



**Monroe Community College Student Government Association
Senate Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, September 23, 2008
2:15 p.m. - Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Acosta
At-Large Senator Carey
CASA Senator Kuhn
Liberal Arts Senator Halling
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:

Matthew Lawson

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Visitors: Dick Ryther, Student Services; Devin Lynch, Student Trustee; Craig Proctor, Campus Center; Lisa Armstrong, Presidential Cabinet, Tony DiFabio, Peer Mentor; Craig Learn, WMCC; Qasim Ijaz, Peer Mentor/Global Union; Carl Ross, III, Student; Dustin Drak, Student; Donna Brennan, SA Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:17 p.m.)

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of September 16, 2008 Senate Meeting Minutes

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve the minutes for September 16, 2008.

Deputy Speaker Lawson so moved, seconded by Senator Kuhn.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the September 16, 2008 Senate meeting minutes.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Qasim Ijaz, Peer Mentor/President, Global Union, spoke about MCC History Month which is being hosted by the Peer Mentors and co-sponsored by the Nursing Department, the Brighton Campus Student Government Association, and the Campus Center.

The events are as follows:

October 1 – Opening Ceremonies, 12 PM – 1 PM, Campus Center Atrium; President Emeritus R. Thomas Flynn, Dr. Susan Salvador, Vice President, Student Services, Dr. Jeffrey Bartkovich, Vice President, Educational Technologies, and Richard Guon, Chair, MCC Board of Trustees will be speaking.

October 15 – Campus Center History Week, 12 PM – 1 PM, Campus Center Atrium; Betty Stewart, Director, Campus Center, will be speaking.

October 22 – Wolk Center for Excellence in Nursing, Open House, 12 PM – 1 PM, Building 9.

October 29 – MCC Jeopardy with Brighton Campus Student Government Association vs. Damon City Campus Student Events and Governance Association, 12 PM – 1 PM, Building 3 Terrace Lounge.

“Thank You MCC” buttons will be available.

Advisor McCauley asked if any of the founding faculty had been invited. Qasim stated that letters are ready to go out to faculty.

Craig Proctor, Campus Center Operations Manager, was present to address student email problems: slow response time, inability to log on through Outlook, email from faculty going into junk mailbox, log in does not always work, inability to access log in page from home, can no longer search an email address. Craig explained the history of the transition: originally the transition of student email was suppose to be to MS Hotmail but was switched to MS Live, which technically is suppose to be better; Instructional

Technologies has been working very hard to get the problems fixed; some of the problems students are experiencing can be handled through the Photo ID/Student Email help desk.

Dustin Drak explained that he is the student responsible for the smoking policy petitions. The students are looking for a revised policy which would include shelters with ash trays in areas closer to the campus buildings. He presented 2 more signed petitions to President Elliott.

President Elliott referred Dustin to the minutes from the September 16 Senate meeting where he will find a summary of a smoking policy discussion which took place. He does agree, however, that the concern now is the weather. He also stated that the Personal Health and Safety Committee will again be looking into shelters.

Carl Ross, an evening student, also expressed concern about the location of the smoking areas stating that students are given a 15 minute break which does not give them enough time to get to the smoking area and back to class on time.

Tony DiFabio, Peer Mentor, talked to the Senate about a program the Peer Mentors are co-sponsoring with the MCC Personal Health & Safety Committee, the MCC Foundation, the DCC Campus Center and the Law & Criminal Justice Department. It is an exhibit portraying the unintended consequences of drinking and driving called, "Friends, One Day...One Wrong Turn". The exhibition, which will be on display from October 15 through Nov. 24 in the Gilman Lounge, chronicles the lives of real college students whose hopes and dreams were dashed away in an instant. The fee for bringing the exhibition to MCC is \$1500. The Peer Mentors have raised \$500 to put towards the fee and are requesting \$1000 from the SGA Contingency.

Advisor Stewart informed the Senate that the fund request had been submitted to the Finance Committee who will meet then present the request at pre-agenda on Friday, September 26.

III. REPORTS

A. Deputy Speaker's Report

Deputy Speaker Lawson...

- Rock the Vote – he thanked all those who helped with the Constitution Bowl; it was a great success and a great way to kick off the MCC Rock the Vote; the committee is busy planning future events; a Mock Presidential Election will be held on October 7 & 8 in the Campus Center Atrium and in the South Atrium.

B. Senators

Senator Carey...

- He introduced himself as a new Senator-At-Large; he is also a Peer Mentor and active in CASA and Global Union. He is currently a Liberal Arts Health Related major with the intention of being accepted into the MCC Nursing Program. He looks forward to working with his fellow Senators, the faculty/staff of MCC and most importantly for the MCC students on issues that will affect them. He promises to do the best job he can and to continue learning from it so he can serve as a Senator until he graduates from MCC.

Senator Kuhn...

- Rock the Vote – she thanked those who helped with Constitution Day. The committee is working hard to get the information out and to get students registered so that their voice is heard during the upcoming election.
- CASA Events:
 - Monday, September 29 - "Silly Olympics" in the Campus Center Atrium from noon – 1:00 pm.
 - Wednesday, October 1 - Lucas Carpenter will perform in Main Dining from noon – 1:00 pm.
 - Friday, October 3 – there will be an MCC Paraphernalia give away in the Terrace Lounge to get ready for homecoming.
 - Saturday, October 4 - Pauly Shore will be doing a standup comedy routine in the gym. There will be an opening band; following the show he will do a meet and greet and sign autographs.

Senator Malin...

- Blood Drive – the first blood drive of the semester will be held Thursday, October 2 from 10am – 4pm in the Forum. This is the first time on-line registration will be used to schedule appointments. The goal for this drive is 75 pints.

C. Campus Center Advisor

Campus Center Advisor Stewart...

- The American Red Cross has established a scholarship for the SUNY schools because they have worked hard on blood drives. Certain goals and criteria have to be met. One of the criteria is that it goes to someone who was very involved with the coordination of the blood drives. If a 1% increase in donations is achieved a \$250 scholarship will be awarded; for each percentage increase the scholarship will increase.
- Cabbages & Kings won a First Place Award from the American Scholastic Press Association for their 2007-2008 literary magazine. They should hear about another award they applied for sometime in October.

IV. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Deputy Speaker Lawson stated that due to the overwhelming increase in voter registration, the Board of Elections is recalling all of the voting booths that are in the area colleges and high schools. Therefore, MCC will not have the voting booths available for the mock election. Malcolm Cohen, Elections Coordinator, did some research and found that the state of Connecticut has transitioned to electronic voting and has 3 voting machines they are willing to give to MCC but MCC would be responsible for getting them to campus.

Advisor McCauley suggested that New York State may be moving in the same direction next year and if that happens we wouldn't have to transport the machines from Connecticut.

Deputy Speaker Lawson stated that we are looking at the mock election this year especially since it is a huge election year. Last year the mock election that was held helped many students who didn't know how to vote and who had questions; this will help get students registered and feeling comfortable enough to actually get out and vote in the November election. There are actually a couple of people checking with personal connections to see if we can keep the machines we have.

Advisor Stewart mentioned that CASA is looking for help with the Pauly Shore event on Saturday night, October 4. Senator Kuhn mentioned that those who help out will have a private meet and greet with Pauly Shore before the event.

Senator Ruhindi, referring back to the smoking policy and the fact that all of the area hospitals now have a no smoking policy, stated that he sees the smoking policy as being good. The main focus of the students at MCC is to learn and he does not see why students cannot wait until they leave campus to smoke.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:55 p.m. Speaker Darrow called for a motion to adjourn.

Deputy Speaker Lawson so moved, seconded by Senator Bauman.

The Senate meeting was adjourned.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna M. Brennan
SA Secretary