



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING MINUTES FOR**  
**Wednesday, August 24, 2011**  
**2:15 p.m. – SGA Senate Office (3-127A)**

**Student Senators:**

At-Large Senator Isaacs  
At-Large Senator J. Snyder  
Athletics Senator Lalisie  
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator M. Snyder  
Science, Health & Business Senator Bynes

**President:**

Michael Gray-Absent

**Acting Speaker**

Theresa Cacciao

**Acting Deputy Speaker/Service Clubs Senator**

Jason Childers

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**Faculty Advisor:**

Joseph McCauley

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Rebecca Herzog

**Visitors:** Megan Scott, Student Trustee; Christopher Hollander, Scott Blue, students; Donna Brennan, SA Secretary.

**I. CALL TO ORDER (10:05 a.m.)**

**A. Roll Call**

(See attendance above)

**B. Approval of the August 2, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes**

Acting Speaker Ciccio called for a motion to approve the August 2, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

Senator M. Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

**Be it resolved,** the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves the August 2, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes as written.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

Christopher Hollander, Chair of the Rock the Vote Committee, informed the Senate that he is working with WXXI on a live debate between Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks and Brighton Town Supervisor Sandra Frankel. The debate will take place in the WXXI studios. He also voiced his support for the resolutions to override the Presidential veto.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Senators**

**Senator Childers...**

- Updates – he has moved from Social Clubs Senator to Service and Cultural Clubs Senator; been invited to serve on the Multicultural Centre Committee; has represented the SGA at the Orientation tables; volunteered and donated at the Summer Red Cross Blood Drive. The By-Laws Committee, which he is a member of, has started meeting.
- SUNY Student Assembly - as a Community College Representative for SUNY in Western New York, he attended the August 12-14 Executive Committee meeting.

**Senator Lalisie...**

- MCC Athletics – Interviews:
  - ✓ Quick facts- MCC has a live video stream to all MCC home soccer, lacrosse, hockey basketball, and volleyball games (maybes on the last two). WMCC the Fuse has a sports show with interviews with coaches and players on a weekly basis planned. Date and Time TBA. MCC will be hosting the NJCAA Hockey National Championships for the second straight year at The Sports Centre at MCC in February. The John L. DiMarco field will be the site for the NJCAA Women's Lacrosse National Championships in May as MCC goes for a three-peat national title.
  - ✓ Skip Bailey, Director of Athletics, talked about the fact that the Athletics department not only should be known as the collegiate sports department, but also the intramural and fitness center at MCC. He gave him all the fall schedules, including the fall home game. Director Bailey would like to see a freshman student shadow Senator Lalisie so there is someone to take over for next year. Dan Dubois, Head Coach/Aquatics Coordinator, and Ashley Socola, Life Skills Coordinator, are working on gathering a leadership council to be completed by next year. Director Bailey gave him information and sheets to announce events on WMCC the Fuse and through the

publications department; he is looking to establish a Live Sports Video broadcast schedule to accompany the sports schedule in the Monroe Doctrine.

- ✓ Tom Garigen, Sports Information Director, talked about a collegiate-type athletics website for MCC that will be available either at the beginning of the year or within the first month of the fall semester; an MCC Sports Facebook (Monroe Community Athletics Association) page to be completed on same/similar type of schedule.
- ✓ Ashley Socola, Life Skills Coordinator, talked about a Student-athlete leadership certificate and Senate Meetings potentially to be attended by members of the Student-athlete Leadership Council. Leadership Council Co-coordinators Ashley Socola and Dan Dubois have agreed that the Student-Athlete Leadership Council will be concentrating mainly on education for this year and leadership opportunities next year.

**B. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Stewart...**

- Mentioned that Skip Bailey, MCC Athletic Director, has been named Region III Athletic Director of the Year. She wanted to make sure the SGA knew about that and mentioned that as things like that happen and are announced it would be a nice idea if, on behalf of the SGA, a note was sent.

**C. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Herzog...**

- CAB is hosting a "Black Light" Party at the Res. Halls on Friday, September 2.
- The Michael Jackson Tribute Band "Who's Bad" will be on campus September 24; CAB will be looking for volunteers.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)**

**a. Resolution to approve Committee Members**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approve the candidates to sit on their respective committees for the 2011-2012 Academic Year.

Acting Speaker Ciaccio called for a motion to approve Committee Members.

Senator M. Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

**There was no discussion.**

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves Tessa Ciaccio to sit on the Diversity Committee, Adriana Estrella and Rachel Sparks to sit on the 9/11 Committee, Alejandro Tollinchi and Enxhi Panariti to sit on the Travel/Finance Committee, and Jason Childers to sit on the Club Constitution Committee for the 2011-2012 Academic Year.

**b. Resolution to amend the MCC Student Government Association By-Laws by changing By-Law 12.3.5**

*Resolved*, that the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approve the changes to By-Law 12.3.5.

Acting Speaker Ciaccio called for a motion to amend the MCC Student Government Association by-Laws by changing By-Law 12.3.5.

Senator Lalisso so moved, seconded by Senator Bynes.

**Discussion:**

Senator Bynes explained that the change is to the Media Senator responsibilities; the Media Senator is no longer required to sit on the Media Committee.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the change to By-Law 12.3.5.

**c. Resolution to Override Presidential Veto**

*Resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate overrides the Presidential veto and approves the bundled resolutions effective immediately.

Acting Speaker Ciaccio called for a motion to override the Presidential Veto of the bundled resolutions to approve the amendment of Section 3.4.3 and Section 3.4.4, and to approve the addition of Section 8.3.12 of the SGA By-Laws, and approve the amendment of Section 9.3.6.

Senator Isaacs so moved, seconded by Senator M. Snyder.

**Discussion:**

Acting Speaker Ciaccio stated that due process established by the constitution was not heeded when the resolutions were made at the August 2 Senate Meeting. She stated that it would not be right to disregard procedure and it would be disrespectful to President Gray to override his veto.

Senator Childers stated that changes were made to the by-laws without going through the By-Laws committee; they were rushed and were written with incorrect information.

Advisor Stewart stated that there is a process and a structure. SGA predecessors put that structure into place. That's the rules and structure that should be followed and this Senate broke their own rules.

Senator Hollander stated that the projects were started last year with the proper process. The current members of the By-Laws committee were aware of these changes.

Senator J. Snyder stated that this discussion was conducted extensively in pre-agenda and motioned to call the question.

A vote to call the question was taken. The motion to call the question fails.

Senator M. Snyder stated that he is in agreement with Senator J. Snyder and in the interest of time and progress he encourages the senators to vote in favor of overriding the President's veto.

Senator Childers encouraged the senators not to pass the resolution. Resubmitting the resolutions after going through the proper procedures is not a waste of time.

Acting Speaker Ciaccio stated that the issue here is less with procedure that was broken but more with the principle of setting a precedent of not only breaking our own Constitution but disrespecting the President which applies to both of the overrides. Based on that she feels that President Gray's authority should be respected.

Senator Hollander stated that one of the by-laws is the branding by-law requiring all clubs/organizations, that get money from the Senate through the travel/finance account, to use the SGA logo cannot be enforced until it is in a resolution or in the By-Laws; that would hinder forward progress by holding up the SGA branding image. Holding up the Veterans Affairs Liaison By-law could create negative press on the SGA. The Rock the Vote Committee is an important committee. The actual meat of the resolution is beneficial to the organization as a whole.

Scott Blue stated that going against our own Constitution is worse than the PR image of the SGA. Every function of government has checks and balances. By saying that the Constitution doesn't matter, at the beginning of the term, is essentially saying that what the President and/or the Senate says doesn't matter. If we want to uphold the standards that have been set it would be wise to follow the Constitution. Nothing should ever be rushed through legislation.

Senator Childers, addressing Senator Hollander, stated that the new SGA logo was used as soon as the Senate approved it last year; Veterans Affairs Liaison position has been active for the last two years. The procedure of putting them into the by-laws does not defer them from being active.

Advisor Stewart informed the Senate that there is nothing on the table right now for the Travel/Finance committee to approve. There is nothing that would be affected if this resolution was not passed.

Advisor McCauley stated that nothing fundamentally critical would be held up and the Senate would be in violation of the Constitution if they went ahead with the override.

A roll-call vote was taken as follows:

Senator Bynes-nay; Senator Childers-nay; Senator Isaacs-yea; Senator J. Snyder-yea; Senator M. Snyder-nay; Senator Lalissee-nay.

The resolution to override the President's veto fails.

**d. Resolution to Override Presidential Veto**

*Resolved*, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate overrides the Presidential veto and approves the bundled resolutions effective immediately.

Advisor McCauley stated that since President Gray has not, since the last Senate meeting, appointed the people to the committees in this resolution, this proposal would be fundamentally flawed. It cannot go forward and be voted upon. The Senate would be in direct violation of the Constitution, which they cannot do. It is not merely a procedure; it is something that you have to follow. It is fundamentally flawed without President Gray putting these people forward. You all sit here by the grace of that Constitution so you cannot move it forward.

Senator J. Snyder asked what the best way to proceed would be.

Advisor McCauley said they should ask President Gray if he wants to make the appointments. He has the direct authority to do that; without his approval at this point in time it cannot go forward.

**V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Scott Blue stated that he is proud of all of the senators for not ruining the government. He also commended Acting Speaker Ciaccio for a great job.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:40 a.m. Acting Speaker Ciaccio called for a motion to adjourn. Senator M. Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Childers. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Brennan  
SA Secretary