

Broome Community College  
College Council  
Initiatives, Endeavors & Activities  
2006 - 2007

College Council is one of the three key governance units that advise the College President - the other two are the President's Executive Council and the Student Assembly. Membership in College Council represents constituents from most entities of the campus including teaching and non-instructional faculty from each division, middle management, Deans, Community Education, support staff, and students.

College Council maintains several standing subcommittees and creates ad hoc committees to deal with new and ongoing college-wide matters. Below is a list of the initiatives, endeavors and activities addressed by College Council during the 2006-2007 academic year.

College Council

- The new College Council website was developed to improve communication across the campus. Meeting minutes and reports are now located on the website. An email address was created to enable campus constituents to contact the Council.
- Jeff Van Syckle presented a program on Appreciative Inquiry. AI is an approach to managing and facilitating organizational change, improving campus-wide communication. This approach could be applicable for implementing aspects of the Strategic Directions.
- The revision to the College Council Constitution and By-Laws enacted at the end of last year, created additional members on the Council – a second student and a representative for the adjunct faculty.
- An ad hoc subcommittee was created to investigate the Academic Calendar. Given the immediate need for a recommendation for fall 2007, the status quo was continued, with the accommodation for a day for a faculty and staff convocation in the fall and moving graduation to Thursday evening to avoid conflicts with Memorial Day weekend. The subcommittee also began exploring alternative proposals to better suit the needs of students. Preliminary alternatives include: 60 minute classes to reduce the number of weeks needed, scheduling all days off in the same week to accommodate laboratory set-ups, winter sessions, a trimester structure, and the status quo. Public forums for faculty, staff and students will be coordinated in fall 2007 to discuss these and other options.
- College Council members are participating in the planning process for the first faculty and staff convocation day in the fall semester. In addition, faculty and staff from across the campus are invited to join the planning committee and provide input into the schedule of events.
- College Council President continues to sit on the College President's Cabinet participating in discussions regarding all aspects of the campus. Based on recommendations from College Council, the Cabinet was expanded this year to include more faculty, in particular, the Curriculum Committee Chair, the General Education Committee Chair, the Teaching Resource Center Coordinator and the delegate for the Faculty Council of Community Colleges.
- Interest was raised regarding the previously published faculty and staff directory. This directory has not been distributed in several years. Recognizing the time and expense of generating this document, the issue will be further addressed in the future.

## Subcommittees

### *Strategic Planning*

- College Council is currently completing an assessment report of the college's progress towards the Strategic Directions. The Council also made recommendations for revisions to the plan for the next five years. This was accomplished with the assistance of Institutional Research and through conversations with administrators and other individuals on campus.
- This year's efforts focused on examining and redefining Success Criteria for each element of the strategic plan. With better-defined goals and measurable objectives, more directed Action Items can be developed to achieve these goals.
- In addition to College Council members and members of two subcommittees, several Leadership Academy fellows worked with College Council to facilitate this initiative.

### *Campus Affairs*

- The Campus Affairs subcommittee compiled a comprehensive list of campus-wide committees, with detailed information on each regarding mission, activities, and opportunities for membership and service. This list will be posted on the College Council website
- The Campus Affairs subcommittee began an investigation into a master calendar of all campus-wide events. The college recently purchased Ektron software that will facilitate these efforts.

### *Learning-Centered Environment*

- The efforts of this subcommittee were combined with the Strategic Planning subcommittee to better utilize our resources.

### *Textbook Advisory*

- The Textbook Advisory Committee was created last year to investigate opportunities to lower the cost of textbooks for students. Members of the committee include faculty, bookstore and FSA staff, and students. An information sheet was created and distributed to all faculty advising them of ways they could help lower costs for their students. The bookstore reported many inquiries since the information sheet was distributed and believes the impact will be noticeable.
- There are currently 9 bills pending in the New York Assembly regarding textbook pricing. 18 other states already have legislation.
- The committee is working to develop a powerpoint presentation to speak to groups of faculty and staff about textbook costs.
- Members of the committee are continuing to explore textbook related issues: legislation news, digital textbooks and the future of textbooks, faculty and student initiatives at other campuses, a bookstore survey, monitoring BCC textbook costs, congressional studies, and other innovative approaches to supplying students with textbooks.

### *Awards and Celebrations*

- Two Chancellor Award winners were selected: for Excellence in Teaching and for Excellence in Professional Service. Concern was raised regarding the timing of solicitations for nominations, announcements of nominees, and availability of documentation guides. In response, the solicitation of nominations was sent in the end of the spring semester, and all documentation guides are now available on the campus-wide common "Cronos" drive at O:\TRC\Chancellor Awards.
- Three College Council members served on the first Distinguished Service Professorship selection committee, which was recently approved as an award for two-year SUNY institutions.

*Faculty Council of Community Colleges*

- Several topics of interest were presented from the governance body of the SUNY community colleges faculty organization: tenure procedures survey, analysis of dual enrollment programs, a resolution requesting FCCC representation on the SUNY Board of Trustees