedication	Thursday, April 14 <sup>th</sup> – 11:00am – Garden Gate
Commencement	Saturday, May 21 <sup>st</sup> – 10:00am & 3:00pm

*It was agreed that Claire Lisi will provide the Council members with a comprehensive listing of all upcoming activities they are welcome to attend.*

At 11:02am Chair Williams made a motion to recess the meeting to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Council reconvened at 11:10am. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:11am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Claire Lisi*

3/30/16cl

Approved 4/13/2016