

**MHEC Faculty Advisory Council Meeting  
October 21, 2014  
1:30 – 3:30 p.m. in Cade 224  
Anne Arundel Community College  
Arnold, MD 21012**

**Minutes**

1. Call the meeting to order.
  - Attendance: Nayna Philipsen, Joan Langdon, Nina Trocky, Tony Norcio, William Talley, Nicole Dombrowski-Risser, Solomon Alao, Jolly Davis, Sharon Fechter, Teresa Bridger, Ken Kerr, Dipa Sakar-Dey, Katherine Corley-Murray, Liz daRosa, Kathy Jones, Angelita Yu-Crowley, Genny Segura, Jennifer Frank
2. Introduction of all FAC members and guests. Guests: Linda Martinak, Catherine Shultz
3. Approval of the minutes of the Sep 16, 2014 FAC meeting - Ken Kerr
  - A few corrections were made and the corrected minutes were approved.
4. Remarks and Q&A from Catherine Shultz, Secretary of Higher Education of Maryland
  - A discussion of completion involved a suggestion that the state with with federal officials to adjust expectation of completion.
  - Affordability is another issue that complicates completion. Students who can only attend part time have less access to financial aid. As we are encouraging non-traditional students to enroll, the traditional 15-credit semester does not fit their life situations.
  - Dr. Schultz asked about the faculty role in ameliorating the achievement gap. Several members discussed efforts at their schools—faculty mentoring, English language learning, student success programs, closer cooperation between K-12 and Colleges. She reported that MHEC reports each year on innovative programs, but the rate of gap closure is moving at a slow pace.
  - PARCC assessments will be accepted as college readiness in 2016. Council members mentioned that faculty are divided on the validity of using PARCC scores for college placement. There was anecdotal evidence that high school students feel over-tested. Dual-enrollment will allow for comparison of Accuplacer and PARCC data. The validity of Accuplacer was also brought up as a concern.
  - A request was made for more cooperation between all higher ed constituents. The work we are doing sometimes feels disassociated from the work of others and some FAC members requested opportunities for direct collaboration
5. Old Business -- By-laws revision proposal – Rich Siciliano
  - Rich was ill and excused from this meeting, so this item was not discussed.
6. Consideration of Issue 9, Determination and Implementation of Structure for FAC's High Functioning This Year - Nicole Dombrowski-Riser
  - Jennifer, Liz, Solomon, and Nichole are using a Yammer account to collaborate with the FAC. Each committee will have workspace. This will allow all members to view all of the other committee's work and comment on the work being done. The group endorsed this method of communication for all work done outside of regular meetings. Jennifer Frank will set up all members with a Yammer account.

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7. Reports of the [FAC SUMMER WORKGROUPS 2014](#): Over the summer, several members worked on MHEC regulations that needed to be reviewed:

- Community Colleges, Sellinger/Independent, Out-of-State, Religious Exempt -- Terry Bridger
- Private Career Schools – Liz daRosa
- Academic Regulations - Minimum Requirements for Degree-Granting Institutions, Academic Programs
- General Education & Transfer
- A Continuation of Competency-Based Education and Credit for Prior Learning: -- Solomon Alao
  - Solomon attended a summer conference to learn what other states were doing regarding this issue. Tennessee's best practice was presented at this conference. The group is making recommendations as to how we can incorporate some of these ideas in a Maryland model that is aligned with MHEC regulations.

8. Reports of progress on each of the other Issues (Please see [Division of Issues for FAC 2014-15](#) for the most current work group memberships.)

- Eight-Year Regulatory Review: In progress
- Statewide Transfer Agreements: Nothing to report
- Competency based education: reported earlier
- Textbook affordability: no report
- Faculty and Staff Development:
- Standards for Use of Adjunct Faculty: Linda agreed to chair.
- Student Research Skills: Nothing to report
- Standards for Dual Enrollment in High Schools
- Determination and Implementation of Structure for FAC's High Functioning this year: Yammer was adopted as a virtual workspace and individual accounts are being set up.

9. Adjourn 3:05: Meetings of the issues work groups followed adjournment

Submitted:  
Ken Kerr, Secretary