



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Wednesday, July 15, 2015 1:00 PM-SGA Office (3-127)**

Student Senators:

Senator Addison
Senator Balzano - **absent**

Senator Davis
Elections Coordinator Haehl
Senator Khanna
Senator Shoff
Senator White
Senator Wisseh - **absent**

President

Blake Moore

Vice President of Governance:

Michael Viele

Vice President of Programming:

Dawn Williams

Chief Justice

Joshua Gagner

Treasurer: Priyanka Meka -**absent**

Secretary: Marie Jackson - **absent**

SL&LD Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

SA Secretary:

Catherine Higgins

Visitors: Dr. Susan Baker, Asst.Vice-President, Student Services; Dr. Lloyd Holmes, Vice-President, Student Services; Krista Tyner, Academic Foundations.

I. CALL TO ORDER (1:05pm)

A. Roll Call (See attendance above)

B. Approval of the June 17, 2015 Minutes.

Vice President of Governance Viele called for a motion to approve the June 17, 2015 SGA Minutes.

Senator Shoff so moved, seconded by Senator White.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the June 17, 2015 minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Krista Tyner, from the Academic Foundation spoke to the Senate regarding the Academies Model and asked the Senate for their feedback.

Monroe Community College was chosen by the Association of American Colleges and Universities to participate. There will be a series of six academic homes called “schools” which will help make the student’s experience more manageable by dividing them into the following groups. School of Arts and Humanities; School of Business, Hospitality & Entrepreneurism; School of Community Engagement & Development; School of Health

Sciences and Physical Wellness; School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) and the School of Social Sciences & Global Studies. The college plans to start using this model by spring 2016.

She asked the Senate what they thought the best way was to get this information out to students.

Senator White suggested an Information Fair.

Vice President of Governance likes this idea and likened it to Harry Potter. It creates a connectedness that is important. He suggested putting it on Blackboard, where it can be seen and updated. Ms. Tyner stated that it will be compatible with Blackboard. She asked the Senate to keep thinking about this issue and she would be happy to come back at a later meeting to discuss it further.

III. REPORTS

President Moore

“As the summer months continue, focus on team building skills and teaching roles and responsibilities have been the direction and focus for the office of the president. Summer training sessions remain an important precursor, leading into a productive fall semester. I would like to commend the entire student government for work well done critiquing the SGA bylaws. With a few minor adjustments, I am confident the document will be ready for final approval prior to the September 8th start of the 2015 fall semester. I would also like to highlight the True Colors self-assessment tool that was recently conducted by SGA members. The insight provided, sheds light on a path that all members of the student government can utilize when collaborating and communicating with others. Not only does it help each individual understand better their own characteristics and modus operandi, equally as important, it helps us to understand our peers better and encourages ways that we can best work together as one.

I am pleased to say the meeting with Dr. Holmes and Dr. Baker regarding the student code of conduct went well. The feedback from administration has been very positive, with a specific recognition of our collaboration and unified student front. I would like to thank SGA VP of Governance Michael Viele, Chief Justice Joshua Gagner, SEGA President, Lorenza McMillian, SEGA VP of Governance Nuri Simmons, SEGA VP of Events Aqueelah Abdullah and SGA advisor Betty Stewart for taking the time out to address the matter and voice their concerns. I would also like to recognize SGA Club Senator, Morgan Shoff for her hard work and due-diligence helping to review and critique the proposed handbook. Moving forward, Dr. Susan Baker, Asst. VP of Student Services shared there will be a Title IX educational video posted to the MCC website for all to view by the start of the fall semester. In addition, there is also a 10 page Title IX handbook to be made available for the student body. All parties involved agreed this was a suitable means to insure student’s core understanding of these new standards, laws and procedures are being met in the future. Addressing the issue of student representation on the Monroe Community College Judicial Review Board, VP of Student Services, Dr. Lloyd Holmes explained that 4 of the designated 10 seats on this review board are explicitly reserved for students. At no point of the process, regarding any case, shall student’s ability to participate and vote in these future hearings be infringed upon. Concerning the authorization to edit and revise the student code of conduct being held by the office of the college president, or designated proxy, the reasoning behind

this is based upon avoiding mandatory 60 day resolution conflicts. Dr. Holmes explained, with the frequency of scheduled Board of Trustee meetings, the ability to meet the FERPA mandated 60 day resolution time was simple unobtainable. The flexibility to adjust this document needs to be insured.

Now that committees have been staffed, the next step will be to begin creating and developing regular meeting times and 90 day agendas. Tying into the theme of rebranding SGA with clever, fun and educational programming our goal is to have each SGA committee respectively working on producing and collaborating an event within the first 90 days of the fall semester. Exploring new ways to brand this rollout, a focus group has been assembled to develop an incentive based "collaboration point" system. The intent here is to capitalize on student's enthusiasm for free prizes by rewarding their involvement and participation with the campus and college extracurricular and events.

I would like to thank the office of Student Life and Leadership, SGA Senate and the Judicial Board for their continued support and hard work. I am pleased to say the state of our union is strong."

Vice President of Governance Viele

"I've been working on multiple projects since we've last met and SGA has made tons of progress overall. Since June 17th, Blake and I along with several others attended a meeting with Dr. Holmes regarding issues within the student code of conduct. Student government also added a justice to the Student Judicial Board, Antoine Evans. We have also smoothed out committees for several events we are entertaining this year, and on top of all this we have also begun to look at our by-laws to fix them, and make sure they're clear and understandable. I have also been in close contact with Dr. Kress regarding a "middle states accreditation meeting", I feel it's important we all know what goes into making MCC a college. Lastly, SGA has also taken a few more leaps toward our new, multicultural center. I couldn't be more proud of this group so far, great job everyone! Keep up the dedication!"

Chief Justice Gagner

"First, I would like to start off by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve as Chief Justice. I am looking forward to working with SGA and SJB. Since being elected I have attended training sessions and multiple meetings. One of the meetings, which included both president and vice president of SGA and SEGA, Dr. Holmes, Dr. Baker and Betty Stewart, we discussed and clarified our concerns with the new code of conduct. I have also been working on building the "justice league" to achieve our full potential."

Senator Khanna

"I hope everyone is having a good summer. I've been thinking of the fall and ideas I want to make come to life. An idea I had was having a designated place for spirituality, mediation, and stress relief. I took a stress management class my first semester, people are in need of a convenient environment where they can go and be independent using any method to relax. I would also like to make everyone aware of the labyrinth at MCC. This will part of my initiative to make the campus more mental-health friendly. Thank you."

Treasurer Meka

“I feel like this year’s student government will do so much because we have such a wide range of characteristics and we are always thinking of new ideas. I love how we’re getting ready to hit the ground running by the time fall semester starts.

As treasurer, the one thing that I hate hearing is “we don’t have enough money,” which, unfortunately is something that I hear often regarding this college. Fundraising would be a great way to get rid of this problem.

Everyone loves dances, so I feel that there could be no better way than to kick off the year with a homecoming dance. This, will not only help us fundraise, but will bring unity and possibly some school spirit.”

Senator Shoff

“I followed up with Lori Bartkovich who came to talk to us at the last meeting about the Non-Traditional Student week and she wanted me to forward on that this will be taking place the first full week in November. So I am hoping that we will be able to participate on this project with The Counseling Center and Veterans Services, Career and Transfer Center, and Financial Aid to provide amazing activities.

I spent Saturday June 20th at the Anime convention here on campus hosted by the MCC Anime Club. It seemed pretty small this year after talking to the President and Vice President of the club. I think it went pretty well. I was a medical volunteer all day so I got to see it from the working perspective. On a positive note there were no medical emergencies that occurred. They had a lot of different activities going on from panels to cos-play contests. They even had a game room set up with board games to play. They also had the e-lounge here on campus open for people at the convention to use as well. Overall I think the day went well.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Orientations have started this week. For the daytime orientations we are needed for the Club Fair from 12:00pm – 1:00pm on July 22nd, July 28th, August 12th, August 18th and August 26th.

For the evening orientations, we are needed from 7:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday, July 16th, July 30th, August 10th, August 20th and August 24th.

I would also like to say that Betty has approved both Blake and myself talking at the Student Leader training in August to the student leaders letting them know what is to be expected with the new club council so that we can go over our expectations and so they also know what they are to expect with it.”

Senator White

“Hello everyone. As the new Student Relations Senator my plan within the next few weeks is to locate popular areas around the school to place suggestion boxes in hope of accumulating more ideas from our student body. I am also meeting up with Kadijah our Public Relations Senator to come up with something catchy to get students more aware of their student government. I will also be in touch with Lorenza the SEGA President in trying to get some collaborative events planned.

Senator Davis

She is still working on the newspaper and trying to improve that. She is also trying to contact someone from WMCC The Fuse to help get information out to students.

Vice President of Programming Williams

Planning for Homecoming is underway. Songs are picked and she is working with a company that provides inflatables. They will not be doing activities for Weeks of Welcome, which has already been planned, but hope to get a table. Jodi Oriel is our temporary advisor until the position is filled.

Senator Addison

“This week I would like to get a meeting with all the committees that I sit on and chair and also get a list of the active clubs that we have and get moving on the multicultural center.”

Senator Wisseh

“Wednesday, June 11th I met with both the Director Amy Greer, and Assistant Director Don Bigelow of Residence Life, to clarify my role as a resident senator. During the meeting we talked about other important things, as well as (time and dates when I am needed) . Both Don and Amy want me to get involved in couple of resident life events at the beginning of the school year.

What is expected of me and the Residence Life leaders?

1. Meet once or twice a month
2. They will display me in the resident informational board with my contact information for resident student
3. I will help with opening week (move in date). With this they will hope to have a couple of members from SGA including myself with the event(s) on this date.
4. I will be attending convocation (Friday, September 4th: 3pm-4pm)
5. Sunday night all common meeting (Sunday September 6th: 6-7pm and 7-8pm). The resident council (goals is student to meet student, teaching student how to get involve in the community, and community services)”

Advisor Stewart

Advisor Stewart commended the SGA for the work done on the By-Laws. Student Leader Training will be held on August 27th and 28th. There will be informational e-mails going out to all students providing details. Please RSVP. She encouraged everyone to attend. It will be a great opportunity to meet other student leaders.

Advisor Stewart, Dr. Baker and Dr. Holmes met with Sodexo to discuss the direction they are going in. She invited Maureen Wheelden, Director of Sodexo to come to the training for a question and answer session.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate Vote)

1. ACTION ITEMS (items requiring a Senate vote)
 - a. **Resolution to Approve Members of Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees**
Resolved, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointment of those aforementioned individuals to sit on the 9/11 Remembrance Committee; Finance Committee, Constitution Committee; Public Relations, Rock the Vote and Multicultural Committee for the 2015-16 Academic Year.

Vice President of Governance Viele called for a motion to approve the Members of Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees for the 2015-16 Academic Year. The motion was made by Senator Anderson and seconded by Senator Shoff.

A vote was taken.

Resolved, that the Student Government Association approve the Members of the Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees for the Academic Year 1015-16.

V. DISCUSSION ITEM

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VI. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President of Governance Viele called for a motion for adjournment. Senator Shoff so moved, seconded by Senator White. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Higgins
SA Secretary