



**Strategic Planning Council**  
**Friday, May 6, 2011**  
**Brookhaven Gymnasium - Alumni Room – 9:30 a.m.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** James Amoroso, Mary Lou Araneo, Dr. Louis Attinasi, Dr. Marvin Bright, Dr. Philip Christensen, William F. Connors, Jr., Christopher Conzen, Dr. Amy Czura, Angelika Fieseler, Dr. Candice Foley, George Gatta, Dr. Allen Jacobs, Dr. James Keane, Dr. Roslin Khan, Dr. Jeffery Kluewer, Dr. Dorothy Laffin, Nina Leonhardt, John Lombardo, Elisa Mancuso, Dr. Shaun L. McKay, Dr. June Ohrnberger, Dr. Stephen O'Sullivan, Nicholas Palumbo, Dr. Nathaniel Pugh, Raymond Roses, Dr. James Sherwood, Dr. Christopher Shults, Dr. Judith Travers, Dr. Evon Walters

The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Pugh welcomed the members and asked each member introduce themselves. Dr. Pugh asked EVP Gatta to introduce President McKay.

EVP Gatta spoke about Dr. McKay's background at SCCC and his commitment to this institution, its students, and the faculty that support the advancement of our students. Prior to coming to Suffolk, Dr. McKay served as Director of Planning at the Community College of Baltimore County. He knows that any plan has building blocks and you take it one step at a time. He has actually done the work and is not asking us to do anything that he has himself not done and done successfully with Chancellor McPhail in Baltimore. EVP Gatta introduced the President.

Dr. McKay thanked EVP Gatta for his introduction. Dr. McKay talked about his inaugural speech wherein he spoke about transparency and all that we should focus on to position the institution for what is to come. Across the country, accrediting bodies are setting standards for institutions and we need to set our own standards of quality. If we do not take charge, we would have to respond to external pressures that would define who we are and what we do. Dr. McKay spoke about his work with the Chancellor of the Baltimore County system and the process that was used to determine what they were doing and where they were going. They talked about how to accomplish and measure goals and assess what they were doing.

Dr. McKay: We have to start looking at things in a way that is strategic. We have a plan that was approved by the BOT several years ago and now, we have to build another plan for the institution and take it forward to the board for its approval. The SPC's work, as a recommending body to the president's office, will help in crafting what we present to the board for its approval over the next few months as we move forward. This will be a lot of work and I charge Dr. Pugh and Dr. Shults to work with us to accomplish this complex set of tasks. Dr. Shults and Dr. Pugh are national colleagues who have been in this field for quite a while and will help us move this college forward. We have done great work at this institution over the last few years, but with the pressures and challenges that are upon us now, we have to look at things in a different way. When you ask the question about the mission of transforming the lives of individuals, are all the elements still germane to what we are currently doing? Our mission and vision drives who we are. We have to articulate what our outcomes are with regard to our accomplishments and areas of performance

*Suffolk County Community College promotes intellectual discovery, physical development, social and ethical awareness, and economic opportunities  
for all through education that transforms lives, builds communities and improves society.*

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as an institution. Following the last Middle States visit, the team indicated several things that we have done and things we should have done. We have a very difficult task ahead and I think it is important for us to be an integral part of this planning team, which will help us craft, what I believe, is the next generation of SCCC. How we are defined will be based on data, information, descriptive analysis, and interviews and discussions with our colleagues across the institution. I expect to be integrally involved. I have a passion for this area and as EVP Gatta mentioned, it is important that we tell the story of this institution and to craft our identity going forward for the next few years. It will require a concerted effort on a number of individuals that are not in this group, but are colleagues of ours. I look to shared governance, the faculty, my staff and colleagues to work with us to try to move this agenda forward. The Periodic Report is due June 1, 2012. Having an actual approved strategic plan in place and, most importantly, reporting out, every single year, our accomplishment of what is in the strategic plan – is significant.

Dr. Christensen: Dr. Christensen distributed a brief outline of the Periodic Review process. One of the objectives that Dr. McKay wanted to put in place as we move forward with the five-year review for Middle States is that we have a committee in place that is strong and representative of the entire institution. We have had a couple of meetings to this point. Each of the 14 Middle States Standards of Excellence has been assigned to one or several members of the PRR team. We have had initial reports, and over the next month or so, we are bringing together the data that has been collected from those various investigations. It is our hope that we can have a draft of major portions of this report ready for review by this body early in the fall semester and then we can direct it out to the entire college community. The outline of the report is on the other side. It is something like a decennial report, but significantly shorter. The text will be about 50 pages, plus appendices and, as the outline indicates, major elements of the report are, as Dr. McKay indicated, a review of our mission, projections about enrollment, an overview of our educational offerings, our administrative structure, and the strength of our financial and business resources. In addition to that, Middle States will be looking at our assessment plan. What is our vision, what are we doing, where do we see ourselves going over the next four or five years and what elements are we putting in place to get there? Finally, how are we assessing our progress? Where did we start, where are we now, and what do we need to do to reach our goal in the next five years?

Dr. McKay: Dr. McKay stated that the key element of the report to Middle States is to indicate how the information we have gathered informs and enhances decision-making and supports the institution in its efforts towards assuring that our mission and vision are indeed achieved. That is the key element with regard to measurement and support for the goals and objectives of the college. There was an extended discussion on the institutional effectiveness [last Middle States visit] of what we do on the learning outcome side and on the academic side. Measuring learning outcomes is very strong, but more needs to be done. Middle States focuses on how we link institutional planning with budgeting and assessment in all those areas. This group will be working very closely to find out whether or not we have done that, and it is not a matter of saying we did, or we did not. It is a matter of looking at all the elements to see if we have indeed achieved those elements, and if we have not, then we have to state that in the document and assure that it is done as we move forward.

Dr. Pugh thanked everyone and the meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.