



September 22nd, 2011

PRESENT: C. Abbott (President), A. Benjamin, P. Bishop, D. Burke (Secretary), N. Christensen, J. Cottrell, B. Dery, K. Doyle, B. Edelbach, B. Ellis, P. Emerick, M. Ernsthausen, S. Farrington, M. Fine, K. Frantz, T. Gilbert, K. Mooney-Graves, E. Grissing, S. Hagreen, M. Heel, L. Judd, R. Kennedy, E. Lanzafame, J. Mahar, J. McKenna, J. McPhee, M. Ofsowitz, D. Olaode, M. Oliver, P. Ornt, P. Peterson, L. Pierce, H. Pierre-Philippe (Vice President), C. Powers, M. Sample, P. Sarantis, T. Schichler, D. Shaw, C. Silvio, J. Smith, J. Volland, S. Weider, A. Wilson, J. Witz, H. Wynn-Preishe

ABSENT: A. Bauer, J. Case, G. Fazekas, S. Battista-Provost, H. Williams

GUESTS: J. Iuzzini R. Mack, S. Strong, D. Cecero, K.O'Shea, H. Murphy

Meeting called to order: 3:32pm

1. Guests

a. J. Iuzzini (Coordinator of the Teaching and Creativity Center) presented information on the Supporting Transitioning and Returning Service Members (S.T.A.R.S.) program. This program, spearheaded by H. Wheeler, is a series of workshops designed to educate all MCC employees on the issues facing returning service members. There will be two tracks: (1) teaching faculty and (2) administration and staff. The workshops will be offered through April and will be repeated at the Damon City Campus and the Public Safety Training Center. Once a faculty/staff member completes all of the trainings, he/she will earn the "Veteran Friendly" designation.

b. K. O'Shea (English/Philosophy) presented "Toward a Dog Friendly Workplace at MCC." The concept of having dogs in the workplace is growing nationwide. One in five companies has such a program including Google, Amazon, and Target. A total of 17% of companies allow pets. The benefits of such a program were outlined including: improved morale, increased productivity and lower stress (Humane Society). Potential roadblocks include liability concerns, health and safety issues, housekeeping issues, other's fears and allergies, and a location for dogs to be walked to relieve themselves. Parameters for implementation would include approved dogs only (dogs would need to complete and pass a "Good Citizenship" training which ensures certain level of acceptable behavior), one dog per employee, a trial period of no more than 30 dogs on campus, must be in a controlled situation (no free roaming, not allowed in public areas/classrooms), allergy sufferers need to be accommodated, zero tolerance for policy violators. According to "Every Dog's Legal Guide" the dog's owner is legally responsible for the dog's actions. More discussion will be needed with MCC's legal counsel. K. O'Shea presented this proposal to Dr. Kress in August 2011. She plans to survey the College community this fall using a variation on a survey developed by the National Humane Society to determine if there is sufficient interest from the College Community to pursue this proposal. She also plans to convene a committee to review and address concerns in the implementation plan.

Questions/Comments:

- J. Volland asked how she foresees accommodating the allergy sufferers. K. O'Shea acknowledges this will be challenging but folks will need to work together to find a solution.

This could include the dog owner needing to move. This will also be an issue for large offices where staff works in cubicles.

- A. Conte asked if students would be allowed to bring dogs. K. O’Shea replied no. This program is starting out as a pilot program where only faculty and staff would participate and then an assessment would be made to see how it was working before it is expanded.

- L. Pierce commented that she can see the value in such a program and sees it as a huge stress reliever.

- H. Wynn-Preisiche commented on the concern of dog on dog aggression. K. O’Shea stressed the need for participants to have their dogs under control and on leashes.

- J. Case asked if participants would be required to have a crate in their offices in case they need to leave their dogs alone. K. O’Shea said that would not be necessary since many dogs can stay safely in an office with the door closed without the use of a crate.

- C. Powers commented that dogs are very trainable and it is very important to require proper training and proof that the dog has completed such training.

- N. Christensen asked how those with dog phobias would be addressed. K. O’Shea replied that all dogs would be required to be on leashes and be able to heel when walking in the halls. She feels this may be an opportunity for those with fears to get a healthy exposure to well-behaved dogs and may relieve fears.

- A. Conte asked how you plan to protect someone who may come into your office. K. O’Shea stated that again, the dog would need to go through proper training and if someone who was coming to her office expressed a fear or discomfort, arrangements to meet elsewhere would need to be made.

2. Announcements (C. Abbott)

a. C. Abbott announced that there were new staff members in attendance: Shelia Strong (Executive Assistant to the President) and Heather Murphy (Secretary, Faculty Senate).

b. C. Abbott introduced the new Senators: Ann Bauer, Jeremy Case, Natasha Christensen, John Cottrell, Kim Doyle, Barbara Ellis, Paul Emerick, Tom Gilbert, Michael Heel, Jill McPhee, Mark Oliver, Liz Pierce, and Mark Sample. All new Senators were given candy dishes and pens.

3. Student Announcements

No report.

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of June 9, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

5. Standing Committee Reports

Academic Policies – E. Grissing

No report.

Curriculum – M. Ernsthause

The Curriculum committee will have 2 subcommittees this year. The Proposal Committee will review, post for faculty review, and give final approval to curriculum proposals. The Committee members are Sarah Hagreen, Lori Judd, Carl Silvio, Mary Jo Witz, John Cottrell and Holly Wynn-Preisiche (Chair). The Projects Committee will be working on the infused competencies project (The study of Values, Ethics, and Diverse Perspectives), the CAPE recommendations on improving the program review process, course designations (GR, LC, SV, WR, etc.), discuss changing the title “Course Objectives” in the curriculum database proposals to “Course Goals”,

and MCC General Education. The projects committee members are Ann Bauer, Kim Doyle, Paul Emerick, George Fazekas, Karen Frantz, and Mark Ernsthause (Chair).

The CAPE committee will be finishing their work on the program review guidelines this fall. Once completed, the changes will be brought to the EC and Faculty Senate for approval.

The ad-hoc committee that administered the CCLA (Community College Learning Assessment) exam last year should be completing their report this fall. Once the report is complete we will present the findings to the EC and Faculty Senate.

NEG – A. Wilson

No report.

SCAA – M. Fine

M. Fine reported the two SCAA search committees are now in place. The Dean of Career Technical Education search committee will be co-chaired by M. Fine and T. Schichler and the Dean of Science, Health and Business search committee will be co-chaired by M. Fine and R. Kennedy. M. Fine thanked everyone who volunteered to serve on these committees. The Dean of Liberal Arts search will begin in the spring with a projected fall 2012 start date.

Planning – D. Shaw

No report.

Professional Development – C. Powers

The following members agreed to sub-chair the following initiatives:

Awards – H. Williams

Leaves for Professional Development – B. Edelback

Legacy Lecture Series – T. Gilbert

C. Powers reported that S. Murphy (chair of the AdHoc Committee on Awards) has set up the first workshop for 3rd of October. The Leaves for Professional development sub-committee will be soliciting past recipients to form an Ad Hoc Advisory Group to assist applicants for the Leaves Process. This group will liaise with the Chair of the Professional Development Committee, similarly to the ad hoc Committee on Awards.

C. Powers also indicated that a primary focus of the Professional Development Committee will be following up on the college-wide Professional Development Activity Report developed by T. Shichler and A. Harrington-Wilson. This report summarized all the Professional Development Activity at Monroe Community College over a three year period. To this end, she and other Committee members will be working with Alberta Lee, Assistant to the President, Human Relations and Organizational Development.

6. Student Announcements

There was no student announcements.

7. Old Business

There was no old business.

8. New Business

- a.** P. Sarantis raised issue of parking spots being reserved in Lot K for Dental Hygiene Clinic patients. Faculty and staff are having trouble finding parking spaces.
- C. Abbott stated that the Executive Committee is aware of the concerns and there are two issues: (1) Public Safety had four parking spots reserved in the front of Lot K. That has since been resolved and those spaces are no longer being reserved. (2) Nineteen parking spaces are being reserved for Dental Hygiene clinic patients; however, the Dental Hygiene Clinic is not open all week. Public Safety's response to this concern is that there is ample parking on campus for Faculty and Staff however the spaces may not be the most convenient to your office or class room. Once the Building 9 construction is completed, this will free up more additional spaces. Faculty and staff will need to park in a lot that is not necessarily close to their offices or classes.
 - C. Abbott feels this is an issue and that we need to continue this discussion with Public Safety. This is especially difficult for adjunct instructors who are often coming from other parts of the county and often do not have time to look all over campus for parking spaces.
 - A. Conte asked if we could park in the Green Saver spots. C. Abbott answered no since they are designated by the county. However, it appears the Green Saver spots are not being utilized.
 - C. Powers feels there needs to be more handicap designated spots.
 - M. Heel asked if the Dental Hygiene Clinic Patients could be issued guest passes.
 - D. Cecero commented that the Dental Hygiene Department requested this plan. B. Ellis explained that Public Safety said that the patients could no longer park in the front loop. Last semester, clinic patients would get a parking pass but many ended up getting tickets.
 - P. Sarantis commented that students appeared to be getting tickets after 5 pm in Lot K.
 - A. Wilson asked if all 19 parking spots are needed for clinic patients and B. Ellis replied yes, 19 patients are seen at one time.
 - T. Schichler recommended that we invite David Moore, Director of Public Safety to further discuss this issue. C. Abbott agreed and will contact him regarding attending a future meeting.
- b.** C. Abbott stated that the Faculty Senate will be addressing two (2) topics this year. The Liberal Arts-General Studies (LA04) degree and the Faculty Evaluation Process (as requested by M. McDonough in the spring 2011).
- c.** D. Shaw will be the Faculty Senate Parliamentarian.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Abbott
President

Donna Burke
Secretary

Minutes approved at October 20, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting.