

DECEMBER 2009 COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Monday, December 7, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Present: Council Members:
P. Brennan (Chairman), J. Corasanti, P. Donovan, L. Enright,
S. Lockwood, T. Max, and D. Robinson
Guests:
R. Cavallo, E. Bankert, V. Fusco, M. Lyons, A. Panebianco, P. Perkins,
B. Reichel, J. Swann, D. Tyksinski, and W. Yeigh

Chairman, Patrick Brennan, called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Lockwood seconded by Dr. Max to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2009, College Council meeting with the clarification that College Council does not need to elect the representative from the Student Association. All were in favor.

SUNYIT ASK

Dr. Yeigh and D. Tyksinski discussed three proposals they are putting together for a federal appropriation requests. The requests discussed are:

Priority #1: Expanding the Cyber Security Industry in Central New York An Education and Research Initiative in Airborne Networking

The security of airborne networks is of vital national concern. SUNYIT and AIS, Inc., propose to develop airborne network security technology focused on broadband communications between airborne platforms for both military and civilian applications. The proposed joint research and education project will leverage existing relationships and the intellectual capital of the region to benefit the research goals of AIS, Inc., the educational goals of SUNYIT, the research requirements of the U.S. Air Force, and the technical needs of the national airborne networking security area. *This project is appropriate for DoD or Homeland Security funding. The request is for \$4M.*

Priority #2: Center for Transportation Safety and Security (CTranSS)

SUNYIT wireless network security and traffic engineer/civil engineer researchers will apply civilian technologies (e.g., smart phones with GPS and data plans and custom apps) to create a redundant layer on top of current safety measures for trains and Vehicle-2-Vehicle (V2V) networks. Initial research would focus on V2V communications and transportation terminal design. V2V communications has a broad spectrum of applications in highway, transit, railroad, and air safety and security, such as enabling vehicles to work together to improve “through put” in congested areas, reducing the need for new infrastructure. V2V would also have applications in security, where external control of vehicles to counter vehicle theft would be possible. Transportation terminal design research would focus on improving the flow of people and goods through a terminal, eliminating choke points, which offer terrorist targets, while maintaining or

increasing the effectiveness of terminals to safely handle passengers and freight. The area of wireless communications holds a wealth of untapped uses to improve the safety and security of the transportation sector worldwide. *This project is appropriate for DoD, Homeland Security or Department of Transportation funding. The request is for \$2M.*

Priority #3: Health Informatics: Keeping medical records and information secure

SUNYIT proposes the establishment of a *Center for Workforce Preparation in Health Care Safety and Security*. This center would prepare students at both bachelor's and master's degree levels for emerging fields that use technology to ensure the safety and security of patient care. Using technology to deliver online courses and webinars, the center would serve distant students and meet the continuing education needs of current health care workers. Students would use a virtual laboratory to access various computer applications. *This project is appropriate for Health and Human Services funding. The request is for \$1M.*

The group discussed combining these requests together into one ask and some felt that we may be more successful in getting approval this way. Dr. Yeigh explained that Congress could decide to do so, but we felt it was beneficial to propose these as individual proposals. SUNY could also partner any of the proposals together that they choose.

Dr. Yeigh and Chairman Brennan agreed that if anyone has personal relationships which could help provide support for SUNYIT's appropriation requests, it would be appreciated. Detailed information will be sent out to each member regarding the three proposals.

The group discussed the benefits of having a list of approximately ten requests with the anticipation of receiving funding for the top three asks. Dr. Yeigh explained that we are concerned that more than three requests would dilute our progress as we are currently updating our strategic plan and these are three clear areas we need to focus on.

Dr. Yeigh stated that we are pleased with our state appropriations projects as we have great advocates in Albany.

President's Report

Dr. Yeigh explained that SUNY is facing a \$90 million mid-year reduction. It appears that SUNYIT will be responsible for approximately \$480k. This number is lower than initially expected as SUNY System will be absorbing approximately \$50m of the \$90m.

Dr. Yeigh explained that we have been receiving transitional funding, which is anticipated to end for fiscal year 2010-11. If we are unable to receive this additional funding, it appears that our reductions will be approximately \$1.2m for the following year and potentially even higher if the State does not continue to fund upcoming raises for collective bargaining units, an additional \$775k.

The group discussed the fact that three-quarters of SUNYIT's operating budget is tied to employee expense. The majority of these employees belong to a union and we are required to give raises to everyone belonging to a union as per their contract.

Dr. Yeigh explained there is not a lot of room to cut. A better option would be to grow the campus. He advised that he recently put together a budget advisory group, consisting of cabinet members, student association, faculty assembly, and staff. The group met and broke out into subcommittees to look closer at what options are available:

1. Budget Reduction Strategies Committee will review current budget and propose how to meet permanent reductions now and beyond.
2. New Business Initiative Committee will look for revenue generating ideas.
3. Construction of Oriskany Hall Committee will determine if building the new dormitory will be cost effective and whether we should move forward.

The State of the Campus has been scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2010 and this year's event will focus on the budget. College Council members are welcome to join. The event will begin at 12:30 p.m. in Kunsela Lecture Hall.

Dr. Yeigh advised that he held a joint cabinet meeting last week which included HCCC and MVCC. Meetings will be held two times per year and we will focus on ways to improve shared services and form partnerships for joint programs.

A motion was made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Mrs. Lockwood to accept Dr. Yeigh's report as presented. All were in favor.

Provost Report

Dr. Bankert gave an update on the progress of our new programs. We recently received approval from the State Education Department (SED) for our biology program. We will begin offering specialized programs of study in bioinformatics, biotechnology and life science for pre-med students.

We have received approval from SUNY for our new electrical engineering program and anticipate approval from the SED in the new few months. We will have a suite of additional engineering programs to follow.

Dr. Bankert advised that we have just put through curriculum for a doctorate of nurse practitioner (DNP) program. We anticipate a master plan amendment will be prepared by mid-January.

A motion was made by Dr. Max and seconded by Mrs. Lockwood to accept Dr. Bankert's report as presented. All were in favor.

Vice President's Report

Mr. Reichel updated on the construction of the new Student Center. He advised that Gaetano Construction is working diligently to have the building enclosed prior to the arrival of winter weather. The anticipated completion date is November 2010.

Northeast Construction is on schedule with the Field House construction and has an anticipated turnover date of March 2011. They are currently pouring concrete and putting in the retaining walls. The athletic fields are designed and will go out to bid by the end of the month. We anticipate the new turf to be playable by fall.

Oriskany Hall is currently going through campus review. It is fully designed and out to bid. We anticipate construction to start February or March 2010.

We have completed the program study for the CAT Building (Center for Advanced Technology).

Mr. Reichel advised that the campus will be moving to Google mail (Gmail). SUNY signed the agreement on Friday and we hope to have the entire campus moved to Gmail by spring break.

We are awaiting final approval from the post office on our new street address. The new address will be 100 Seymour Road, Utica, NY 13502. We will no longer be using a PO Box.

A motion was made by Mr. Donovan and seconded by Mr. Corasanti to accept Mr. Reichel's report as presented. All were in favor.

Executive Session

Chairman Brennan requested a motion to convene Executive Session. Dr. Max made the motion, Mr. Donovan seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

At 9:16 p.m. Chairman Brennan requested a motion to return to Public Session. Mr. Robinson made the motion, Mrs. Lockwood seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Adjournment:

Chairman Brennan requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. Lockwood and seconded by Ms. Enright to adjourn the December 8, 2009 meeting of the SUNYIT College Council. The vote was unanimous. Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.