Present: Catherine Seaver, Elaine Lapomardo, Pete Sennett, Anna Berry, Bob Pura, Shannon Larange, Karen Phillips, Marie Breheny, Alyce Stiles, Mary Ellen Fydenkevez, Mike Assaf and Kathy Vranos

Absent: Tim Braim, Regina Curtis, and Leo Hwang

1. Minutes
   Minutes for the June 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements
   - Mary Ellen wanted to formally acknowledge and congratulate Alysha Putnam for her work organizing this year’s STEM Starter Academy. Alysha did a great job with outreach increasing the number of students registered from 27 last year to 39 this year. She reported students were highly engaged during orientation.
   - Mike reported all new smartboards are installed, a replacement projector has been ordered for the dining commons and the one currently there will be installed in Stinchfield. He also shared the IT department will be gearing up to test the next version of Banner.
   - Elaine reported the COM COM program is being extended through Spring 2018 with the addition of new programs. The working group is currently looking at ways to improve outreach through high school guidance offices and parent contact. She also reported current enrollment is down 4% in head count and 5% credit hours.

3. Budget
   Bob shared that Regina has written two white papers:, one requesting a $75,000 earmark for our Farm and Food Systems program and one for $52,500 for GCC programming in Hampshire County, that are making their way through the FY18 state budget process. This money could yet be vetoed by the Governor. Bob reported he, Teresa, Tony, Peter, Mary Ellen, Regina and Amy Louise, all members of the Farm and Food Systems program met with Mike Knapik, Director of the Western MA Governor’s office and Jason Wentworth, the Assistant MA Secretary of Agriculture, hoping they could help
usher that money through. Last year we received a $50,000 earmark for outreach in Hampshire County, this year we hope the $52,500 will be embedded in the College operations budget. Representatives Mark and Kulik, along with Senator Rosenberg, are working to help make that happen.

4. **Student Success and Retention**
   Bob followed up with President’s Staff regarding the discussion at the July 10th All College meeting about student success and retention. Discussion ensued.

5. **Dual Enrollment**
   President’s Staff discussed the dual enrollment program including perspectives on accreditation, labor laws, and the quality of the experience for the students. Discussion ensued.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05