



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, March 3, 2009
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Acosta
At-Large Senator Carey
CASA Senator Brown
Media Senator Gordon
Residence Hall Senator Rice
Science, Health & Business Senator Ruhindi
Service Clubs Senator Malin
Social Clubs Senator Bauman

President:

Daniel Elliott

Vice President:

Sarah Robinson

Speaker/At-Large Senator

Stephen Darrow

Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator

Matt Lawson

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Visitors: Annette Agness, Director, MCC Association; Michael Andrews; Amy Battaglia; Jenny Blum; Malcolm Cohen, Director of Legislative Affairs; Frederick Johnson; Dick Ryther, Associate Vice President, Student Services; Bill Stear; Jacob Tierney; Catherine Higgins, Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:15 p.m.)

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of February 24, 2009 minutes

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to table the approval of the minutes for the February 24, 2009 Senate meeting, as the Senators did not receive them.

Senator Rice so moved, seconded by Senator Carey.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves tabling the approval of the minutes for February 24, 2009, until the next session.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

III. REPORTS

A. Vice President

Vice President Robinson...

- She congratulated the Sustainability committee on their first event. It was a great event that educated many people. There was a lot of positive feedback. She is looking forward to working with this group in the future.
- This past week Senator Carey and Senator Robinson went to the PAC center and it was closed. They will be working together to try to extend the PAC Center hours so that students have greater accessibility.

B. Senators

Senator Bauman...

- **Euchre Tournament** - This project is coming along nicely and he expects a good turnout for tomorrow night.
- **Sustainability**- The Committee had a good turnout for the bottled water education event that was held last week. We are currently working on several projects including setting up a green wall and a worm bin for the Marketplace.

Senator Carey...

- **Rally** - On Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 5:00 p.m., there will be a rally at the Liberty Pole protesting Governor Paterson's proposed budget and tax increases. Organizers are hoping for at least 10,000 people to attend.
- **Town Hall Meeting** -On Thursday, March 11, 2009 the Governor will be holding a Town Hall style meeting at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center in the Lilac Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. Registration is not necessary, however, if you would like to be considered for asking a question, you have to register and submit your question on the website. The website address is www.ny.gov/governor/townhalls. We hope there is a large MCC presence at both events. Please arrive early to get as close to the front as you can.
- **PAC Hours** -Last Friday the PAC closed early due to staffing issues. This is the second time in two weeks that open workout hours were shortened. During the February break, the Human Performance Lab closed an hour early on Friday with no clear reason given. Dr. Salvador is looking into the matter and representatives from the Athletic Department will be at the Senate meeting on March 10, 2009 to address concerns about this.

Senator Rice...

- **Euchre Tournament** – The Euchre Tournament is on track as stated by Senator Bauman. It will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in the Forum.
- **Spaghetti Dinner** - He will be meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2009 with Anne Barker to discuss ways to promote the spaghetti dinner to benefit the MCC Child Care Center.
- **Residence Hall Shuttle Survey** - He conducted a survey of Residence Hall students to see if there was interest in a shuttle service on the weekends. He forwarded the survey results to Charles Switzer of the Rochester Genesee Regional Transit Authority and received a draft shuttle schedule from him. Senator Rice handed out copies of his Residence Life survey, a memorandum from Mr. Switzer and the proposed schedule, which would occur on Fridays from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. and on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This can be accomplished within two weeks of notifying them if we choose to move forward with this.

C. Committee Reports

Fundraising Committee

- **Senator Rice** reiterated that the Euchre Tournament is tomorrow night, and everything is set for the Spaghetti Dinner to benefit the Child Care Center.

Sustainability Committee

- **Amy Battaglia** stated that following the success of their bottled water education table event, they are planning another information table for the end of this month. They will be taking a trip to the Public Market to study the importance of local economies in respect to sustainability. They will be shopping and taking pictures which will be used in the creation of a poster for the education table. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- They are in the process of contacting local farms and businesses in order to appropriate stories and practices regarding sustainability. They hope to get free samples of their products as well.
- She is working on a grant with Senator Bauman for improving MCC's carbon footprint. If awarded, the money would be allocated for building and insulating a green wall on campus. She is also working on compiling information on the building of a worm bin. After meeting with Tony Struzik, the initial plans for construction are much too small. He estimates they collect 200lbs of organic waste per week. She is currently in the process of researching the cost and upkeep of a larger composting system, the profits of which would be used to recoup the initial investment used on the worm bin.
- She met last week with the President of the Math Team, who has their own plans regarding climate change in April. They are eager to help out with the Earth Day celebration. The committee is planning to join forces with the Geosciences Club for Earth Day. The Sustainability Committee is planning a game show style event educational trivia and prizes.

D. Campus Center Advisor

Campus Center Advisor Stewart...

- **Elections** - Advisor Stewart reminded everyone that Elections packets are available in the Campus Center office. Please pick one up if you are interested. If there are any concerns about election rules or procedures, you must direct your questions to the Elections Commission. They are the only ones to make determinations on election issues.

- **Student Awards Banquet Bio's** – If you have not filled out your bio's for the Student Awards Banquet, please do so and return it to Donna Brennan.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. **Resolution to appoint CASA Senator Fred Brown to the Fundraising Committee.**

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate appoint CASA Senator Fred Brown to the Fundraising Committee.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to appoint Senator Brown to the Fundraising Committee.

Senator Bauman so moved, seconded by Senator Rice.

Discussion:

Senator Rice indicated that because of Senator Bauman's recent resignation from the Fundraising Committee, this is a necessary move.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the appointment of Senator Brown to the Fundraising Committee.

b. **Resolution to Charter the National Society of Black Engineers.**

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association approve the charter for the National Society of Black Engineers.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve the charter for the National Society of Black Engineers.

Senator Carey so moved, seconded by Senator Rice.

Discussion:

Senator Acosta asked if the difference between the Engineering Leadership Council and the National Society of Black Engineers was ever clarified.

Mr. Johnson addressed the Senate and explained that the Engineering Leadership Council is more competition driven, while the National Society for Black Engineers is more focused on providing educational and networking opportunities to students who have an interest in engineering.

Senator Bauman asked if the National Society for Black Engineers is open to all students or just minorities and Mr. Johnson explained that it is open to all students.

Senator Bauman stated that there was no sexual harassment policy in their constitution and asked Mr. Johnson if he would be willing to provide one. Mr. Johnson agreed to work on this.

Speaker Darrow extended a formal apology to Mr. Johnson for stopping the discussion at last week's meeting, but he felt it was not productive.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve the Charter for the National Society of Black Engineers, with the amendment of a sexual harassment clause.

Senator Bauman so moved, seconded by Senator Rice.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves to Charter the National Society of Black Engineers.

c. **Resolution to Support the State University of New York's opposing of the New York State deficit proposal.**

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate support the State University of New York's opposing of the New York State deficit proposal.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to table Action item 1c, the resolution to support the State University of New York's opposing of the New York State deficit proposal, until Trustee Lynch can be in attendance.

Senator Carey so moved, seconded by Senator Rice.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, that the Brighton Student Government Association Senate agree to table Action item 1c.

d. **Resolution to Change By-Law 1.1.**

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve to Change By-Law 1.1.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve the resolution to change By-Law 1.1.

Senator Bauman so moved, seconded by Senator Rice.

Discussion:

Malcolm Cohen indicated that the change he is proposing today is typographical in nature. The first by-law, currently reads, per Article III, Section IV of the Brighton Campus Student Government

Association constitution, *the student government must hold regular meetings*. The referenced Article and Section does not have any reference to or requirement for meetings regular or otherwise. Article III, Section IV of the current constitution is about the president and his powers and duties. So, the bulk of the change is to correct the constitutional reference to the closest equivalent he could find which is Article III, Section 6C (d) under the current edition of the constitution.

This reads, *shall arrange and conduct meetings and assemblies of the Student Government Association subject to the approval of the college calendar and space allocation*. Mr. Cohen stated that this still doesn't talk about regular meetings, but he is re-writing the constitution so that a draft can appear on the ballot. The current constitution still doesn't say regular meetings, but the proposed draft which would not change the placement of the line now reads, *shall arrange and conduct regular public meetings, subject to the approval of the college calendar and space allocation*. This proposed change is as close as possible to our current constitution and accurately reflects what is in the draft for the proposed constitution.

Senator Acosta thought that it seemed as though Mr. Cohen was "nitpicking."

Mr. Cohen indicated that the Senate is a taxing authority and required to hold regular public meetings. Advisor McCauley stated that the wording will make it clear that the Senate has to have regular public meetings as stated in the By-Laws. Clarity is critical for the wording of the By-Laws.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve the changes to the By-Law 1.1.

V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Senator Robinson asked Advisor Stewart if she has heard anything about the bracelets. Advisor Stewart indicated that she had not heard anything.

Senator Ruhundi stated that he tried out for the Otis Young Motivational Contest. His subject was role models.

A role model being defined as someone worthy of imitation. He feels that everyone at Monroe Community College is a role model. We have taken up the challenge of bettering ourselves. That is the reason he is planning a non-violence rally here in April, due to the recent stabbings.

Senator Ruhundi had the chance to view the documentary called *Homicidez*, directed by Nicholle LaVann. The film centers around four families affected by violence. There was a panel discussion afterward. Chief Moore, Sandra Frankel, Brighton Town Supervisor, Mayor Duffy and other dignitaries attended. Dr. St. John, from the University of Buffalo, gave statistics about homicide. Senator Ruhundi gave Mayor Duffy a letter he had written for him.

Senator Lawson and Advisor McCauley thanked Mr. Cohen for his work on the constitution.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:48 p.m. Speaker Darrow called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Rice so moved, seconded by Senator Bauman. The Senate meeting was adjourned.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Higgins, Secretary