

**Maritime College
College Council Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

TO: College Council

SUBJ: College Council Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2020

Convened Open Session: At 4:30 PM the College Council Chair convened the open session meeting of the College Council in the President's Conference Room. Per section 103 (f) of the Public Officers' Law, the meeting was broadcast live over the internet, which was available through the SUNY Maritime College website on the College Council webpage.

Council Members Present: Timothea Larr, Joseph Conway, Austin Ford, William Garry, Thomas Higgins.

Council Members Not Present:

Also Present: Michael Alfultis, Joseph Hoffman, Michael Berkum, Catie Hanft, Doug Hasbrouck, Rohan Howell, Mark Meierowitz, Morgan McManus, Scott Dieterich, and Mark Woolley

Public Attendance Count: 0

Old Business: Approval of Minutes (January 6, 2020): The motion was made and seconded to vote to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. Presidents Update:

- Key Leadership Appointments.
 - The President was pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jennifer Waters as the next Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Dr. Waters currently serves as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the United States Naval Academy. She is a graduate of Webb Institute and received her masters and doctorate degrees from Stevens Institute.
 - Captain Catie Hanft, who was previously the Interim Commandant of Cadets and Deputy Commandant, was appointed Commandant of Cadets.
- Cononavirus Update:
 - The College has taken the following actions to date
 - Multiple emails to faculty/staff/students
 - Review of Emergency Response Plan
 - ERP Team meeting to discuss scenarios and courses of action

- Deep cleaning of common-use areas
 - Daily SUNY Leadership telecons
 - International travel restrictions
 - SUNY Study Abroad programs canceled.
- Ongoing and next steps include:
 - Campus access
 - Campus mitigation and prevention
 - Assessment of college events
 - Continuity of academic programs
 - Summer Sea Term
 - Campus messaging
- Strategic Plan Metric. At the January College Council meeting, the President discussed ongoing strategic actions. Are we moving in the right direction? What are the metrics telling us?
 - Four-year graduation rates
 - For Bachelor's Cohorts 2008 to 2015 have increased by 30 percentage points from 25% to 55%
 - The number of students graduating annually has increased from an average of 400 students per year (2014-2016) to 450 students per year (2017-2019)
 - Diversity.
 - The percentage of students identifying as minorities has increased from 23% in fall 2015 to 30% in 2019; at the same time, the percentage of female students has increased from 10% to 14%.
 - Profile. The College has increased its public profile
 - Social Media. Looking at our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn:
 - Over 34,000 followers across all platforms
 - 3200 new followers
 - 300 Posts and over 3600 shares/re-tweets
 - We have continued to receive recognition in various college rankings:
 - Most Affordable College with Outcomes in NY State- 24/7 Wall Street
 - # 11 Best University for a Bachelor's Degree – Payscale.com
 - # 13 Best Return on Investment – University HQ
 - # 66 Best Regional Universities – U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges 2020; only Maritime Academy ranked as a Regional University.
 - Funding. We have seen increased funding from SUNY, philanthropy, and our Foundation:
 - SUNY Construction Fund: \$29 Million
 - Philanthropy:
 - Increased over 11% from the previous year.
 - Total gifts from individuals increased by 20%

- Donations by alumni increased by 34%
 - Number of recent graduates donating increasing
 - Foundation Funding for Strategic Initiatives: \$853,000 awarded over two years
 - Industry Partnerships. The College has Increased industry partnerships. Examples include:
 - Three Centers of Excellence Stood up
 - New certified LNG course offered; first course Feb 2020
 - Offshore Courses under development for GWO Certification
 - Four industry conferences in one year
 - Offshore Wind
 - Maritime Risk Symposium
 - LNG for 2020
 - Harbor Forum
 - Electronic Navigation Lab Named
 - Enrollment: Enrollment has declined the past five years. This is a similar experience other SUNY colleges are facing. The President discussed enrollment factors:
 - Enrollment in license programs peaked in 2015, due in part to:
 - Poor Economy. Great Recession (December 2007-January 2009) resulted in increased unemployment and stagnant to declining salaries.
 - Increased demand for mariners. Gulf of Mexico offshore oil boom 2011- 2014.
 - Enrollment inflated due to an excessive number of students taking more than four years to graduate
 - Enrollment in license programs decreasing since 2015, due in part to:
 - Improving economy. Unemployment down, salaries increasing. Unemployment returned to pre-recession levels in 2014.
 - Decreased demand for mariners. Gulf of Mexico offshore oil industry declining since 2014. The number of OSV's in Gulf of Mexico flat since hitting low in 2018.
 - Increasing graduation rates and numbers not offset by new students – last two years largest graduating classes
 - Eliminated JDOC in 2016.
- SST 2020 and Beyond. The President discussed the decision to move from a 100 day to a 75 Day Summer Sea Term (SST). The decision was based upon:
 - Improving the SST experience for Cadets. The 100 day cruise is too long. Crew and Cadets experience burnout after 75 days and training becomes less effective.
 - Declining Enrollment numbers. The College went to the 100-day cruise when enrollment numbers in our license programs were beginning to exceed the capacity of the ship to do a single cruise with all Cadets. SST enrollment peaked in 2015. Since 2015 we have 270 fewer cadets

enrolling in summer sea term. So if the conditions no longer exist that required us to go to a 100-day cruise, why would we keep doing it, especially giving the rising costs.

- Empire State VI age and the National Security Multi-mission Vessel (NSMV) delivery date. With the ship approaching 60 years old, why would we want to continue to do 100-day cruises and put additional wear and tear on the plant? If for some reason Empire State goes out of service before the NSMV arrives, it is doubtful another SMA ship would be available for 100 days. We most likely could only get a ship for 60-75 days. So shifting now makes sense.
- Rising Costs of SST for Cadets The cost of SST has continued to rise over the past five years. The 50-day cruise is almost as expensive as the 100-day cruise was five years ago. Moving to a 75-day cruise reduces the cost per day significantly.
- The President reviewed the pro's and con's of the 50-50-100 day cruise and a 75-75-75 day cruise. The College is transitioning to a single 75-day Summer Sea Term (SST) in lieu of the current 100-day split SST. The single cruise:
 - Provides a shared experience for all licensed cadets
 - Improves training
 - Provides schedule flexibility
 - Improves the quality of life for crew, faculty, and cadets
 - Reduces the costs for the cadets
 - Puts us in a better position if we need to ship share or reduce the number of in-port sea days
- The President reviewed with the Council the upcoming events:
 - Admiral's Dinner: Tue, Apr 28
 - NROTC Commissioning Ceremony: 1:00 PM Thu, Apr 30
 - Awards Ceremony and Reception 6:30 PM Thu, Apr 30
 - Spring Commencement Ceremony: 11:00 AM Fri, May 1
 - T/S Empire State VI departs on Summer Sea Term Cruise: Mon, 4 May
- The President ended his update to Dr. Joseph Hoffman for his dedicated service to the College, especially as Provost for the past three years.

Adjournment of Open Session: The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the open session and move to executive session. The motion was approved unanimously. Open session adjourned at 5:47 PM.