

**Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees
Education Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Whitney 210**

Presiding: Trustee Jaime Alicea, Chair

Trustees: Jaime Alicea; Dr. Donna DeSiato; William Gilberti; Melanie Littlejohn; Haley Madej; Paul Mello; John Sindoni; Mark Tryniski

Staff: Stephanie Aldrich; Derrick Carr; Mary Crawford-Mohat; Anne DeLand; Kathy D'Aprix; Dr. Karen Fabrizio; David Furney; Julie Hart; Dr. Warren Hilton; Linda Kelley; Kelly Larrivey; Mark Manning; Dr. Richard McLain; Roger Mirabito; Michael O'Connor; Dr. Katharine Rumrill-Teece; Olin Stratton; Anastasia Urtz; Dr. Larry Weiskirch; Monifa Wilcox; Dr. Eunice Williams

Call to Order

At 8:27 a.m., Trustee Alicea called the Education Committee meeting to order.

Faculty Senate

Trustee Alicea introduced Olin Stratton, Faculty Senate President, to provide an update. Professor Stratton explained that the Faculty Senate has been working on a few things, including representation on Senate. With the decrease in full-time faculty, representation is going to drop so it was recommended that the bylaws be revised to include a new ratio for Senators from a 1-6 ratio v. a 1-8 ratio. A conflict currently exists in the Math Department with pre-reqs and the removal of MAT 088 by the administration. The Faculty Senate passed a resolution against what Academic Affairs is doing in this area. On a positive note, faculty are excited with the return of the Assessment Fellows program. A number of initiatives on campus came from this program originally and it is welcomed by faculty. The Faculty Council of Community Colleges is working on a number of things, including the inequities of funding between four year colleges and community colleges. There is a push from the new SUNY Provost and the use of Artificial Intelligence. Faculty agree with the use of AI to help develop their pedagogy, but there is a push to use AI to assist students with tutoring. Clinton Community College is moving to the SUNY Potsdam campus and is seen as a surprising move as we look at budgetary concerns across SUNY. The Board of Trustees policy on Student Success has been a big conversation with the faculty. The results of the Campus Climate survey shows some trust and communication issues among groups. Faculty were presented with the policy in the fall and there were concerns about the fact that the focus was with the trustees when it should have been with faculty as much of it relates to state education law. The concerns that were addressed by faculty were noted, and some of the detail in the policy was removed. The faculty approved the policy with the revisions noted but do wish that the process by which it was brought to them was different. Senate members look forward to additional conversations on this in the future, and the ability to provide input on items facing the College.

Updates

Academic Reorganization

Trustee Alicea introduced Anastasia Urtz, Provost & Senior Vice President, who provided an update the academic reorganization. She began with an overview of the Schools and their

structure, including the academic departments housed within each. She discussed current staffing within the Schools and where the needs are for staff, including faculty. Ms. Urtz continued her report with an update on major achievements within the Schools including: increased use of Lazer Success; the ratio of Navigators to Students; increase in fall to spring retention as well as the increase in fall to spring cohort retention; the clarified role of faculty chairs; confirmed faculty rosters within the new academic structure; faculty credentials updates and syllabus review; and supported planning for two major facility renovations.

Summer Projects

Provost Urtz continued her report with an update on Academic Affairs summer projects. She explained that they will be hiring a new Academic Dean of Health & Technology with the retirement of current Dean, Dr. Karen Fabrizio. They are looking to reinstitute the Assessment Fellowships as well as other program accreditation projects as it relates to Middle States. They are also reviewing ways in which to support students and manage the summer enrollment process with the current FAFSA concerns. And, work will continue on the Middle States Self-Study including evidence collection and policy review.

There being no further business, Trustee Alicea adjourned the Education Committee meeting at 8:52 a.m.

Prepared by:
Julie Hart
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Submitted by:
Jaime Alicea
Chair, Education Committee