MINUTES
SUNY CORTLAND
COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE
January 26, 2015

A meeting of the Council of the College was held at 4 p.m. in the Student Life Center, Room 1104.

Council Members Present: Linda Armstrong, Katherine Compagni, Michael Doris, Thomas Gallagher, Robert Haight, Renee James, Margaret Perfetti, Joan Robinson, Marie Rumsey and Bruce Tytler

Also Present: Gradin Avery, Erik Bitterbaum, Kathleen Lawrence, Virginia Levine, Fred Pierce, Mark Prus and Greg Sharer

Excused: Mary K. Murphy

PROGRAM

Julian Wright, Director of Recreational Sports, gave a tour of the new Student Life Center.

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to Order
Chair Thomas Gallagher called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

Approval of Minutes
Thomas Gallagher asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of November 17, 2014. Marie Rumsey motioned to approve the minutes as written. Renee James seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

Chair’s Report
Thomas Gallagher shared that he attended Senator Schumer’s press conference in Syracuse on January 12 with Erik Bitterbaum, Steve Dangler, Brian Tobin and Fred Pierce. During the press conference Senator Schumer reiterated the importance and benefits of Jets Training Camp returning to Cortland. The press conference was a follow-up to a meeting Senator Schumer had with Woody Johnson. During that meeting, Johnson was non-committal about the return of the Jets to Cortland. Erik Bitterbaum added that the press conference was the Senator’s own initiative. Cortland will not know if the Jets will return to Cortland until late spring.

The Student Life Center is generating more student traffic at the intersection of Neubig and Broadway. Given the recent death of a Cornell student who was hit by a city bus in Ithaca coupled with the fact that Broadway is the third busiest street in Cortland, Thomas Gallagher suggested that College representatives consider discussing the increase in pedestrian traffic with Cortland City officials.
President's Report
Spring classes have begun.

Following national searches, two new vice presidents have been hired. David Duryea will begin as Vice President for Finance and Management on March 2 and Peter Perkins will begin as Vice President for Institutional Advancement on January 29.

Several faculty searches are underway.

The Student Life Center will open on February 16. The food area is now open. The new building will change the focus of the campus. The building will be the perfect location for Admissions to end their campus tours for prospective students and their families. After one year, the building's usage will be reviewed and evaluated.

Mark Prus represented Cortland at the Chancellor's address on January 23. Some of her key initiatives include the following:

- By 2020, increase the number of SUNY graduates annually from 93,000 to 150,000.
- Have a college advisor in each school district across NYS.
- Increase the number of online programs and classes.
- Each campus to have a Chief Diversity Officer.
- Beginning in 2015/16, require internships for all students.
- Statewide electronic transcript system for all high schools.
- Master Innovator Program.
- Finish in Four.
- Expand EOP.

$5.6 million is Cortland's share of the $200 million in the capital budget.

Faculty Senate Chair's Report
Faculty Senate Chair Kathleen Lawrence reported that after two years of discussion and numerous meetings of the General Education Committee, the new General Education referendum proposal has been distributed to more than 400 people across campus. The results will be addressed at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Discussion followed. Mark Prus provided clarification regarding Cortland's GE Program and SUNY's GE Program. In 2000, SUNY passed the GE Program for the entire SUNY System requiring students to take one course from each of ten categories (30 credit hours). Cortland has an additional three categories. Three years ago, the Trustees passed a proposal allowing students to meet the requirements by taking courses from 7 of the 10 categories as long as they still meet the 30 credit hours.

The recent anti-bullying workshop held on campus was well attended by professionals, but not by faculty. Members of Faculty Senate plan to talk to Human Resources about planning another workshop and encouraging more faculty to attend.

It is unknown who will be the Faculty Senate Chair next year as this year's Vice Chair position is still vacant.

It may be beneficial to advertise that Faculty Senate meetings are open. College Council members are invited to attend meetings.
Student Government Association President's Report
Students are excited about the Student Life Center but there are still concerns about the meal plan.

SGA is planning welcoming events for new students.

SGA elections will take place later this semester.

Other
Joan Robinson inquired about the recent resignation of a University Police officer. Erik Bitterbaum responded that he left for another law enforcement position. He explained that in comparison with other police officers, university police earn less money and have to work more years before they are eligible to retire. There is currently a bill before the Governor to adjust the salaries, etc. of university police officers to make them comparable with similar law enforcement positions.

Linda Armstrong motioned to adjourn. Renee James seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Lori Porter
Recording Secretary