



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Li
At-Large Senator Shaffner
At-Large Senator Abdi
Athletics Senator Sharp
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator Wassel-Saxe
Health & Bus. Sen, Snyder
Service Clubs Senator Hannah
Social Clubs Senator Blue
Technical Education Senator Psomiadis

President:

Jason Childers

Vice President

Christopher Hollander

Speaker/Media Senator

Mirlin Moorefield

Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator

Jack Hills

Assistant Deputy Speaker/CAB Senator

Diamond Simmons

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart-**absent**

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Campus Center Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog-**absent**

Visitors: Lisa Armstrong, SGA; Catherine Higgins, Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:16 p.m.)

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of November 30, 2010 Senate Meeting minutes.

Senator Moorefield called for a motion to approve the November 30, 2010 Senate Meeting Minutes. Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Li.

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the November 30, 2010 Senate meeting minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

III. REPORTS

A. Vice President

Vice President Hollander...

SUNY Student Assembly

The SUNY Student Assembly Executive Committee held a meeting on November 20th. They met at the University of Albany and were joined by the President of the University and the President of the Student Association for lunch. There was discussion of the budget cuts within SUNY, causing the ending of some academic departments at the University of Albany and SUNY Geneseo. He was relieved to know that the departments that were being cut, had very limited enrollment. Students will be allowed to graduate with the degree they originally signed up for. UA has gone an extra step to allow consideration to be granted to students who have worked towards those degrees, but not enrolled in them, allowing them to also graduate with the degrees being eliminated.

The next big event for the SUNY Student Assembly is SUNYPalooza, tentatively to be held on March 1st, at the Empire Plaza in Albany. This will be an opportunity for all 64 SUNY schools to get together in Albany to

advocate for the change we demand from the legislature. Vice President Hollander is currently working with Betty Stewart to find a way to get the members of the Student Government to Albany for this event. We are also looking into partnering with other SUNY schools, so we may get a bus at a more affordable rate. We will be having our next Executive Committee meeting at MCC on January 15, 2011. He encouraged all Senators and Coordinators to attend this meeting. This will give them the opportunity to meet the SUNY Student Assembly leadership team and see firsthand what they are working on as a group to advocate for SUNY. He plans to invite the surrounding four year schools and Community Colleges to this event.

Breakfast With Santa

This past weekend, Senator Abdi and Vice President Hollander attended Breakfast with Santa. This was a CAB event in Monroe A and B. 150 attended and the event was sold out. The Student Government Association provided a table where guests could create a take-home hot chocolate bag. The kids and parents loved our table. There are plenty of extras for an event for the spring semester. He personally had a great time and is sure Senator Abdi did as well, even though he was struggling with a cellophane bag and hot chocolate powder.

Carolina's Fight for Life

Vice President Hollander has decided to postpone the t-shirt auction and ribbon fundraiser for Carolina's Fight for Life until the Spring Semester. This was originally scheduled for the week of December 13-17th. We will reschedule for February. This will give us more time to work on the project and develop better communication between SGA and the Peer Mentors.

Budget Resource Committee

The Committee gave their first presentation to President Kress and her Vice Presidents on recommendations as to how the budget should be allocated for the college. He was on the committee last year. They had recommendations, but a narrower viewpoint of how to enact these changes. They needed to specify whether the recommendations were short term, mid-term, or long-term. The sub-committee was asked to look at a way to develop a systematic retention effort to include a review of policies and targeted services to specific student groups. We noticed that sometimes the course offerings are not set up to provide student success. Some writing intensive courses have no writing pre-requisites. He recommended that the college look at creating a stronger pre-requisite requirement or put more of an emphasis on learning communities to tie in the necessary courses. We also need to make more computers available for new and current students in Building 6. More computers will allow students to access their self-service account and they can do their own transactions. He pointed out that there are more computers available at the Damon City Campus for this purpose, than there are at the Brighton Campus. If more technology and better publicity is provided, it will free up lines in certain departments for students who really need help. There was discussion about creating a system to keep track of student success, like a mid-term. He felt that could cause more man hours to be used on a standardized test, when in actuality, giving the professors and department heads more authority to drop a student for performance reasons, would be easier. This would also allow the teaching staff to focus on the students that care about their education. Giving better service to those students will increase our retention rates and allow MCC to continue to be a leader, not only within the SUNY system, but the entire nation.

B. Senators

Senator Abdi...

This weekend Senator Abdi had the opportunity to volunteer for Breakfast with Santa. The whole event was quite interesting. The breakfast was great and the CAB members were a lot of fun to work with. He spent the morning with Vice President Hollander as he struggled to get hot chocolate into a bag, however; it was worth seeing the facial expressions on the children's faces. Some children were delighted with the many options presented to them. Others seemed mildly confused on how to use a spoon. Overall, the day was great and he would very much enjoy volunteering for CAB in the future.

Senator Li...

Senator Li has been recruiting students at the Residence Halls to join Student Government for next semester, for the Resident Hall Senator, as well as for other positions. She went to Pioneer and Canal Halls, and with the help of some of the RA's, got the word out. They were able to sign up five people. As the semester is coming to an end, She hopes that everyone will enjoy the remaining time before the long break begins.

Senator Wassel-Saxe...

Senator Wassel-Saxe has been trying to set up a meeting with the Interdisciplinary Department. She has not heard anything back. She would like to meet with them to have a better understanding of her position and their department.

Faulty Advisor McCauley...

Faculty Advisor McCauley gave kudos to everyone who participated in the Breakfast with Santa. The “little people” he attended with enjoyed the event, as well as the hot chocolate at home later on. He reminded the Senate that it is not the end of the semester, but the middle of the school year. Remember, that the group is what you want to do with it. There are good ideas to be implemented, and if he can help, let him know.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to appoint Alexander Hale to the By-Laws Committee

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association consents to the appointment of Alexander Hale to the By-Laws Committee for the remainder of the 2010-11 academic school year.

Speaker Moorefield called for a motion to appoint Alexander Hale to the By-Laws committee. The motion was made by Senator Abdi, seconded by Senator Wassel-Saxe.

Discussion:

Mr. Hale indicated that he has already attended a meeting and that they will get a lot done.

A vote was taken.

The motion was approved

V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Senator Snyder felt it was noteworthy to mention that today is Pearl Harbor Day.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:30 p.m. Speaker Moorefield called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Sharp.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Higgins
SA Secretary