



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING  
MINUTES FOR  
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 2:15 PM-Forums (3-130)**

**Student Senators:**

Senator Greco  
Senator Tower  
Senator Balzano  
Senator Frost  
Senator Jackson

**Speaker of the Senate:**

Jeremy Carmichael

**Deputy Speaker:**

Michael Lavere

**President:**

Suhail Prasathong-*absent*

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Rebecca Herzog

**SA Secretary:**

Lisa Truman

**Visitors:** Katie Eberhart, ELC; Kierstyn Dodson, ELC; Andy Binder, MCC Student; Ekaterina Jones, MCC Student Trustee; Erik Kopp, Global Union; Brooke LaDue, Monroe Doctrine; Aziza Albaram, MSA; Edin Polozanin, MCC Student; Danielle Wright, MCC Student; Jon Graham, Celtic Society; Ginny Geer-Mentry, MCC Association; Jennifer Pfaff, Honors Student Council; Maria Kane, Honors Student Council; Able Kiros, Honors Student Council; Shirley Batistta-Provost, OSLLD.

**I. CALL TO ORDER (2:15pm)**

**A. Roll Call (See attendance above)**

**B. Approval of the March 24, 2015 Minutes.**

Speaker Carmichael called for a motion to approve the March 24, 2015 SGA Minutes.

Deputy Speaker Greco so moved, seconded by Senator Balzano.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association** approves the March 24, 2015 Minutes as written.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

*There was no one to speak to the Senate.*

**III. REPORTS**

**Speaker Carmichael**

Speaker Carmichael stated the past few weeks have been successful ones. He and several others from SUNY schools attended the SUNY Speaks Up! event in Albany to advocate for more state investment into the SUNY system. The message was well received regarding additional state investment in SUNY to take some of the burden off students who have to incur the rising costs of education. The SGA hosted a table at the Emerging Leaders Reception. He also met with Matt Farley from Sodexo who offered to assist the SGA in getting the word out there regarding our upcoming elections.

**Senator Tower**

Over the last week, he has been working on the new SGA Constitution we are proposing. The goal is to simplify it and make it easier to read and understand. He had a news conference on Textbook Affordability today, which is another area all would like to keep students costs down.

## **Senator Balzano**

*As per Senator Balzano's request, her report is below as submitted and presented at meeting.*

### **1 ELECTIONS ARE COMING UP:**

- 1.1. Focusing mostly on preparing for the upcoming elections and campaigning process. I strongly encourage everyone to assist The Elections committee if at all possible, as the election process requires the help of us all to be successful.
- 1.2. Working towards finding as many potential candidates as possible to run for our SGA officer positions, as well as supporting our clubs to reach for the same objective.
- 1.3. For anyone that does not know: The Student Government Association is comprised of a President and Vice President, A Senate of 14 Senators, a Presidential Cabinet appointed by the President and approved by the Senate, various Senate committees, and ad hoc committees. Each Senator represents a distinct portion of the student body. The Student Government office is located in Building 3, room 127. Public meetings are always Tuesdays 2:15 PM - 5:00 PM in The Forum (Building 3, Room 130). We encourage all students to stop by our office and attend our Tuesday meetings.
- 1.4. Elections packets are available in The Office of Student Life and Leadership; **PACKETS AND CAMPAIGN MATERIALS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 5:00PM!** All promotional materials have to be approved, created, and posted around campus by The Office of Student Life and Leadership. **DO NOT ADVERTISE ANYTHING WITHOUT APPROVAL!**
- 1.5. I've been thoroughly seeking any input from clubs, organizations, associations, and individuals regarding how well they feel Their SGA has assisted and/or failed to support the mission and interests of our many clubs as a whole or individually. We need to know what it is you would like to see from your Student Government Association.
- 1.6. We are here to serve all students, and to give them a voice in student policy and management; **THEREFORE PLEASE UPDATE YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERS LIST'S AND PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL REVISIONS MAKE THEIR WAY TO MY MAILBOX (LOCATED IN THE SGA OFFICE).**
- 1.7. Also if it's not too much to ask it'd be much appreciated if each club would please submit a list of 5 satisfactory outcomes and 5 disappointing outcomes your GROUP has come across this year and 5 situations your GROUP would like to see done differently in the future and/or ideas for future campus activities. **ALL COLLECTED INFORMATION SHOULD BE TURNED IN TO THE SGA OFFICE NO LATER THAN MONDAY, APRIL 13TH AT 5:00PM** where it will then be assembled and shared with the entire Senate, both in closed quarters, and also here during an open senate floor meeting.
- 1.8. I have opened up my office hours from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. this Wednesday (4/8), and Thursday (4/9) for anyone seeking guidance, support, and/or general help with campaign preparation. In addition, I want to sincerely remind all of our clubs and organizations that my duty is to ensure that any and all of YOUR concerns, inquisitions and requests have been properly acknowledged and dealt with justly. One of my biggest objectives in this position; is to see to it that your experience here at MCC is one that empowers all of you to let your ideas and opinions be heard as well as sharing with you the many tools that may help you reach your greatest goals. I am honored to serve you.

### **President Prasathong** *(report read by Vice-President Moore in his absence)*

President Prasathong updates all on the status of the Presidential Cabinet. The Elections Coordinator position has been filled and he is hopeful the elections will go smoothly and without any hurdles. The Constitution Committee is making positive strides. Senator Tower's request was approved to host different programs of his interest to generate a revised image of the SGA here at MCC. The Cabinet truly appreciates the Senate's engagement in the governing process and we look forward to working with the Senate hand-in-hand towards a better governing body.

### **Advisor Stewart**

Notified all the SGA, clubs and organization's mailboxes are now in the Office of Student Life and Leadership's lobby. Please stop in to see us and pick-up your mail. The last Monthly Roundtable meeting on May 6, 2015 will be an Elections Result party. We will be celebrating the new officers coming in. The results of the SGA elections will not be available until later that evening. There will be more information to follow with details on the Elections Results party.

### **Advisor Herzog**

The Civility Project is hosting its "Enough is Enough" campaign and the program started yesterday. There are many presentations, speakers, and hands on events throughout the week. This campaign discusses extremely important subject matter, including violence on college campuses. Please stop by to check out one of the very powerful messages featured this week. The MCC residence halls are hosting events as well. Advisor Herzog personally thanked the MCC Resident Hall Advisors for their willingness and participation this week. They have really stepped up to volunteer and she thanked them for everything they have done.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

**a. Resolution to approve the changes of the Engineering Leadership Council's Constitution.**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the changes to the Engineering Leadership Council's Constitution.

**Speaker Carmichael** called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Senator Greco so moved, seconded by Senator Balzano.

**Discussion:** Kierstyn Dodson, the President of the ELC addressed the Senate. The ELC is a growing, evolving organization with over 200 active members. The constitution has not been updated in over 20 years, and in order to keep current and in line with the organization, this needs to be done.

**A vote was taken.**

*Be it resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves the changes to the Engineering Leadership Council's Constitution.

**b. Resolution to amend the Honors Council Constitution.**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the amendments to the Honors Council Constitution.

**Speaker Carmichael** called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Senator Greco so moved, seconded by Senator Balzano.

**Discussion:** Jennifer Pfaff, a member of the Honors Student Council, discussed the changes. The constitution was before the Senate earlier in the year and the Senate asked for some changes to be made to the GPA requirement and how the club officers would be selected. These changes were made and the new amended constitution is complete.

**A vote was taken.**

*Be it resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves the resolution to amend the Honors Council Constitution.

**c. Resolution to approve \$2000.00 in funding to Global Union for the International Day Program.**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves \$2000.00 in funding to Global Union for the International Day Program.

**Speaker Carmichael** called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Senator Tower so moved, seconded by Senator Greco.

**Discussion:** Erik Kopp, a representative from Global Union was in attendance. He stated this is an annual event that offers a cultural experience for all and many cultures will be represented. This year there will be a talent show with prizes and auditions will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00pm-5:00pm and on April 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00pm-1:00pm. There will also be professional dancers. They are also working with the Hospitality Department to cater this event as they have done in the past. He thanked the Senate for their consideration.

**A vote was taken.**

*Be it resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves \$2000.00 in funding to Global Union for the International Day Program.

**d. Resolution to approve Lu Muntanga as the SGA Election Coordinator.**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves Lu Muntanga as the SGA Election Coordinator.

**Speaker Carmichael** called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Senator Tower so moved, seconded by Senator Balzano.

**Discussion:** Lu Muntanga was not at the meeting, but several Senators spoke on her behalf. All feel confident she will be a good fit for the position with her previous experience as an SGA Senator. All felt she would do a great job as the Election Coordinator.

**A vote was taken.**

*Be it resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves Lu Muntanga as the SGA Election Coordinator.

#### V. DISCUSSION ITEM

*There was no discussion item.*

#### VI. OLD BUSINESS

*There was no old business.*

**VII. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Carmichael called for a motion for adjournment.  
The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Truman  
SA Secretary