



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING MINUTES FOR  
Tuesday, September 27, 2011  
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

**Student Senators:**

At-Large Senator Isaacs  
At-Large Senator J. Snyder-**Absent**  
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator M. Snyder  
Liberal Arts Senator Cintron  
Science, Health & Business Senator Bynes  
Service Clubs Senator Childers  
Social Clubs Senator Jackson-Harris  
Residence Hall Senator Sears-**Absent**

**President:**

Michael Gray

**Vice President**

Theresa Ciaccio-**Absent**

**Speaker/At-Large Senator**

Scott Blue

**Acting Deputy Speaker/Athletics Senator**

Robin Lalisie

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**Faculty Advisor:**

Joseph McCauley

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Rebecca Herzog-**Absent**

**Visitors:** Ginny Geer-Mentry, MCC Association; Chris Monroe, Mike Adams, Phi Theta Kappa; Ehizeme Aruya, Ignatius Ukato, Kevin Dixon, Presidential Cabinet; Dale Quackenbush, Marie Valone, Johanne Diaz, Luis Perez, Jacob Robinson, Students; Donna Brennan, SA Secretary.

**I. CALL TO ORDER (2:15 p.m.)**

**A. Roll Call**

(See attendance above)

**B. Approval of the September 20, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve the September 20, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

**Senator Childers** so moved, seconded by Senator M. Snyder.

**There was no discussion:**

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** unanimously approves the September 20, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes as written.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

**Senator Lalisie** announced his resignation from the SGA effective Wednesday, October 28. He thanked the advisors, the Senators, and everyone he worked with. He hopes to take a lot from this experience.

**Jacob Robinson**, a student who lives in Tribune Hall, expressed his concern regarding the internet connection in the Residence Halls. He stated that it has reached the point that very often during the day he has to leave campus to go someplace where he can get Wi-Fi connection that will not crash. He can get access on campus by going over to the college building but only late in the evening, after 10:00 p.m.

**President Gray** thanked Jacob for bringing this concern to their attention. He informed everyone that he, along with the Campus Technology and Student Services Coordinators did a walk-through in the Res. Halls and they have a 5-page report they will be presenting to the Director of Housing & Residence Life.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Speaker**

**Speaker Blue...**

- ✓ Goals - a strong green initiative, closer attention to the students' needs, and continuing heavy community service and involvement. They have brainstormed ten feasible projects for each goal which will enable them to make a big difference this year.

- ✓ Meetings and events - September 11<sup>th</sup>, he was proud to stand together with the SGA members, student leaders, community leaders, veterans, and first responders in remembering the tragic events of 9/11 ten years ago; thank you to President Gray for his powerful words.  
Rock the Vote Committee – he assisted the committee with the Annual Constitution Day; they passed out pocket constitutions, pushed voter registration, and played constitutional trivia for candy. A special thanks to CAB for their wheel, to all the senators and coordinators who came out to help, and for the surprise appearance of President Bill Knievel.  
The Who’s Bad Band and Nappy Roots – he commended CAB for putting on a great homecoming event.
- ✓ Welcome to new Senators Bo Jackson, Sierra Sears, and Samantha Cintron. He looks forward to working with them, with their help great things will happen in the SGA this year.

## **B. President**

### **President Gray...**

- ✓ Summer 2011 – he promoted the SGA at every Orientation and thanks every Presidential Cabinet Coordinator and Senator who volunteered at the Orientation tables and Vice President Ciaccio for her leadership in Organizing the August Orientation Sign-up. In July the SGA sponsored the most successful summer blood drive; the Red Cross projected a collection of 26 successful units and MCC provided 46. Thank you to the Coordinators who helped promote, work, and manage this event, and he hopes to provide even better results on October 5, 2011. The summer ended with the election of a Speaker and who he now publically and formally congratulates.
- ✓ Five major goals were outlined; smaller goals set to achieve the major ones are as follows:
  1. Student concerns in the Residence Halls - the Wi-Fi in the Residence Halls is not acceptable in an institution of higher education such as this. Students can neither get on the Wi-Fi or are kicked off due to the fact that too many students are trying to log in at once. With the college pushing the use of web based course work, such as angel and math labs, it is unacceptable that this is still an issue. On Tuesday, September 20, 2011, he and members of his Cabinet, including Student Services, Communications, Promotions, Veteran Affairs Coordinators, and Vice President Ciaccio went to Canal Hall to listen to student concerns and to see what options could be explored in fixing this issue. On Thursday, September 22, 2011 Campus Technology Coordinator Aruya provided a report which includes his professional opinion on what the problem is and several options for fixing the issue. Student Services Coordinator Ukatu and Campus Technology Coordinator Aruya will be meeting with the Director of Housing and Res Life to discuss possible options for fixing the Wi-Fi. Other concerns that will be introduced in the meeting are Community Forums in the Residence Halls where students can address their concerns and ideas for improvement; quarter machine - there are none in the Residence Halls although the washers and dryers are coin operated; and parking policies for guests visiting the halls.
  2. Veterans Success - enhancement of the Veteran Friendly status of the college. Veteran Affairs Liaison Serbicki suggested having a Veteran Specific Orientation. As a result, the very last Orientation this summer became the very first Veterans Orientation. Only five to eight veterans were projected to attend, but there was a group of 15 to 20 vets in the Veteran Specific group. Thank you Veteran Affairs Liaison Benjamin Serbicki for coming up with this idea, and not only following through with it but making it a great success. They will meet to plan more of these orientations in January before Spring classes and to increase them at the summer orientations.
  3. College Engagement - forums with the SGA President. As the official Representative of the SGA and the Student Association he feels it is not only necessary that he knows the students but the students know him as well. Through these forums the students will have the opportunity to ask him questions regarding their college experience, what they would like to see and things of that nature. He feels very comfortable with this challenge due to his Peer Assistant Networking Training, Student Leader Training, as well as Forms Training. Promotions Coordinator Ash will be promoting the Forum for about 1 ½ - 2 weeks before. As a result of the promotion of the Forum and discussion with Speaker Blue, the SGA Senate meetings will become Senate Meetings with a topic. During the “Speak to the Senate” period, the Senate will tackle subjects such as parking, college policy, res life, and things of that nature. The forum will be held in October and the themed Senate meetings will immediately follow.
  4. Community Engagement - sometimes money isn’t the best way of supporting a group or organization, it is by simply showing up and helping and that was apparent at the Child Care Center Beach day held last Spring. They are looking into becoming a pencil partner with one of the Rochester City School Districts local high schools to help mentor and train students in preparing them for college and life beyond high school. One major priority is to bring the Public Market to MCC to enhance diversity and to bring something that the students may have never

experienced at home right here on our campus. This will not only benefit the student but faculty and staff as well.

5. Service Leadership and Excellence – thank you to Speaker Blue, Senator Lalisie, Senator Childers, and Senator J. Snyder for attending the 9/11 Ceremony; the presence of SGA at that event made him proud. He also thanks Dr. Kress, County Executive Maggie Brooks, Brighton Town Supervisor Sandra Frankel, and monument Architect Mark Maddalina. Also thank you to the MCC Office of Student Life and Leadership Development. Homecoming, Saturday, September 24 – he had the opportunity to help CAB with unloading and setting up the stage equipment. Thank you to all who came out to help and support the event. It was a great success for CAB.

If anyone would like more information on these topics feel free to contact him. He looks forward to working with everyone on each of these five goals.

### C. Senators

#### Senator Isaacs...

- ✓ Club Constitution Committee met with the President of Phi Theta Kappa to work on their Constitution. A resolution for approval has been brought forward.
- ✓ Student Life Fair went well. Congratulations to Advisor McCauley for his hole in one.
- ✓ Cab Homecoming event was amazing; he helped take the stage down.

#### Senator M. Snyder...

- ✓ Rock The Vote Committee – will be collaborating with Phi Theta Kappa on a project they are working on to increase voter awareness. They have developed an online blog which will provide the public with information on all candidates running for office, as well as those who are currently in office. They aspire to provide candidate information on a local level as well as on a national level. The committee's focus this semester is voter registration and awareness. A voter registration drive will take place from October 3 through the 14; PTK and SGA will have tables set up all around campus. PTK will also have brochures that will include the link to their blog so students have the opportunity to get informed on who is running for office so they can make an informed decision on who to voting for.
- ✓ Student Life Fair – many students stopped by the SGA table and asked questions about what the SGA is and does and played the umbrella putt-putt.

### D. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Stewart...

- ✓ Student Life Fair - she thanked all of the clubs and organizations for their displays and reminded everyone who had a golf hole to send in their feedback.
- ✓ Fire Drills – she reminded everyone that when they are in the Campus Center area of campus during a fire drill they are to go all the way out to the back parking lots. As student leaders they should ask other students to be cooperative with the CERT Team and take the fire drills seriously.
- ✓ A list of students from orientation who expressed interest in Student Government was put in someone's mailbox. These are students at large who can be engaged and possibly placed in a vacant position. She has a copy of the list if needed.
- ✓ Leadership Retreat – paperwork is due Monday, October 3.

**Speaker Blue commended Advisor Herzog for the Homecoming event Saturday night.**

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

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

#### a. Resolution to approve Jason Childers to the position of Deputy Speaker of the MCC Student Government Association.

*Resolved*, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate confirm Speaker F. Blue II's nomination of Jason Childers to the position of Deputy Speaker of the MCC Student Government Association for the 2011—2012 academic year.

Speaker Blue called for a motion to approve Jason Childers to the position of Deputy Speaker of the MCC Student Government Association.

Senator Jackson-Harris so moved, seconded by Senator Bynes.

Discussion:

Speaker Blue stated that it is the Speakers responsibility to choose a Deputy Speaker. He chose Jason Childers who he feels has the strengths that meet his weaknesses. He hopes the Senate considers his judgment as a wise one.

Senator M. Snyder reiterated what he said at the meeting last week and hopes the Senators take that into consideration.

President Gray reiterated what he said at the meeting last week. He stated that Senator Childers has the most experience and has always made himself available. Senator Childers has adjusted his schedule to make the SGA one of his top priorities.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Senator Bynes – yes; Senator Childers-abstain; Senator Cintron – yes; Senator Isaacs – no; Senator Jackson-Harris – yes; Senator Lalissee – yes; Senator M. Snyder – no.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate approves Jason Childers as Deputy Speaker of the MCC Student Government Association for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**b. Resolution to approve Rock the Vote Committee Members.**

*Resolved*, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointments of Chris Monroe and Jamie Noonan to the Rock the Vote Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Speaker Blue called for a motion to approve Rock the Vote Committee Members.

Senator Bynes so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

Discussion:

Chris Monroe, Phi Theta Kappa Vice President for Honors in Action, stated that their goals coincide with the Rock the Vote Committee and he feels they will work well together.

Jamie Noonan was absent – President Gray read a statement in which she stated that she has been involved in the college since she started, first in Public Safety and now as a Peer Advisor. She would like to be involved with the Student Government because she likes to help the students and she has a good knowledge of the college.

Senator Bynes stated that she looks forward to working with them.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves Chris Monroe and Jamie Noonan as members of the Rock the Vote Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**c. Resolution to approve amendments to the Phi Theta Kappa Constitution.**

*Resolved*, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the changes made to the Phi Theta Kappa Constitution.

Speaker Blue called for a motion to approve amendments to the Phi Theta Kappa Constitution.

Senator Lalissee so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

Discussion:

President Gray thanked the Constitution Committee for working with Phi Theta Kappa. He explained that there was a change in Phi Theta Kappa's National Policy which required a change in their local policy.

Mike Adams, Phi Theta Kappa President, thanked the Constitution Committee and the SGA for moving quickly on the changes.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the changes made to Phi Theta Kappa Constitution.

**d. Resolution to support SUNY Student Assembly's Legislative Agenda**

*Resolved*, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approve the 2012 SUNY Student Assembly Legislative Agenda as written.

Speaker Blue called for a motion to support SUNY Student Assembly's Legislative Agenda.

Senator M. Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Jackson-Harris.

Discussion:

Advisor McCauley asked what "Maintenance of Effort" agreement for Community College is.

Senator M. Snyder stated that from the meeting he attended he recalls that it coincides with the rational tuition policy.

Advisor McCauley asked if that means that the state will push the County to pay their full third share.

President Gray doesn't see how it coincides with the rational tuition policy.

Senator M. Snyder stated that he is not a part of SUNY SA right now but he does plan on joining them. He was not actively involved enough to have a sense of what the Maintenance Effort is.

President Gray suggested that the SGA hold off on making a decision on this until a Community College Representative is in place for MCC.

Senator Childers motioned to table the resolution until Senator M. Snyder can get more information; seconded by Senator Bynes.

A vote to table the resolution was taken.

The motion passed; the resolution is tabled.

**V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Senator Jackson-Harris requested that the Constitution Review Committee convene to review the establishment of the MCC Chess Club.

President Gray informed him that he can take it to the current Constitution Committee and they should also meet with the Office of Student Life & Leadership Development advisor.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:00 p.m. Speaker Blue called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Isaacs so moved, seconded by Senator Bynes. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan  
SA Secretary