



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

Student Senators:

At-Large Senator Blum
At-Large Senator Carey
At-Large Senator Cohen
CAB Senator Young
Liberal Arts Senator Gothard
Media Senator Moorefield
Residence Hall Senator Pritchard
Service Clubs Senator Monroe

President:

Jason Childers

Speaker/ Science, Health & Business Senator

Simon Ruhindi

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Visitors: Dick Ryther, Student Services; Annette Agness, MCC Association, Inc.; Rebecca Herzog, Shirley Batista-Provost, Campus Center; Devon Woodward, Student Trustee; Arkadia Kibler, Comic Creators Club; Joseph Varrera, Jun Wen Yu, Chinese Culture Club; Tony DiFabio, Peer Mentor; Christopher Hollander, SEGA; Fred Brown, Presidential Cabinet; Luis Perez, Rahul Raja, Ashley Yost, students; Donna Brennan, Secretary.

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

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of December 15, 2009 minutes

Speaker Ruhindi called for a motion to approve the minutes for December 15, 2009.

Senator Blum so moved, seconded by Acting Deputy Speaker Carey.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the minutes for December 15, 2009 as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

There was no one to speak to the senate.

III. REPORTS

A. Speaker

Speaker Ruhindi... stated that he is honored to be the Speaker of the Senate for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year. He looks forward to a good semester and reminded every student leader that they chose to take on a leadership position; a leadership position is a learning experience for all. He stated that there will always be people you may not agree with or get along with but you will have to find it in yourself to agree to make things work. He hopes that everyone will remember that communication will be the key to a successful semester. He looks forward to his new position; he will always be there to listen and to give feedback when needed.

B. Senators

Senator Blum...

- Events Committee: the first meeting was held on Thursday, January 2; some of the events discussed were a fundraiser for Haiti, a spring ball, several blood drives, and co-sponsoring many more events. The next committee meeting is Friday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.
- Peer Mentors are asking for items to be donated to their silent auction. All proceeds will be used to purchase supplies to make new blankets for under privileged children in the Rochester area. Contact Senator Blum for more information.

Senator Carey...

- Blood Drive - Thursday, February 4, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Forum. Donors can sign up at www.mccgivesblood.org. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is posted on the Senate office door; please volunteer. Money will be collected at the blood drive to help with the Haiti earthquake relief effort; all proceeds will go to the Red Cross.
- Presidential Trivia contest – sponsored by the SGA, will be held on Monday, February 22, from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Atrium. Prizes will be awarded.
- Organizational note – he would like every member of SGA, Senate and Presidential Cabinet, to remember that they are here to represent the students. After academics, when it comes to MCC, the students come first. He asked that everyone remember this as the semester progresses.

Senator Cohen...

- SUNY Group 200 – the fourth conversation took place on Monday, January 11, 2010, at SUNY Delhi. Keynote Speaker was Yolanda Moses, the Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Excellence & Diversity and Vice Provost for Conflict Resolution, University of California - Riverside. The theme for the conversation was Diversity in the World. The next conversation will be at Stony Brook on Thursday, February 4, the topic will be Energy and Sustainability. If interested in learning more about this Group, their mission or to offer feedback on the Strategic Planning process, visit the website, www.suny.edu/strategicplan. More news on SUNY in general and the Strategic Plan in specific can be found on GenerationSUNY on Twitter, Facebook, or YouTube.
- SUNY Student Assembly Executive Committee – the next meeting is in Canton. Discussions will include the Governor's Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act and the Governor's latest round of cuts to the SUNY system, Community College Base Aid, and TAP.
- Rules Committee – met over break and made major progress. He and Vice President Marathe discussed ways to improve the Committee's efficiency and streamline the process. The committee is interested in and open to new members; if interested in joining, see President Childers or Senator Cohen.

Senator Monroe...

- MCC Food Service - her main focus this semester will be to work with other committee members to get a new food service on campus. She is looking for input and suggestions.

Senator Moorefield...

- Media Senator – this semester he will be learning his job as the representative for Cabbages & Kings, The Monroe Doctrine, and WMCC.
- Project Gazebo – this is a project he started in the fall semester as a member of the Damon Campus SEGA. The plan for this project is to build a large gazebo with gardens and walk-ways in a downtown Rochester park which will promote the concepts of Diversity, Acceptance, Respect and Tolerance as well as to provide a means for the student body of MCC to contribute to the beautification and future development of downtown Rochester and the current and future Damon City Campus of MCC. He has enlisted the assistance of SEGA at the Damon City Campus and hopes to enlist the assistance of SGA, CAB, and other Brighton campus groups.
- He can be reached in the SGA office during his office hour, which will be established soon, and at dmoorefield001@student.monroecc.edu.

C. Committee Reports

➤ Rules Committee - reported by Senator Cohen

- Radiology Club Constitution is complete and has been approved in final form by both the committee and the club.
- Comic Creator Club Constitution is complete and has been approved in final form by both the committee and the club.
- ONE Campus Challenge Constitution is almost complete. The Committee is waiting for a response from the Club on the last few issues before voting on the final version of their Constitution. The club also lacks approval from Assistant Director Battista-Provost.
- A new Template Constitution to replace the current one is being developed. By updating the Template, the constitution approval process will be much more streamlined.
- Updates to the Election Rules and By-Laws are progressing.
- The Committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution to Charter the Radiology Club

Whereas, under Article III, §6C(g) of the Constitution, the Senate shall “accept or reject the chartering of clubs and organizations,” and

Whereas, the members of the Radiology Club have submitted a petition for charter, and

Whereas, the Radiology Club has met all requirements for chartering set by the Senate and the By-Laws, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Senate approves the draft Constitution as submitted by the Radiology Club’s members and the Rules Committee, and further be it

Resolved, that the Senate approves the petition for charter as submitted, and accepts the chartering of the Radiology Club.

On behalf of the Committee, Senator Cohen moved the adoption of the above resolution.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the draft Constitution, the petition for charter, as submitted, and accepts the chartering of the Radiology Club.

- The Committee also recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution to Charter the Comic Creator Club

Whereas, under Article III, §6C(g) of the Constitution, the Senate shall “accept or reject the chartering of clubs and organizations,” and

Whereas, the members of the Comic Creator Club have submitted a petition for charter, and

Whereas, the Comic Creator Club has met all requirements for chartering set by the Senate and the By-Laws, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Senate approves the draft Constitution as submitted by the Comic Creator Club’s members and the Rules Committee, and further be it

Resolved, that the Senate approves the petition for charter as submitted, and accepts the chartering of the Comic Creator Club.

On behalf of the Committee, Senator Cohen moved the adoption of the above resolution.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the draft Constitution, the petition for charter, as submitted, and accepts the chartering of the Comic Creator Club.

D. Campus Center Advisor

Campus Center Advisor Stewart thanked all those who attended the training session. She, Donna, and Amanda Merkel met and made a lot of progress on what needs to be done for elections. She encouraged all to focus on the work that needs to be done this semester.

E. Faculty Advisor

Faculty Advisor McCauley stated that it is important for everyone to set aside personal agendas and work together as a team. There are 14 weeks left to accomplish the things that the government wants to accomplish this semester. The focus should be on carrying forward the students position to faculty, staff and administration; to carry forward and come up with events, programs, and ideas that benefit the students overall. The rules on meetings also need to be paid attention to. Be prepared and ready to perform before walking into a meeting; checking and investigating should be done well before the meeting. He also encouraged the government to take advantage of the advisors who are here to help with reaching goals, reconciling differences, working through difficult points, and learning how to work through things together. He strongly encouraged the government to focus on what they want to accomplish this semester.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to approve the funding of \$2,790 to the Chinese Cultural Club

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve the funding of \$2,790.00 to the Chinese Cultural Club.

Speaker Ruhindi called for a motion to approve funding in the amount of \$2790 to the Chinese Cultural Club.

Senator Young so moved.

Discussion:

Jun Wen Yu, President of the Chinese Cultural Club, explained that the money will be used to help fund China Night which will take place on March 6 in the MCC Theatre. This has been a very successful annual event focusing on Chinese culture. General Public admission will be \$10; MCC student admission will be \$3.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the funding of \$2790 to the Chinese Cultural Club.

b. Resolution to approve Cabinet Members

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approves, using due process,

Rahul Raja for the Director of Student Technology for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year, Luis Perez for the Director of Public Affairs for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year, Jessica Catlin for the Director of Student Services for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year, Tony Proietti for the Assistant Director of Student Services for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year and

Ashley Yost for the Director of Clubs and Organizations for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Speaker Ruhindi called for a motion to approve Cabinet members.

Acting Deputy Speaker Carey so moved, seconded by Senator Monroe.

Discussion:

Senator Cohen stated that he had an issue with the language of the pending resolution and moved to substitute the following:

Whereas, under Article III, Section 4E of the Brighton Campus student Government Association Constitution, the President shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint, a Cabinet, be it

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Rahul Raja to the position of Director of Student Technology in the Presidential Cabinet for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year, and further, be it

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Luis Perez to the position of Director of Public Affairs in the Presidential Cabinet for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year, and further, be it

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Jessica Catlin to the position of Director of Student Services in the Presidential Cabinet for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year, and further, be it

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Tony Proietti to the position of Assistant Director of Student Services in the Presidential Cabinet for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year, and further, be it

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Ashley Yost to the position of Director of Clubs & Organizations in the Presidential Cabinet for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year.

Acting Deputy Speaker Carey seconded the friendly amendment.

A vote to approve the friendly amendment was taken; the amendment passes.

A vote to approve the amended resolution was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the above mentioned Cabinet members.

c. **Resolution to approve Committee Members**

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointment of Jason Childers, Jessica Monroe, and Rimsha Khan to sit on the Rules Committee for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Speaker Ruhindi called for a motion to approve committee members.

Senator Blum so moved, seconded by Senator Monroe.

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 above mentioned committee members.

d. **Resolution to approve Ted Carey as Deputy Speaker for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year**

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve Ted Carey as Deputy Speaker for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Speaker Ruhindi called for a motion to approve Ted Carey as Deputy Speaker.

Senator Young so moved, seconded by Senator Gothard.

Discussion:

Senator Young spoke in favor of Senator Carey being approved as Deputy Speaker.

Senator Cohen spoke against Senator Carey being approved as Deputy Speaker.

Senator Carey admitted some of his faults and stated that he feels this is a personal vendetta set by Senator Cohen. He stated that he always looks out for the best interest of the students. If the resolution fails, he recommends that Speaker Ruhindi put forward Senator Young for Deputy Speaker.

Speaker Ruhindi explained that there were only three Senators who applied for the position and he stated his reasons for choosing Senator Carey.

Senator Cohen moved for a secret ballot vote, seconded by Senator Moorefield.

A roll call vote for a secret ballot was taken as follows:

Senator Blum, abstain; Senator Carey, abstain; Senator Cohen, yes; Senator Gothard, abstain; Senator Monroe, yes; Senator Moorefield, yes; Senator Pritchard, yes; Senator Young, yes.

The motion for a secret ballot passes.

A secret ballot vote to approve Senator Carey as Deputy Speaker was taken.

The resolution to approve Senator Carey as Deputy Speaker fails.

V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Senator Gothard introduced herself as the new Liberal Arts Senator.

Senator Pritchard introduced himself and the new Residence Hall Senator.

Rahul Raja explained that he resigned from the Senate and moved to the Cabinet because of his work schedule and because he is more comfortable working with computers.

Senator Moorefield inquired as to why, with a secret ballot, they could not vote abstain.

Senator Cohen stated that technically Roberts Rules allows an abstention.

Advisor McCauley stated that it is the Speaker's discretion to require people to take the responsibility of their role which is to vote yes or no.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 3:09 p.m. Speaker Carey called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Cohen so moved, seconded by Acting Deputy Speaker Carey. The Senate meeting was adjourned.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan
SA Secretary