



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING MINUTES FOR**  
**Tuesday, September 13, 2011**  
**2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

**Student Senators:**

At-Large Senator Isaacs  
At-Large Senator J. Snyder  
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator M. Snyder  
Service Clubs Senator Childers  
Science, Health & Business Senator Bynes

**President:**

Michael Gray

**Speaker/At-Large Senator**

Scott Blue

**Acting Deputy Speaker/Athletics Senator**

Robin Lalisse

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**Faculty Advisor:**

Joseph McCauley

**SL&LD Advisor:**

Rebecca Herzog

**Visitors:** Dick Ryther, Student Services; Don Beech, Academic Support Services; Shirley Batistta-Provost, Office of Student Life & Leadership Development; Michelle Galvin, CAB; Scott McGregor, Phi Theta Kappa; Brian LaForest, Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Project; Luis Perez, Ehizeme Aruya, Jessica Wingerter, Ignatius Ukatu, students; Donna Brennan, SA Secretary.

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

**A. Roll Call**

(See attendance above)

**B. Approval of the August 24, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve the August 24, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

**Senator J. Snyder** 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 August 24, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes as written.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

Shirley Batistta-Provost & Don Beech – Model UN Presentation: Shirley explained the history of the Model UN at MCC and how it became a credit bearing program. It is a 4 credit hour course taken as Political Science, Social Science, or a General Elective. The 4 faculty teaching the class are Shirley, Don Beech, Lou Andolino and Louis Silvers. Don Beech explained that the type of student they look for should have a passion and commitment in International Affairs, a passion to learn, be self motivated, willing to work on a team, does not have a lot on their plate and can keep an open mind.

When in NYC at the United Nations, the students will meet with the ambassador of the country they represent. The process for becoming a student in the Model UN class is: pick up a brochure from the Office of Student Life & Leadership Development; complete the application with two references; attend an information session; be interviewed by the faculty; if accepted submit a formal acceptance.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Senators**

**Senator Bynes** outlined a few personal goals to be completed throughout the 2011-2012 academic year:

• Committees:

- ✓ By-Laws - merge newer versions of By-Laws with “older” version; incorporate new changes including format, position details, as well as any other necessary content changes.
- ✓ LSAC (Library Student Advisory Committee) - identify resources available to students and increase exposure of those resources.
- ✓ Rock the Vote - increase awareness of the elections in 2011 as well as increase the number of students who register to vote from last year’s figures.
- ✓ Parking Appeals and Disciplinary Hearings – she hopes to help on those when possible.

• Science, Health & Business Students:

- ✓ begin active communication with the department heads for the Science, Health and Business divisions with monthly to bi-monthly meetings, where possible.
- ✓ more effectively disseminate information to those it concerns through various mediums which may include college resources, such as the Faculty/Staff Tribune, Student Tribune (Black & Gold Connection), flyers in the learning centers and science buildings, in addition to announcements through the Student Media organizations.
- **College Environment:**
  - ✓ actively seek ways for the college to become more sustainable in nature, beginning with finding answers regarding a garden to produce food for the dining hall, decreasing the amount of paper waste on campus, and ensuring that recyclables are disposed of properly.
  - ✓ ensure that the Student Suggestion boxes are opened and that all concerns are addressed in a prioritized fashion. As representatives for the students, it is important that suggestions are taken seriously. She would also like to assist in reformatting the sheets so students are more apt to lend their ideas.

**Senator Isaacs...**

- This past week he has been working on getting to know the student body by visiting the different clubs and introducing himself.
- He has been working with Jamie Smith to get publicity for the SGA on the Shuttle Buses and on the TVs around Campus; a new CD went out to the Shuttle Buses with an edited video.

**Senator J. Snyder...**

- During the 2010-2011 academic year he was active on the Travel/Finance Committee and the Personal Health and Safety Committee. Some of the events the Travel/Finance Committee helped fund were: the Chinese Culture Club “Splendor of China”; Hospitality Club trip to the National Restaurant Association Conference in Chicago; the Geosciences Association visit to the Natural History Museum in NYC and the Engineering Leadership Council trip to the International Design/Build/Fly competition in Arizona. He hopes to see proposals from many clubs and organizations for activities like these this year.

**Senator M. Snyder...**

- Orientation – he assisted at the SGA table and enjoyed speaking to the incoming students and their parents.
- Rock The Vote - the committee is sponsoring Constitution Day activities on Friday, September 16 and currently working with WXXI on organizing a County Executive debate. Brighton Town Supervisor Sandra Frankel has agreed to participate; County Executive Maggie Brooks has not yet responded.
- As Interdisciplinary Studies Senator he has many ideas in regards to fundraising, community outreach, recruitment and more that he feels would be greatly beneficial to the SGA, clubs and organizations, and most importantly the students. He believes that this year will be a great year for the SGA and that they can make a big change this year for the students who attend classes here at Monroe Community College.

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

- Reminders: the Student Life Fair is Wednesday, September 21; Dr. Salvador’s Picnic is Thursday, September 22, please RSVP to Maureen Karlnoski. There are only a few more Leadership Retreat information sessions. If interested in attending the retreat, you must attend one of the information sessions.

**C. Faculty Advisor McCauley...**

- Reminded everyone that today, Tuesday, September 13 is Primary Day and encouraged everyone to go vote.

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

- Roundtable – tomorrow, Wednesday, September 14 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in 12-125. Flyers are in club mailboxes.
- September 11 Ceremony – thank you to all who attended and congratulations to President Michael Gray.
- Who’s Bad Band – volunteers are still needed; contact Rachel Sparks, CAB Director or Rebecca.
- CAB Events – Wednesday, September 14, Party Pit; Friday, September 16, Facebook Drawing; Monday, September 19, Fall Fest; Friday, September 23, Faculty vs. Student Basketball Game.
- Student Life Fair is Wednesday, September 21.
- MCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary photo – Monday, September 26, noon – 1:00 p.m. Wear black and gold and enjoy free ice cream after the photo.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

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

- a. **Resolution to approve Theresa Ciaccio as Vice President of the MCC Student Government Association**  
*Resolved*, that the Senate confirm President Michael J. Gray II’s nomination of Theresa Ciaccio to the position of Vice President of the MCC Student Government Association for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve Theresa Ciaccio as Vice President of the MCC Student Government Association.

**Senator Childers** so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** stated that he used the summer to see how those interested in the position performed and he has full faith that Tessa can execute the Vice Presidency with no problem.

**Tessa** thanked President Gray for considering her for the position. Her vision for this year, first and foremost, is to help President Gray accomplish his goals which includes increasing our community and college involvement. Her primary goal is to foster a new solidarity between the Senate and Cabinet to insure that all segments of this organization function as it should. She will be committed and devoted to everything the SGA does.

**Senator M. Snyder** expressed concern stating that he feels the Vice President should be someone who has past experience in the SGA.

**Senator Childers** mentioned that he has worked with Coordinator Ciaccio on the By-Laws Committee and has admired her professionalism and willingness to work. He feels that not having experience in the SGA is not a problem; she brings in outside experience and a new outlook.

**Senator M. Snyder** motioned to vote by ballot, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

**A vote was taken; the motion to vote by ballot was approved.**

**A ballot vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** approves Theresa Ciaccio as Vice President of the MCC Student Government Association for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**b. Resolution to approve Ehizeme Aruya as the Campus Technology Coordinator**

**Resolved**, that the Senate approves the appointment of Ehizeme Aruya as the Campus Technology Coordinator for the 2011 – 2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve Ehizeme Aruya as the Campus Technology Coordinator.

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

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** informed the Senate that Ehizeme has a lot to offer the SGA. He has been involved in the community and has experience with teaching computer systems. He has programming and networking skills which will be crucial when it comes to updating the SGA website. He will work very closely with the Promotions Coordinator.

**Ehizeme** stated that he is studying computer science and believes that technology is a very important part of learning; every student should have all resources needed available to them. He plans to coordinate student surveys to determine if there are resources that are needed but not available.

**Senator M. Snyder** stated that he feels Ehizeme will be a good part of the team.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** unanimously approves Ehizeme Aruya as the Campus Technology Coordinator for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**c. Resolution to approve Ignatius K. Ukatu as the Student Services Coordinator**

**Resolved**, that the Senate approves the appointment of Ignatius K. Ukatu as the Student Services Coordinator for the 2011 – 2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve Ignatius K. Ukatu as the Student Services Coordinator.

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

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** stated that Ignatius approached him at an orientation and expressed interest in the SGA. In Ghana, he was a teacher and served in community rec. centers. He embodies what President Gray looks for in a Student Services Coordinator as well as Adult/Evening Student Coordinator.

**Ignatius** stated that he believes the purpose of the SGA is to champion the student academically, socially and morally and he is convinced that the student should get involved in the academic process where they are being taught.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** unanimously approves Ignatius K. Ukatu as the Student Services Coordinator for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**d. Resolution to approve Club Constitution Committee Members**

**Resolved**, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointments of Senator Robin Lalissee and Senator Sam Isaacs to the Club Constitution Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve Club Constitution Committee members.

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

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** stated that the primary goal of this committee is to align Phi Theta Kappa with their charter and their national goals. Senator Isaacs has reached out to Mike Adams, Phi Theta Kappa President, and will insure that there is a representative on the committee.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** approves the appointments of Senator Robin Lalisie and Senator Sam Isaacs to the Club Constitution Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Senators Lalisie and Isaacs abstained.

e. **Resolution to approve By-Laws Committee Member**

**Resolved**, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointments of Senator Robin Lalisie to the By-Laws Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve By-Laws Committee member.

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

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** stated that Senator Lalisie sent him a very detailed email about why he wanted to be on the By-Laws and Club Constitution committees. They met and talked about the committees and he is very eager to get involved with these committees.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** approves the appointment of Senator Robin Lalisie to the By-Laws Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Senator Lalisie abstained.

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

**Resolved**, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointments of Senator Kelly Bynes and Senator Michael Snyder 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.

**Acting Deputy Speaker** Lalisie so moved, seconded by Senator Isaacs.

**Discussion:**

**Senator M. Snyder** stated that he is looking forward to working on this committee.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** approves the appointments of Senator Kelly Bynes and Senator Michael Snyder to the Rock the Vote Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Senators Bynes and M. Snyder abstained.

g. **Resolution to approve Personal Health & Safety Committee Member**

**Resolved**, that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approves the appointment of Senator James Snyder to the Personal Health and Safety Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Speaker Blue** called for a motion to approve Personal Health & Safety Committee member.

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

**Discussion:**

**President Gray** stated that Senator J. Snyder has experience with the committee from last year and he has expressed interest in continuing on the committee this year.

**Senator J. Snyder** stated that the importance of the committee is very clear to him and he feels he can bring the voice of the student to the committee in a very diplomatic way.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate** approves the appointment of Senator James Snyder to the Personal Health & Safety Committee for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Senator J. Snyder abstained.

## V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

In response to the article published on 8 September 2011 in the Monroe Doctrine President Michael Gray II issued the following statement clarifying his policy in regards to the appointments of students to the Senate and Cabinet.

“As President I have always followed and continue to follow all laws and guidelines set forth by the Constitution concerning appointments, and I have made all appointments based solely on the merits and qualifications of the individuals applying. At no time have I ever shown bias towards an applicant based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or personal relationship. I would also like to clarify that as President I do not review applications for the Senate or have any say in the approval of Senators to those positions. In closing I would like to say that the Student Government Association always welcomes and equally considers all new and returning applicants.”

Senator Lalisie announced the athletic Homecoming events: Friday, September 23, the faculty vs. student basketball game will take place at noon and at 6:00 p.m. the MCC Hall of Fame Induction. On Saturday, September 24, men's and women's soccer and men's baseball games will take place.

Senator M. Snyder reminded everyone that Constitution Day is Friday, September 16.

Senator Bynes stated that they are working on the SGA golf hole for the Student Life Fair and encouraged everyone to attend.

Speaker Blue stated that he is extremely excited to be working with everyone this year.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:32 p.m. Speaker Blue called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Isaacs so moved, seconded by Senator Childers. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

## **VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan  
SA Secretary