

January 13, 2015 – Public Comment - Speakers

Trustee Cornachio asked Dr. Saunders, “has a report been given to the administration by the Developmental Education Committee and by the Academic Senate whoever would be resolved with the credits- remedial program and the credits towards a degree, they are supposed to be working on it and making monthly reports to the administration and to the Board, I don’t think the Board ever got a report, did you?”

Dr. Saunders replied that he received a report from

Even if you add back the STEM skills that aren't directly related to Computer Science or Information Technology, you only get back #18 Economics. That leaves 21 of the Top 25 hottest skills that recruiters are looking for, that rely on what we teach in CS and IT.

As you know, the General Liberal Arts AA currently requires two Mathematics courses, one of which can be a Computer Science course instead. As you also know, there are a lot of students that don't like to take math classes. We offer a course called CSC 104 Programming Logic and Problem Solving, which students can take in place of the second math course, not in place of the first math course, because SUNY Seamless Transfer requires students to take a math course during their first two years of study. Now, I want to tell you how many sections of this course have run the last few years:

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number of Sections of CSC 104</b>
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in demand classes are: BIO 109, CHE 151, anatomy and physiology and if they don't get those classes within the first week they're on the wait list and by the second week the wait list is maxed out. So that tells us that in this area there's a demand for the health sciences and students can't get into these classes they need to take the first semester they're here. They might take it the second semester, third semester, and that may be a source of major frustration for the student and that could be why they're leaving. So I had in my files a Person's study that said, "What happens when students leave community college early, why?" Last time I was here I told you that we've done our own study and that it really doesn't have to do with the courses or difficulty or anything like that, it has to do with jobs or personal reasons but something like this Pearson study 90% of

have something else, though, that I did want to bring up.

Trustee Weiss: You have very little time left.

Stu Kaplan: Well, well--

Trustee Weiss: Sorry.

Stu Kaplan: It's my mother and me.

Trustee Weiss: Well, I got the job.

Stu Kaplan: Um.

Trustee Weiss: Mr. Powers' job was assigned to me.

Stu Kaplan: Uh, the, the last resolution, without getting into it, and I have tons of minutes that I don't intend on hitting you with. The last resolution--excuse me, the October 14th resolution has items, emails, information that I cannot vouch for. Uh, it says I received emails. I can't find some of these emails. I'm not saying they didn't exist. I didn't say they go to a junk folder or get lost. I can't vouch for them, and, and I, I wanted to enter into the minutes some items are missing part of the story. And I realize my time is up, and I can continue next meeting, of course. But there's just more to the, to the story. There's more to some of the implications that are, are there. Again, a lot of people worked very hard, um, and, and, and I have minutes here. And I'm not looking to inundate this board with tons of minutes. But again, there are emails that it said I received, I can't seem to find. I'm not saying they didn't exist. I just can't seem to find. And you have my name in it. You have Chair Boyden's name in it, committees, and I can't speak for anybody else. I can only speak for things that have my name or the CWCC associated with. And even certain paragraphs that say, uh, uh, that lead to certain assumptions, I'm not saying there are any lies there. I'm just saying that, like, uh, when there was a conference call with SUNY on May 14th, uh, that the CWCC executive committee did not come. Well, that's true. Initially, we weren't invited. I didn't go to Chelsea Clinton's wedding, either, probably for the same reason because we weren't invited. Uh, when I found out about it on April 21st, I sent an email to the Senate Executive Committee, asking for the CWCC Executive Committee to be included. Uh, we were told that--um, I was indeed invited. I was allowed, as I understand, but the rest of the committee was not. Okay. It was scheduled for May 14th. Um--

Chair Gardyn: Stu, you - - We, we understand what you're saying. There are breaks in the story that you were concerned about.

Mr. Kaplan: Thank you all. That's all.

Chair Gardyn: Noted.

Mr. Kaplan: Great. Thank you, and thanks to everybody that I work with. They really do work hard. Thank you.

Chair Gardyn: Not a problem. Pamela Flores.

Ed Boyden: Uh, Pamela had to leave.

Chair Gardyn: Okay. Mr. Boyden. By the I





Ed Boyden: Right.

Trustee Weiss: I just--

Ed Boyden: Right. No, that was, that was--those were charges suggested by the administration.

Trustee Weiss: And those charges were given in September.

Ed Boyden: Um, I, I don't want to swear to that. If there's--

Trustee Weiss: End of September.

Ed Boyden: It's, it--I have to be--they're supposed to have the charges a couple of weeks before their--the beginning of the semester, but like I said, we don't have a full time office staff.

Chair Gardyn: What I'm, what I'm saying is that that predates when we were-Ed Boyden:

David Stern: Um, the report that was sent to her. There was a, a, um--

David Stern: An original on Sunday, and then sent again, uh, yesterday, when we learned



Trustee Drucker: Answer the question.

David Stern: It should be an ongoing process.

Trustee Weiss: But I'm saying this is not a new charge. They've been looking at this issue for several years.

David Stern: Do you disagree? Should it be a, an ongoing process?

Trustee Weiss: Answer the question. No, I'm just--it's a simple question. The answer is I know that they've been looking at this for several years because we've seen it.

David Stern: As, as an ongoing process.

Trustee Weiss: And I want to, I want to correct something that is not right.

David Stern: Sure.

Trustee Weiss: We did know that this committee was in existence, and it was charged with looking at these things. We were told that--

David Stern: Okay.

Trustee Weiss: --by our executive vice president and our acting president.

Trustee Drucker: So what you said is not true.

Trustee Weiss: What we're saying is we got to keep--we got to work on this. We can't keep saying, "It's going to happen. It's going to happen. It's going to happen," which is why we passed the resolution asking for progress reports. That's all we asked for. And I don't think that was an unrealistic thi4(w B"x:/fM(MwrB"7/f/M7(weB"N7f7f::xqw B"x77wcB"7"N/f47dTK,TI[ wTB"7LfM7L7wB"x

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committee reports to the academic senate.

Chair Gardyn: But, no we haven't.

David Stern: It doesn't report to the board of trustees.

Trustee Drucker: No, no, no, no, no.

David Stern: That's the, that's the problem.

Chair Gardyn: We, we charged this to the academic senate.

David Stern: No, your resolution with Dev Ed actually went right to a committee. You can read - -.

Trustee Jackson: But regardless of all that, if you guys have been working on this, um, for years and years, or since August--

David Stern: Yes.

Trustee Jackson: Trustee Cornachio's point about having a progress report should be a, a simple task. All we should be getting is an update from you on what you've done--

David Stern: You did get it. Pam Flores prepared an update, as far as what the process is. The committee met again, and there's been a problem with getting data from the administration on it.

Trustee Drucker: That's your problem.

David Stern: It's been--uh, wait, wait. It's the academic senate problem to get the data from the administration?

Trustee Drucker: We're just looking for information.

David Stern: Okay.

Trustee Drucker: We're not getting it.

David Stern: Well we, we supplied it to the administration. Did they supply it to you?

FEMALE VOICE: Let's bring the next - - because we're going back and forth.

David Stern: Did, did you get the report, Pam's report?

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David Stern: They, they met in September, October, November, right, and December. Right. Do you know - -.

Trustee Cornachio: We've been getting horror stories from, from superintendents of school

David Stern: I know, but it would be a violation of our--in my understanding--

Trustee DeGrace: But I lose the business if I don't meet with him.

David Stern: I'm not, I'm not from the union but it would be a violation of our contract, if we asked them to meet during the, uh, the winter break, during the Christmas break.

Trustee DeGrace: Well maybe some of you, some of them would like to meet - - I don't know.

Frank Frisenda: - - Dave.

David Stern: Yeah, it, it would be a violation of it.

Frank Frisenda: Dave.

David Stern: I mean - -. Oh, I'm sorry. I shouldn't even be speaking about that. Um, I, uh, I, you know what? I guess what I'm kind of under--don't understand, we meet with Ken and Maria every other week. When we met with them about this issue, Maria actually said, told us, outline what we should report to you, and that's what Pam wrote up. So I don't understand this frustration by this. I mean, if we are given a recommendation by the administration how to respond, based with our procedure, uh, I don't understand. You know, why is the, uh--again, it seems like you have a loss of trust in the faculty, and, and I think we need to try and work on building this - -.

Trustee Cornachio: It's bewilderment.

David Stern: It's a, it's a misunderstanding, yes.

Trustee Cornachio: No, no. It's--I am bewildered.

David Stern: Okay.

Trustee Cornachio: I am disappointed. I am, I am sorely disappointed. Uh, uh, uh, uh, uh, and, and I don't know what, I don't know what the cause is for this.

David Stern: It, I mean - -.

Trustee Cornachio: But it's not right.

David Stern: Well do you understand our committee



Chair Gardyn: Frank Frisenda, Happy New Year. It's your turn.

Frank Frisenda: And all I was going to do is come up here and say, welcome Ms. Tuman.

Trustee Cornachio: Throw grenades.

Frank Frisenda: Okay? But I'm Frank Frisenda, who is vice president of the NCCFT. Um, the work of the dev ed committee when they got this charge in September, they began to work. They so meet once a month. Okay? Um, and volunteers, right, uh, to work on these, uh, issues. Okay? You didn't--you started to put a rush on the process, okay, um, uh, about two months ago. And then there was a little bit of a problem because you really didn't vote on it at the full board it was just a committee. It was just the committee decision, so it really didn't become a reality until very recently. And the Dev Ed committee still meets once a month. And as a result of that, they've issued the academic senate executive committee, with Pam writing it, she wrote the report as to the status of it. Okay, now, it's unfortunate that you're not happy with the progress. But that's a different issue. Okay, this is where they're at. Okay? And they are concerned. And to make any insinuation that the faculty in this room don't care about the students, I assure you that the students that are coming to Nassau Community College are coming to Nassau Community College for the faculty in this room, and not for the board of trustees. Okay? That you can make absolutely sure and Mr. Cornachio I am not wrong on that. Okay? Now the Dev Ed will continue with their charges, all right, as they always do. And you will get the reports as they come in and as the process moves forward. And unfortunately, they are not going to work during the break because that's not their contractual obligation. Okay? They work when they work. The process is moving. You'll get the reports, and if you're happy with the reports, good. If you're not happy with the reports, you do what you have to do. Okay? But don't sit up here and criticize, all right, and chastise the faculty, all right, at this college, all right, that we don't care about the students.

Trustee Cornachio: - - justify what's in place.

Frank Frisenda: Do you have data - -?

Trustee Cornachio: Stop it, that's not--

Chair Gardyn: Time, time, time, time. Let's take a five count. Frank Frisenda?

Frank Frisenda: Yes.

Chair Gardyn: Mr. Cornachio?

Trustee Cornachio: Oh damn - -.

Chair Gardyn: I am convinced that everyone in this room is unified on the theory that we are all here for the best interest of the students. We are all here for the best interest of the college. All we're trying to do--and change is painful, okay? We're looking to see what are the changes that we should or should not make, based on data? Okay? We're going to try to explore this in a logical, cohesive manner. Okay? We don't need outrushes of adrenaline. I don't feel like coding anybody tonight, even though we have good assistance in the audience. Okay? I don't need anybody with a hypertensive stroke. Okay? What I need us to focus on is the fact that we have more things in common than we have things in dis-common. So very simply put, we are trying to work together to establish in a logical, cohesive manner. We have put the impetus on faculty because this is a faculty driven institution. Okay? You're going to work together with administration and established Maria Conzatti will be the conduit. You guys will go back and forth. There's exchange of information. I don't care about the details. All we're looking for is, as a board, what we have said is we want you folks to focus on this topic. We think that this is vital for the growth of the institution, and we think it's vital for the retention of our students, and the thetao