

SUNY COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY COLLEGE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Friday February 7, 2014

Location: Student Union Multipurpose Room C

Attendance: Appointed Members of the College Council

Dr. Gary Wadler (Chair)
Dr. Debra Handel
Mr. Scott Reich
Mr. Edward Ihne
Dr. Mario Mignone
Mr. William Hohausner
Mr. Nick Savva

Representatives of the College

Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III	Dr. Duncan Quarless
Ms. Mona Rankin	Mr. Lionel Chitty
Mr. Len Davis	Mr. Anthony Barbera
Mr. William Kimmins	Dr. Barbara Hillery
Dr. Patrick O'Sullivan	Dr. Julio Gonzalez
Mr. Michael Kinane	Mr. Rollie Buchanan

I. Welcome and Meeting Opening

Chairman Wadler opened the meeting and asked the Council to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2013 meeting. The minutes were approved without dissent.

II. President's Report on the College

President Butts thanked Council Member Reich, who provided the keynote address to our students during the campus' 2014 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. The day of service was conducted as part of a larger SUNY-wide effort to commemorate the memory and impact of Dr. King. More than 100 of our students worked to prepare 250 disaster preparedness kits, which students then delivered to the Interfaith Nutrition Network food bank and the Nassau County Economic Opportunity Commission.

Opening of Spring Semester

President Butts reported that the spring semester has gotten off to a good start, except for the need to cancel 3½ days of classes due to weather. The College expects to exceed its spring enrollment targets. The spring enrollment increase might offset to some degree the \$1.3 million deficit in our projected revenue for the year (caused by the College having had a different mix of students enrolled in the fall than had been anticipated). A final determination cannot be made until after the spring census date of February 11, 2014.

State Budget Proposal

The Governor proposed a roughly flat budget for SUNY this year, which would force the campus to again stretch its own resources. SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher yesterday, in testimony before the legislature, asked for some relief, including:

- A doubling of capital expenses for campuses like ours for the coming year from \$500 million system-wide to \$1 billion. That sounds like a lot of money, but it pales in comparison to the \$2.7 billion the SUNY Master Capital Plan outlines as the need for its campuses.
- Funds to cover the \$82 million in negotiated salary increases.
- Reinstatement of funds to support programs like the Educational Opportunity Program.

College Branding Initiative

The firm Creative Partners LLC is working with the College on an effort to refine and improve its brand messaging. Members of the Creative Partners team were on campus this week to go over their conclusions after they conducted a series of focus groups and one-on-one interviews with students, faculty and staff. The meeting this week included members of the College administration and the ad hoc committee on campus branding of the Faculty Senate. In essence, what they heard validated much of what we knew about ourselves:

- Old Westbury provides a high quality education at an affordable price
- Small, intimate classes, taught by supportive professors
- Great departments that help students achieve their goals
- Need to improve a wide variety of support services

Athletic Achievement

Old Westbury's men's and women's swim team competed last weekend at the Skyline Conference Championships. Old Westbury Junior Bryan Woodhead earned the conference "Men's Swimmer of the Year" honor for the second straight year. He placed on the All-Skyline team in the 100-yard breaststroke, 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard freestyle events. During his three years thus far, Bryan has earned 11 Skyline Conference honors – including being named "Rookie of the Year" in his freshman year. At the same meet, freshman Sandi Woodhead -- yes, they are related -- captured three All-Skyline second team honors herself: in the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle and 100-yard butterfly races.

Following Dr. Butts, other members of the President's Cabinet reviewed key issues in their respective areas. Vice Presidents Marquez Bell and Langlie were attending meetings and programs off campus and were not present.

Dr. O'Sullivan, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs commented on the ongoing discussions that are taking place regarding SUNY's Seamless Transfer initiative and the potential impacts that will be felt in relation to the College's general education program, course scheduling, and common hour. He noted that a campus town hall meeting was being held soon to gain input and insight from students.

Mr. Davis, Vice President for Business and Finance discussed:

- A proposed online financial literacy program that is being made available to all Old Westbury students. The program offers both static and video presentations on topics that relate to credit, debt and more.
- The progress being made to expanding the College's use of TouchNet® to allow for online refunds for students
- The progress being made on implementing automated Financial Aid packaging, which is expected to offer more efficient processing, speed response times to students, and save time for counselors to work with students one-on-one.
- The College is in the early stages of planning for its annual regional MWBE procurement conference. Details will follow at a later date.

Mr. Kimmins, Assistant to the President for Administration, discussed necessary modifications being made to the College's co-generation equipment at the Heat Plant to limit noise and comply with new emissions standards.

Mr. Kinane, Assistant to the President for Advancement, reviewed a discussion held at a meeting of the Old Westbury College Foundation, Inc. earlier in the day where a preliminary plan regarding the celebration of the College's 50th anniversary in 2015 was proposed to Dr. Butts. He also discussed efforts that are underway to increase research on alumni to improve our College's records relating to their whereabouts, professional standing, etc.

III. Reports from Campus Representatives

Dr. Duncan Quarless, Chair of the Faculty Senate, discussed the faculty's effort in dealing with the Seamless Transfer initiative, including its work in identifying programs where there is an existing transfer path and providing input on what should and should not be in a transfer path. He noted that several programs on campus did not have clear transfer paths from other institutions at this time and how/whether those programs will be impacted.

He also pointed out that members of the Senate had concerns about such SUNY programs as Start Up NY and Open SUNY, as they are new and still formative both on campus and across the state.

Mr. Lionel Chitty, newly elected President of the Alumni Association, thanked the Council for inviting him to attend. He noted that he had not yet chaired his first meeting of the new board, so was uncomfortable making a formal report at this time.

Dr. Hillery, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, discussed the College's application for a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, which is pending approval from the State Department of Education. Discussion ensued with Council members questioning the target market for the degree and efforts that might be available to recruit students.

Mr. Barbera, Dean of the School of Business, reported on the development of a proposal for a graduate program in Forensic Accounting and preliminary discussions that are taking place between Old Westbury, Stony Brook and Farmingdale on a future offering.

Dr. Julio Gonzalez, Interim Dean of the School of Education, discussed the faculty and staff's efforts to prepare students for the new edTPA certification process and the ongoing work to

adjust and revise curriculum to better marry to the curriculum being driven by the common core implementation statewide.


IV. Comments from Council Members

Council Member Mario Mignone asked what the College does in promoting relationships between the institution and retired faculty and staff, noting receptions held at Stony Brook and other benefits provided to emeriti faculty who are then solicited for funds, etc. Mr. Kinane discussed the availability of the emeriti title and on-campus benefits that were offered.

V. Open Meeting

Dr. Wadler opened the floor to questions and comments from the public. Hearing none, the meeting was closed.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Kinane", is written over a faint, circular stamp.

Michael Kinane
Assistant to the President for Advancement