



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING  
MINUTES FOR  
Tuesday, October 26, 2010  
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

**Student Senators:**

Academic Clubs Senator Li  
At-Large Senator DiPonzio  
At-Large Senator Shaffner  
Athletics Senator Sharp  
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator Wassel-Saxe  
Residence Hall Senator Young  
Science, Health & Business Senator Snyder  
Service Clubs Senator Hannah  
Social Clubs Senator Blue

**President:**

Jason Childers

**Vice President**

Christopher Hollander

**Speaker/Media Senator**

Mirlin Moorefield

**Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator**

Jack Hills

**Assistant Deputy Speaker/CAB Senator**

Diamond Simmons

**Campus Center Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**Faculty Advisor:**

Joseph McCauley

**Campus Center Advisor:**

Rebecca Herzog

**Visitors:** Dick Ryther, Student Services; Annette Agness, MCC Association; Shirley Batista-Provost, Office of Student Life & Leadership Development; Brandilea Trescott, Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Project; Kelly Byner, student; Donna Brennan, SA Secretary.

**I. CALL TO ORDER (2:23 p.m.)**

**A. Roll Call**

**B. Approval of October 19, 2010 Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the October 19, 2010 Senate Meeting Minutes.

**Senator Snyder** so moved, seconded by Senator DiPonzio.

**Discussion:** There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the October 19, 2010 Senate meeting minutes as written.

**C. Approval of August 24, 2010 Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the August 24, 2010 Senate Meeting Minutes.

**Deputy Speaker Hills** so moved, seconded by Senator Young.

**Discussion:** There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the August 24, 2010 Senate meeting minutes as written.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

Dick Ryther presented a concept that he and Dr. Salvador have been presenting to faculty and staff regarding moving commencement day from a Thursday evening to a Saturday morning; they are also looking into ways to compress the ceremony. He described several reasons why they are looking into this idea and asked the Senators for their feedback. Several of the Senators agreed that the move to Saturday would be a great idea for several reasons. Mr. Ryther stated that he will be presenting the idea to SEGA at their next meeting.

### III. REPORTS

#### A. President...

##### President Childers...

- **Presidential Cabinet** – with the pending approvals this week and next, the Cabinet is full. The Cabinet members are very active; the vast majority of them are involved in committees and working on projects.
- **Holocaust Genocide Human Rights Project Walk for Water 5K** – he participated in the 5K Walk and is very proud of the amount of money Vice President Hollander raised.
- **Charity Event at Five Guys** – he participated in the event on Sunday, October 24 that was set up by Senator Jim Snyder.
- **SUNY Student Assembly** – he will be participating as a voting delegate and primary liaison of the SGA in the Conference this weekend. He plans to represent MCC very well and improve MCC's relations with the other SUNY schools, especially with the other Community Colleges.

#### B. Vice President

##### Vice President Hollander...

- **Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Project** – congratulations for the planning and execution of the 3rd Annual Walk for Water on Saturday, October 23, 2010. He was very eager to attend the event and would like to thank his student and faculty sponsors. Also, congratulations to the Pool and Billiards Club for being the club who raised the most money; over \$4000 was raised.
- **SUNY Student Assembly** - the resolutions on today's agenda regarding the SUNY Student Assembly are being brought forward to assist the voting delegates in the business meeting at the conference. It will provide all of you the opportunity to raise questions and voice your opinions in a public meeting setting. The decisions made today will give the voting delegates a feeling on whether or not their school is in support of these resolutions.
  - ✓ ***Resolution to support time limitations on Executive Board and President Cabinet Reports*** - many times during the conference or executive committee meetings, reports take the majority of the time. The argument for passing this resolution is that it will allow the SUNY Student Assembly to become more effective and efficient during the meetings. However, some people would say limiting the reports will hinder the Executive Board and Directors from giving their full report.
  - ✓ ***Resolution to support endorsement of the Water Justice Alliance in Conjunction with the SUNY Strategic Plan*** - the Water Justice Alliance will provide water purification powders to third world nations, primarily those in South America. However, it could take away from programs such as Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Project's goal of funding Water for Sudan; where they focus on a permanent solution by building fresh water wells.
  - ✓ ***Resolution support Addition of Community College Affairs Committee to Official Standing Committee*** - currently the Community College Affairs Committee is an ad-hoc committee. This resolution would insure that community college students will always have an opportunity to have their voices heard. If this does not become a standing committee, they will be creating an ad-hoc committee on a yearly basis or it would be dissolved and community college students could be lost in the committee for 4-year schools.
  - ✓ ***Resolution to support Removal of Office Addition in the SUNY Bylaws*** - by adapting these changes to the SUNY SA Bylaws, it would allow the President to remove and replace directors that are not doing their job in a much more efficient manner. Oversight is still there by needing the Executive Committee to vote on the president's decision.
  - ✓ ***Resolution to support Resolution Endorsing Article XVII changes to SUNY SA Bylaws*** - this resolution will increase the EC by one person, allowing the Graduate Division to be split up between two people, instead of only one representing all Graduate schools. This would mirror the setup for University Centers allowing the Representatives to focus on two schools.

Please take into consideration these comments, plus comments or concerns presented by students or fellow senators when determining your vote.
- **Rock the Vote Committee** – the committee is wrapping up their meetings. Upcoming events are scheduled for Thursday, October 28 and Monday, November 1; in the Marketplace during college hour they will be asking trivia questions and reminding people to vote. They also hope to have computers available for students to print out sample ballots so they know who they are voting for on November 2nd. The bigger event, the Election Results Party, will be held on November 2nd from 8pm-11:30pm in Monroe A/B. There

will be food, games, and live election results on the giant televisions. He encourages everyone to invite friends and classmates at MCC.

### C. Senators

#### Senator Li...

- **Getting Students Involved** - she has been going to ESOL classes to talk to students about clubs/organizations and how they can get involved. Some students have emailed her with questions; most of them seem to be interested in getting involved and are very motivated.
- **Roundtable** – she attended the Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> Roundtable to hear about other clubs/organizations events and to meet with some of the Academic Club officers. Some of the Academic Clubs have recently emailed her with questions and/or concerns about doing events.

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

**Advisor Herzog** announced that the Admissions Office is looking for tour guides. She has applications if anyone is interested.

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

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

#### a. Resolution to support Time Limitation on Executive Board and President Cabinet Reports

*Resolved*, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association supports time limitations on Executive Board to 20 minutes and Presidential Cabinet Reports to 10 minutes within the SUNY Student Assembly, not including questions and be it further

*Resolved*, that extenuating circumstances voted by the Delegates or Executive Committee may vote to give the President up to 30 minutes, not including time for questions, to give their report.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the resolution to support Time Limitations on Executive Board and President Cabinet Reports.

**Senator DiPonzio** so moved, seconded by Senator Li.

#### **Discussion:**

**President Childers** offered a friendly amendment to add the word “By-laws” in-between “Association” and “send” in the first sentence of the full resolution.

**Senator DiPonzio** so moved, seconded by Senator Blue.

A vote to approve the friendly amendment was taken.

The friendly amendment is approved.

A vote to approve the resolution was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approves the resolution to support Time Limitation on Executive Board and President Cabinet Reports within the SUNY Student Assembly as amended.

#### b. Resolution to support Endorsement of the Water Justice Alliance in Conjunction with the SUNY Strategic Plan

*Resolved*, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association, supports Endorsement of the Water Justice Alliance in Conjunction with the SUNY Strategic Plan, votes to support the SUNY Student Assembly, and be it further,

*Resolved*, that the Water Justice Alliance will be supported by the Brighton Campus Student Government Association and the MCC Student Association by making WJA a priority in providing purification powder to South American Countries.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the resolution to support Endorsement of the Water Justice Alliance in conjunction with the SUNY Strategic Plan.

**Senator Snyder** so moved, seconded by Senator Blue.

#### **Discussion:**

Brandilea Trescott, President of Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights, voiced concerns regarding the proposal. She stated that the purification packets cost around \$5000 and the cost to drill a fresh water well is \$5000. Her major concern is that WJA is providing only a temporary solution where Water for Sudan provides a permanent solution. Access to clean water provides the ability to build villages with medical facilities, markets and schools.

Vice President Hollander explained that SUNY as a whole is looking into different ways to get involved with the world. The WJA is just one proposal brought forward by a student from SUNY Rockland. If this resolution is not passed at the SUNY SA level, it will provide an opportunity for other organizations, including Water for Sudan, to be looked at as a permanent solution instead a temporary fix.

Brandilea mentioned Water for Sudan just speaks to Sudan but what Water for Sudan does can also be done in other countries. In the proposal it states that the ultimate goal is to provide wells. She asks why not provide them in the first place. The amount of money they are talking about is what it costs to build a well, a permanent solution.

Vice President Hollander explained that the senators are not voting on Water for Sudan or for Water Justice Alliance. If the resolution does not pass it just provides an opportunity for organizations like Water for Sudan to be recognized. He also explained that the WJA works primarily with South America, they also work with other areas like Africa and Asia but they only provide purification powder. Their long term goals include drilling permanent wells but there is no timeframe mentioned.

Discussion included thoughts from Senators who support the resolution and thoughts from those who do not support the resolution.

Vice President Hollander explained that if this resolution does not pass at the conference this weekend, they will work on a new resolution and proposal for the spring conference.

A vote was taken.

The resolution fails.

c. **Resolution to support Addition of Community College Affairs Committee to Official Standing Committee**

*Resolved*, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association supports Addition of Community College Affairs Committee to Official Standing Committee within the SUNY Student Assembly, and Be it further *Resolved*, that the Community College Affairs Committee as a standing committee will help insure continued continuity and development for all community colleges within the State University of New York.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the resolution to support Addition of Community College Affairs Committee to Official Standing Committee within the SUNY Student Assembly.

**Senator Shaffner** so moved, seconded by Senator Sharp.

**Discussion:** there was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the resolution to support addition of Community College Affairs Committee to Official Standing Committee within the SUNY Student Assembly.

d. **Resolution to support Removal of Office Addition in the SUNY Bylaws**

*Resolved* that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate supports Removal of Office Addition in the SUNY Bylaws to allow the President a much easier and more rational way to remove directors with the consent of the Executive Committee within the SUNY Student Assembly.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the resolution to support Removal of Office addition in the SUNY Bylaws.

**Senator Simmons** so moved, seconded by Senator Young.

**Discussion:** there was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the resolution to support Removal of Office addition in the SUNY Bylaws.

e. **Resolution to support Resolution Endorsing Article XVII Changes to SUNY SA Bylaws**

*Resolved*, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate supports the resolution endorsing Article XVII changes to the SUNY Student Assembly Bylaws to increase the Graduate Division from one to two representatives.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve the resolution to support the resolution endorsing Article XVII changes to the SUNY Student Assembly Bylaws.

**Senator Young** so moved, seconded by Senator Li.

**Discussion:** there was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the resolution to support the endorsement of Article XVII changes to the SUNY Student Assembly Bylaws.

**f. Resolution to approve Committee Members**

*Resolved*, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Anthony Tann, Jemi Patel, Luis Perez, and Michael Gray to sit on the Events Committee for the ~~2009-2010~~ 2010-2011 academic school year.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve Committee Members.

**Senator Sharp** so moved, seconded by Senator Hannah.

**Discussion:**

**Senator Shaffner** offered a friendly amendment to change 2009-2010 to 2010-2011, seconded by Senator DiPonzio.

**Senator Sharp** accepted the friendly amendment.

A vote to approve the friendly amendment was taken.

The motion passes.

A vote to approve committee members was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the appointment of Anthony Tann, Jemi Patel, Luis Perez, and Michael Gray to sit on the Events Committee for the 2010-2011 academic school year.

**g. Resolution to approve Kelly Bynes as the Elections Coordinator**

*Resolved*, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve, using due process, Kelly Bynes as the Elections Coordinator for the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

**Speaker Moorefield** called for a motion to approve Kelly Bynes as the Elections Coordinator.

**Senator Wassel-Saxe** so moved, seconded by Senator Shaffner.

**Discussion:**

Kelly stated that she is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> semester at MCC and is sorry she hadn't become involved before this. She will work to increase the participation of students in the SGA elections, improve the visibility of the SGA, and to increase participation in the actual voting process.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves Kelly Bynes as the Elections Coordinator for the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

**VI. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Advisor McCauley asked if the senators knew anything about the Water Justice Alliance other than that they hand out powders. He suggested that there maybe were some questions that should have been asked. He feels that the senators didn't have enough information. He suggested that the voting delegates get more information before they go in to the Business Meeting.

Vice President Hollander congratulated Kelly Bynes for her approval as Elections Coordinator. He also thanked the Senate for voting on the resolutions for SUNY Student Assembly. If there are additional comments or concerns please make them known to the voting delegates. The voting that took place today is not the final say, it helps the voting delegates in their decision at the Business Meeting.

Senator DiPonzio stated that he is disappointed that there wasn't more information for them to look at regarding the WJA and asked that that be kept in mind when something like this comes up again.

Senator Snyder agrees with Advisor McCauley's comments. He is disappointed that the topic was not explored more.

Assistant Deputy Speaker Simmons also agrees that more questions should have been asked.

Senator Hannah stated that he feels the conditions in South America may be different than the conditions in Sudan. He believes that the packets might be more beneficial in South America; they may not have a 4 hour walk to water like they do in Sudan. He also stated that he voted against resolution 1a because he believes

that limiting the reports is limiting what people have to say. If information is being put in reports the person giving that report probably feels it is information others should hear.

Deputy Speaker Hills stated that he feels that the Senate didn't take the time to educate themselves on the WJA but it is important that MCC maintains its own level of autonomy as far as projects they have been working on for years.

Vice President Hollander stated that the votes on these issues should be used as a guide to help the voting delegates when they vote on them at the Business Meeting.

Senator Blue stated that as Senators it is important to stand behind our decisions and that we take the time to have a basis to stand behind our decision.

Speaker Moorefield also suggested that if there are more comments/concerns that the Senators talk to the voting delegates.

Deputy Speaker Simmons encouraged the Senators to talk to her, Deputy Speaker Hills or President Childers. She stated that they all may not vote the same way at the Business Meeting.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:25 p.m. Speaker Moorefield called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator DiPonzio .

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan  
SA Secretary