



# Faculty Senate

Monroe Community College

**September 14, 2017  
Faculty Senate Meeting**

**PRESENT:** B. Babcock, E. Basnayake, M. Bates, E. Baxter, L. Blew, M. Boester, K. Borbee, A. Burns, A. Colosimo, T. Custodio, M. Dorsey, B. Ellis, P. Emerick, R. Fisher, J. Flack, A. Flatley, A. Freeman, M. Griffin, M. Harris, M. Heel, J. Hill, H. Holevinski, R. Horwitz, D. Lawrence, K. Leite, A. Mallory, J. Morelli, H. Murphy, J. Nelson, M. Pentz, E. Putnam, W. Rotenberg, J. Santos, J. Scanlon, T. Schichler, J.C. Senden, C. Shanahan, C. Silvio, R. Straubhaar, G. Thompson, K. Tierney, M. Timmons, M. Vest, T. Vinci, J. Volland, J. Waasdorp, H. Wynn-Preishe, L. Zion-Stratton

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:** A. Hoffmeier

**ABSENT:** B. Burritt, M. Connolly, K. Farrell, D. Gasbarre, B. Grindle, S. Lautenslager, R. Pearl, J. Wadach, W. Wagoner

**GUESTS:** C. Adams, J. Barone, M. Fine, L. Holmes, A. Leopard, T. Keys, L. Moses, N. Pares-Kane, A. Wade, H. Wheeler

***Meeting called to order at 3:34 p.m.***

Welcome and introductions of new Senators: M. Boester J. Flack, A. Freeman, M. Griffin, M. Harris, A. Mallory, J. Morelli, J. Nelson, W. Rotenberg, J. Wadach.

**1. Action Items:**

- a) Minutes from the June 22, 2017 Faculty Senate Meeting.** Motion to approve. Motion seconded.  
No discussion. ***Motion passes.***

**2. Reports**

**a) Faculty Senate President**

- New Faculty Senate Blackboard Organization
  - She explained the set-up and how information will be shared
  - There is a handout that will be sent out to Senators to share with their constituents on how to access Blackboard
- Bi-Monthly Faculty Senate Meeting Model
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Month:
    - President, Student, Standing Committee reports
    - Action Items
    - Discussion of New and Old Business
  - Next Meeting:
    - Vote on action items
    - Time-sensitive Reports
    - Discussion of New and Old Business
- Housekeeping items:
  - Faculty Initiative Withdrawals committee
  - Chancellor's Award for Adjunct Teaching (due Oct 13)
  - Starfish Attendance (due 9/19)
  - Curriculum Consultant feedback due 9/25. Please forward any feedback on the Curriculum Process to A. Colosimo. Dr. Wade explained the consultant will provide a preliminary

recommendation in October, there will be an opportunity to provide additional feedback/input at that time.

**b) Student Government Representative**

Alyssa Hoffmeier introduced herself as the Student Government Association representative. She gave an update on the following upcoming SGA events:

- Constitution Day Monday 9/18: trivia game and film. She suggested faculty offer this event as extra credit to students
- Fundraisers for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma
- Planning for Pride Week events

**3. Old Business**

No old business

**4. New Business**

**a) Discussion regarding College Hour**

A. Colosimo began the discussion by summarizing the historical reasons for college hour. She asked for input on not scheduling classes during this time. Below is a summary of the comments/discussion:

- The English/Philosophy Department may not support the idea of not holding classes since this is often the time when creative arts events are held and many professors find it valuable to take their students to these events during this time
- Many clubs are not active due to classes being offered during college hours
- It is disingenuous to charge a student life fee and not allow time for students to attend club meetings. There was discussion regarding the Student Activity Fee. Dr. Holmes explained this fee is managed through the MCC Association to fund the bookstore, clubs and organization, athletics, campus activity board, etc.
- Free time during the day allows for students to get more involved on campus which has proven to help retention
- Look beyond the College Hours model which traditionally has been MWF noon – 1:00. There were several suggestions on alternate times.
- Lots of options for clubs not just college hour times
- English/Philosophy Department: With so many sections of ENG 101 it has become a necessity to hold classes during college hour to accommodate students.
- Students perspective: Limiting it to only one hour per week would be too restrictive and possibly not allow students to participate in more than one club
- DCC has always had a college hour and it was great for meetings and planning
- Dr. Wade stated there are currently only 35 out of 2567 sections offered during college hour

A. Colosimo stated based on the feedback the Executive Committee will work on drafting language for the Faculty Senate's review regarding the benefits of a campus-wide college hour.

**b) Constituent Statement**

L. Moses read the following statement:

"In light of the recent moratorium on Faculty Initiated Withdrawals, there will be an expected rise in the number of F's that will be earned in our classes, and a resulting consequence is a much lower grade average for the class as well.

As this policy remains in place the grade average of our classes will not only drop but remain low without increased intervention and support.

As is the case when policies remain in place for any length of time we become accustomed to them and their outcomes, but given the increased fondness for data driven decision making, the reasoning and resulting consequences could easily be forgotten.

And numbers do not tell the whole story, in fact numbers can be made to tell any story you want to tell.

I want to ensure that no faculty member can be admonished, now or in the future, for poor performance demonstrated by the lower classroom grade averages. That no faculty member is ever told that they are a poor teacher because of the lower grade averages. Because while the data may show that a grade average is unacceptable it does not tell the whole story.

To take it one step further, any time an internal, or external source, requests classroom grade averages from this point on, that data should be accompanied by an asterisk. Just like beleaguered Major League Baseball, we are entering into era where we need to qualify our statistics.”

**c) Committee meeting times**

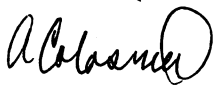
J. Hill suggested the Executive Committee move its meetings to Tuesday afternoons to allow for the standing committees to meet every other Thursday afternoon. There was discussion regarding issues with standing committees common meeting time for its members. A. Colosimo stated this could be considered for the next academic year since the ECs teaching schedules are set for the upcoming year.

**d) Bus from Brighton to Downtown Campus**

M. Harris addressed a concern from a constituent regarding the time it takes students to take the bus from Brighton Campus to Downtown Campus. There was discussion regarding the issue. Dr. Holmes explained the College is addressing the issues with RTS. He encourages everyone to forward their concerns to Julianna Frisch.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Amanda Colosimo  
President  
Faculty Senate

  
Heather Murphy  
Secretary  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee

**Minutes approved at the September 28, 2017 Faculty Senate meeting.**