

**Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees
Education Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Whitney 210
Presiding: Trustee Jaime Alicea, Chair**

Trustees: Jaime Alicea (virtual); Kathryn Crockett; William Gilberti; Melanie Littlejohn (virtual); Paul Mello; Alicia Oberlender; John Sindoni; Mark Tryniski

Staff: Stephanie Aldrich; Dr. Agatha Awuah; Deb Barney; Anne DeLand; David Furney; Julie Hart; Dr. Warren Hilton; Linda Kelley; Mark Manning; Roger Mirabito; Daniel Nemeth-Neumann; Louis Noce; Michael O'Connor; Nicole Schlater; Dr. Scott Schuhert; Olin Stratton; Anastasia Urtz; Dr. Larry Weiskirch; Monifa Wilcox; Dr. Eunice Williams

Call to Order

At 8:23 a.m., Trustee Alicea called the Education Committee meeting to order.

Faculty Senate

Trustee Alicea introduced Olin Stratton, Faculty Senate President, for his report. Professor Stratton began by saying that the Faculty Senate has hit the ground running with many new faculty joining the group this year. The Senate is working to determine what to focus on for the academic year. The Scholastic Standards Committee is still working on academic rules and clarifying the same. They have also been charged with looking at late registration as those students are not as successful when starting classes later than their peers. The Nominations Committee is reviewing the Senate structure based on the changes to the current Schools model and the number of Deans. It has not been revised to keep up with the changes over the last few years. The Academic Technology Coordinating Committee is looking at plagiarism software. When the college changed from Blackboard to D2L, we lost the ability to review student work. The ATCC Committee is looking at programs that can be built into D2L. The Student Affairs Committee will be looking at students on academic probation and how to help them through that process. The biggest concern faculty have currently is the new SUNY Gen Ed requirements. SUNY redid their policy a few years ago and Faculty have done a great job meeting those requirements. All programs at OCC reviewed their courses to be sure they aligned with these requirements and the college met all the new requirements. SUNY recently added new requirements just a few weeks ago and while the requirements are not a large change, SUNY is adding a third core competency called Civic Discourse in Democracy. While this it is an important addition, there is a lot there and they are giving us a month to provide feedback and develop implementation for the fall of 2025.

Updates

Enrollment Update

Trustee Alicea introduced Anastasia Urtz, Provost & Senior Vice President, who provided enrollment trends for 2023-24. She explained that first-time full-time and transfer enrollment is down while continuing and returning is up, which gives the College an overall increase of 2.1%. Part-time first time and continuing enrollment is up, while part-time transfer and returning is down. Ms. Urtz continued her report with enrollment trends by program. She began with the School of Arts, Communication, Business & Entrepreneurship. Broadcast Media

Communications, Business Technology, and Business Administration are all showing a decrease in enrollment while Communications; Art; Culinary; Music; Sound Recording; Social Media and Digital Communication; and Supply Chain Management are all up. Business & Entrepreneurship will be replacing Business Technology starting this fall and is seeing strong enrollment already. Ms. Urtz continued with the School of Health, Wellness & Human Services. Only two programs are seeing declines in this school: Health Information Technology and Health Studies certificate, and Nursing remained flat because of the program cap. All other programs are seeing increases in enrollment: Direct Support Professional; Health Sciences; Healthcare Administration; Human Services; Nursing, Paramedic; Paramedic certificate; Physical Education and Fitness Studies; Physical Therapy Assistant; and Surgical Technology. Ms. Urtz continued with the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Programs showing decreases include: American Sign Language; Creative Writing; Early Childhood; Adolescent Education; and General Studies. Programs showing an increase include: Criminal Justice; Early Child Care certificate; Childhood Education; Humanities & Social Sciences; Mathematics & Science; and Laboratory Science. Ms. Urtz completed her report with the School of Technology, Engineering and Computing. Declines are being seen in: Advanced Manufacturing certificate; Automotive Technology certificate; Computer Information Systems; and Electrical Technology. All other programs are seeing an increase, and these include: Architectural Design Studies; Automotive Technology; Computer Science; Cybersecurity; Construction Management; Electromechanical Technology degree and certificate; Engineering Science; Fire Protection Technology; and Mechanical Technology.

Ms. Urtz continued with an update on additional retention strategies that are helping enrollment trends stay strong. These include:

- The Guided Pathways initiative which includes: degree maps; evidence-based coaching; acceleration of developmental education; Box of Books Project; Schools (meta-majors); student advisory boards; and alignment of policies and procedures.
- Faculty leadership from the outset which includes professional development support from SUNY along with a \$2.9M U.S. Department of Education Title III Grant.
- Staff leadership within Schools has made a tremendous difference including: manageable student-to-navigator ratios; use of EAB Starfish (Lazer Success) to communicate concerns and kudos and to support navigator follow-up with students; faculty liaisons to foster faculty-staff collaboration; school-based programming focused on belonging; community-building; academic success; and transfer and career-entry.
- Fall 2024 Results: Enrollment gains attributable to student retention; Lazer Success progress reports have been completed by 81% of full-time faculty (56% of full-time and adjunct faculty). Total flags raised between day 1 and Census = 2,294 (+33.5% compared to fall 2023).

Title VI, Title IX, and Civil Discourse on Campus

Provost Urtz introduced Dan Nemeth-Neumann, Assistant Dean of Students, to provide an update on Title VI, Title IX and Civil Discourse on campus. Mr. Nemeth-Neumann reviewed Title VI, our policies, and the changes necessary to bring the College to compliance through the Department of Education and Office of Civil Rights. He then reviewed Title IX, our policies, and the legal landscape surrounding these changes. Finally, Mr. Nemeth-Neumann reviewed the College's Civil Discourse plan, which includes a communication plan; employee and student training; oversight and maintenance of the groups on campus; protocols for rallies and other gatherings on campus; and an overview of response efforts for students who may be in distress along with how we handle complaints about discrimination. Engagement Strategies were developed and work continues in the Schools, DEIB Council, and Residence Life.

*Resolution to approve updates to the College Policy Manual

On motion by Trustee Mello, and seconded by Trustee Sindoni, the resolution to approve updates to the College Policy Manual was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, Trustee Alicea adjourned the Education Committee meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Prepared by:
Julie Hart
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Submitted by:
Jaime Alicea
Chair, Education Committee