

**THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT FREDONIA
MEETING OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM
MAY 6, 2015**

Present: Cynthia Ahlstrom, Richard Alexander, Jefferson Dedrick, Russell Diethrick, Joseph Johnson, Stephen Keefe, JoAnn Niebel, Frank Pagano

Guests: Michael Barone, Dr. Teresa Brown, Dr. Robert Deemer, Dr. David Herman, Dr. Virginia Horvath, Dr. Kevin Kearns, Lisa Newell, Liz Praetorius, Dr. David Tiffany

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The College Council meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The College Council minutes of February 18, 2015 were approved without modification with a motion from Richard Alexander and seconded by JoAnn Niebel.

CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Three Fredonia seniors were recognized this year with the Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence by Chancellor Nancy Zimpher on April 2 at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY. Two of the three recipients shared their Fredonia experience with the Council. Meghan Devine from Clarence, NY, an Audio Production and Media Management major with a minor in English, said she immersed herself in campus activities beginning her first year of college. She was an integral part of the Fredonia Radio Systems where she held the title of general manager this past year. She coordinated the annual Roswell Park Cancer Institute fundraiser, Rockin' the Commons. Meghan hosted "High Noon Friday," and produced several radio features. She held an internship with Entercom Communications Corporation in Buffalo and worked with Kiss 98.5 FM afternoon's host and alum Jud Heussler. As a member of the Fredonia track and field team, she was regularly named to the SUNYAC All-Academic Team and SUNYAC Commissioner's List. Meghan was a member of Lambda Pi Eta, Chi Alpha Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Rotaract and was the recipient of several campus scholarships. Meghan plans to pursue a career in media relations or human relations after graduation. Meghan said she loved her years at Fredonia and was thankful for the number of clubs and internships that were available to her.

Courtney Loiacono from Long Island, NY, a double major in English and Women's and Gender Studies, was president of the Women's Student Union and increased its membership substantially. She served as president of Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society and was a representative on the Women's and Gender Studies Advisory Board. She served as an intern for U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and was very active with the Multicultural Affairs office on campus. She plans to pursue a Master's in Public

Administration at the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College and then pursue a career in the public sector. Courtney said her years at Fredonia were the best.

Kaitlyn Crossan was unable to attend today's meeting

APPROVAL OF 2014 GIFTS IN KIND AND NEW ENDOWMENTS

Vice President David Tiffany asked the Council for their approval, which is required by the New York State Board of Trustees, on the 2014 Gifts in Kind and new endowments. A motion was made by Richard Alexander and seconded by Stephen Keefe. Motion carried.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY CODE OF CONDUCT

Vice President David Herman and Director of Judicial Affairs Lisa Newell discussed amendments to the University Code of Conduct since it was last presented to the Council over a year ago. The Sexual Assault Prevention Act provided in the Code was changed significantly. Other changes were necessary to make the document more gender neutral. The four major changes in the policy include:

1. Students need to provide a local address for emergency purposes. This information will be required when they sign in in the fall and spring semester.
2. Hosting house parties, Section II, states that house parties violate state or local laws, jeopardizing health and safety, and are a violation of code. Dr. Herman noted that we are required to have an MOU before making an arrest off campus.
3. Hazing Policy
4. Sexual Assault Policy (includes a new definition of consent)

The Code of Conduct can be viewed at the Fredonia website:

www.fredonia.edu/JudicialAffairs/rights.asp and is also included in the Student Handbook.

Stephen Keefe made a motion to approve the proposed University Code of Conduct. JoAnn Nieble seconded. Motion carried.

When asked about activities in the Village last weekend, Dr. Herman said there were two arrests on campus (one intoxicated and one smoking marijuana). In total, there were 90 citations given out this weekend in the Village and 80 of those were to non students. The ten Fredonia students received letters instructing them to meet with the campus Judicial Board. The campus Judicial Board will decide if these students should be held accountable for their actions. All issues will be resolved before the end of the semester. If they're a senior, their diploma will be held until they fulfill their disciplinary obligation. Dr. Herman emphasized that the campus does not endorse this past weekend event. Unfortunately, social media (Facebook, Yik Yak) were a big problem this year, but overall, the weekend was uneventful. Most large groups were repeatedly broken up by the Village Police. There is some concern about the number of broken bottles in the Village.

President Horvath acknowledged the good work of the Fredonia Police, University Police, and emergency service personnel as well as the extra staff at Brooks Hospital who took a proactive approach and increased the number of personnel on duty this past weekend to assist.

BUDGET UPDATE

Vice President Liz Praetorius announced that the 2015-16 New York State Executive Budget provides a total increase of \$15.1 million to state-operated campuses. The total enacted budget is \$730.7 million and we expect to receive the same level of state support as last year; we do not anticipate any cuts. Since our enrollment numbers determine most of our campus budget, we have not yet finalized the Budget Book. Once the budget is finalized, the online document will be shared with College Council members.

The campus will address its deficit by committing to a \$2 million university-wide expenditure reduction target. Cabinet members continue to identify specific actions in their own divisions as expenditure reductions. Salary savings from vacant positions and delayed hires as well as previous years' over-enrollment revenue will be utilized to address the budgetary shortfall. The campuses utility costs have dropped so we are benefitting from those savings as well as lower natural gas prices. The campus met its revenue target. Ms. Praetorius recognized the good work of the President's Cabinet. Collectively, they have identified a number of ways to reduce expenditures.

Joe Johnson asked if the Starbucks on campus offers tuition assistance to employees similar to Arizona. The local Starbucks does not.

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

Ms. Praetorius referred Council members to the Campus Construction map which identifies all the areas on campus that will be impacted this summer by projects. The Rockefeller Arts Center addition continues to move forward despite delays. The contractor expects a completion date of September 2016. The townhouses experienced some major water damage this past winter in the exterior units. DASNY has engaged a third party consultant to review and conduct an investigation. They speculate that the damage was caused by ice and water intrusion. DASNY is expected to receive a preliminary report in the next two weeks. If there's construction issues, they can be remedied this summer, however; if there's design issues, they will be addressed next summer.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Dr. Herman said it's difficult to provide a final count at this time. Overall, it's been a challenging year due to the demographic decline and the competition with private and public colleges offering more scholarship dollars. Nationwide, we're all trying to

respond to the market place. Dr. Herman commended the many people on campus involved with enrollment planning and retention. We've tried new things such as rebranding and a new Open House format. Councilman Pagano also praised the Admissions staff for their fine efforts. Dr. Herman said the number of education majors has declined on campus, yet the job market for education majors is on the rise. JoAnn Niebel asked if campus selectivity has dropped due to the decline in applicants. Dr. Herman said it has remained consistent with SAT scores around 1100 – 1000. Holistically, the campus reviews grades, extracurricular activities, and employment. JoAnn Nieble said she is a strong proponent of the 3-1-3 program and has concerns that the student debt factor is making it difficult for many students to attend college.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Barbara Racker spoke about her role as Director of the Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery. As a director of curator at seven art galleries across the United States, most recently at Indiana State University, she is just in her first year at Fredonia. The Marion gallery hosts exhibitions by professional artists as well as Fredonia students and faculty. A senior show concludes each semester. Barbara's vision for the gallery is to raise its visibility through major original exhibitions featuring regionally and internationally acclaimed artists; collaboration with Fredonia departments and organizations in the community and across the state, and (interdisciplinary) programs that engage various audiences, and she'd like to expand marketing and publications. Primary goals of academic galleries include striking a balance between student exhibitions, campus and community programming, and creating experiential learning opportunities for students. Many Western New York artists have their work displayed in the gallery too. Barbara serves as Coordinator of the Insight/On Sight Program and she visited artist Albert Paley at his studio in Rochester, NY this past year with several students to select a steel sculpture for the campus. The piece will be transported to campus in the fall. Artist Steven Siegel brought the plastic bottle sculpture to campus near Reed Library. The title of his piece is "Fredonia the Suitcase." Dr. Brown said Barbara's work ties in nicely with the Chancellor Zimpher's most recent SUNY initiative of applied learning.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Horvath acknowledged the good work and accomplishments of the many divisions across campus. In addition to the many successful projects, several accreditations/reaccreditations were approved and the campus earned the Carnegie Engaged Campus classification. The campus also passed a new general education program and implemented a new identity/rebranded. There was also significant work in putting together a compliant regulation for Title IX, Violence Against Women Act, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, Ebola, Child Protection Act, and many requirements for federal financial aid. We're hopeful that the legislature will approve a special out-of-state tuition rate for students living within 300 miles of Fredonia, Alfred State, and SUNY Potsdam. SUNY has suggested some changes to the bill. Such changes might allow the SUNY Board of Trustees to determine up to four campuses that would have a special tuition for out-of-state students, and there is no guarantee Fredonia will be one of

them. We are hopeful that if this passes and includes Fredonia, the campuses 2016-17 enrollment will improve. We hope to know by July 1 so that we can develop our enrollment strategies for next year.

Dr. Horvath reminded Council members that commencement will be held Saturday, May 16 with two separate ceremonies at 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. For those who are planning to attend, their academic regalia will be ready for them in the Student Athlete Lounge in Dods Hall. Alum and Director of the Smithsonian Institute Jim Douglas is this year's commencement speaker.

The President's Award for Excellence and College Council Community Engagement Awards Luncheon was held on Wednesday, April 22. Recipients this year of the College Council Award were Jefferson Westwood and Christina Jarvis. The new award and luncheon were well received with over 200 guests in attendance.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Jefferson Dedrick said the Student Association faced some difficult budget decisions this past year. The student activity fee was raised from \$98.25 to \$102.00 per semester. This is a mandatory fee that's voted on every two years. The total Student Association budget was approved at \$1,331,233.23. There are currently 177 Student Association groups.

UNIVERSITY SENATE REPORT

Dr. Robert Deemer announced that the general education program was finally approved. An implementation team for the program has been formed and will be chaired by Associate Provost Lisa Hunter. The new general education program will go into effect Fall 2017. The Senate approved a change in the Bylaws to increase the number of adjunct/contingent senators from one to five. Since we have approximately 200 adjunct faculty teaching on campus, this will give them more of a voice on the Senate. Dr. Deemer said no other SUNY institution has inclusion of their adjunct faculty like Fredonia. The Administrative Review/Preferred Name/Child Protection Policies will be submitted for review this summer. The Preferred Name Committee was formed after concerns were brought forward by transgender students not wishing to use their given name. As transgender students transition into their new gender, it's important that we support them by using their preferred name on campus. Dr. Horvath said many international students prefer not to use their given name too.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Dr. Terry Brown reported that her division has been working closely with Student Affairs on first-year retention. Formal negotiations have concluded with UUP and management on Article IV, Appointment, Reappointment, and Promotion of Contingent Faculty. The revised chapter will be distributed campus wide once it receives approval by Cabinet. The policies are some of the most progressive and will preserve stable staffing and high quality teaching. Director of the Office of International Education Naomi Baldwin

continues to look at opportunities for expanding the campuses international student population. Information Technology Services has undergone several major changes including the appointment of Chief Information Officer Stephen Rieks. In spite of the financial challenges, Cabinet understands the need to invest in stable areas on campus so that we don't compromise successful programs. Consequently, fifteen vacant positions were approved for hire for the 2016-17 academic year. The estimated savings for these positions is \$150,000 due to lower starting salaries. Chairman Pagano congratulated Dr. Brown on such a thorough and transparent budget update. Dr. Brown plans to present this information to the directors, chairs, and deans on an annual basis.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE REPORT

Ms. Praetorius said Director of University Services Terry Tzitzis was recognized with the National Distinguished Service Award last month at the national conference of the National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP). The membership is made up of both public and private universities and colleges across the nation.

STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

Dr. Herman said the women's lacrosse team will play the National Championship game this Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Tracy Stenger was appointed Co-Director of the Health and Wellness Center and Director of the Counseling Center.

ENGAGEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Dr. Kevin Kearns said the Fredonia Technology Incubator continues to hold regular community events as well as economic development activities. This year the campus hosted Earth Month and sponsored over 40 events in April. He recognized Kevin Cloos, Director of Facility Services and Sarah Laurie, Environmental Safety and Sustainability Director for their efforts in making Earth Month a success. Eight trucks full of electronics were collected on campus and recycled. The event was co-sponsored by Senator Catherine Young, Sunning Electronics, and Time Warner Cable. The campus received a small monetary award for sponsoring the event. After a review of 70 applicants, Monica Kemp was hired as the new administrative assistant at the Incubator. The SUNY 2020 Grant was resubmitted for a \$17.15 million grant to build a museum and science and education center on the harbor front in Dunkirk. Two sites on the harbor front have been identified. The City of Dunkirk has offered to donate approximately two acres of land for this project.

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT REPORT

Dr. David Tiffany provided a summary of Foundation finances through the month of March. The Cathy and Jesse Marion endowment has reached a value of \$580,000. The Foundation audit was completed in record-breaking time without any citations.

The Council asked if there has been any interest in the Franklin property donated by Mr. Star. Pyramid Brokerage had some inquiries in the property, but nothing firm. Maintenance costs for the building are running approximatey \$12,000 quarterly.

Mayor Stephen Keefe said a bill was put forward for a tax incentive for property owners in the Village of Fredonia. Due to the expenses associated with providing police, fire, and ambulance service to the campus, the Village may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes.

Chairman Pagano will work with Denise to develop a schedule for next year's meetings. He hopes to hold the February meeting over the summer to avoid the inclement winter weather..

A motion to adjourn was made by JoAnn Niebel and seconded by Stephen Keefe. The Council meeting concluded at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Szalkowski, Fredonia College Council Secretary