



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, November 22, 2011
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Valone
At-Large Senator Isaacs
CAB Senator Snyder
Media Senator Bynes
Social Clubs Senator Jackson-Harris
Residence Hall Senator Sears

President:

Michael Gray

Vice President

Theresa Ciaccio

Speaker/At-Large Senator

Scott Blue

Deputy Speaker/Service Clubs Senator

Jason Childers

SL&LD Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

SL&LD Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog-absent

Visitors: Ehizeme Aruya, SGA; Shirley Batista-Provost, OSLLD; Ginny Geer-Mentry, MCC Association; Alex Kales, Evan Ling, Monroe Doctrine; Jacob Robinson; Catherine Higgins, SA Secretary.

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

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of the November 15, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes

Speaker Blue called for a motion to approve the November 15, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

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

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the November 15, 2011 minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Jacob Robinson spoke to the Senate regarding the Chess Club. There is a constitution written and submitted. He feels that there is a great interest in this club. Senator Bynes indicated that she has a copy of the charter and there are some typos. She asked to be included in a future meeting between Senator Isaacs and Mr. Robinson.

Evan Ling of the Monroe Doctrine, asked what amount of the budget that is designated for clubs and organizations, is the SGA responsible for. Ms. Geer-Mentry indicated that she would be happy to get that number to him, but would feel more comfortable to have the documentation in front of her before she could answer that. Advisor Stewart agreed with Ms. Geer-Mentry, and indicated she would make the information available to Mr. Ling after she has reviewed the documentation. Mr. Ling then asked if cuts were made across the board to all the clubs and organizations. President Gray indicated that cuts of \$1,000.00 were made to all budgets, but in some cases, more, depending upon the essential size of the individual budgets. Clubs and organizations were involved in this process. Senator Bynes stated that club and organization reported activity was looked at as well. Mr. Ling asked what the future goals and objectives for the Senate are. President Gray indicated that the Senate and the Cabinet are meeting this afternoon to discuss this. Some of the topics they would like to focus on are Residence Halls concerns, College and Community engagement and making the college more Veteran-friendly.

III. REPORTS

A. SENATORS

Senator Jackson-Harris...

This past Friday, Senator Jackson-Harris attended his first Faculty Senate Meeting. Despite the fact that it was long, he had the chance to hear about various issues from a faculty perspective, instead of from a student's perspective. Several

guest speakers gave both very moving and profound speeches and gave displays of various importance. Dave Shaw spoke on the MCC Strategic Plan and announced that the first version should be in the Tribune sometime early December. Mr. Mike McDonough also gave a very profound speech on the direction that college education is going and it is of the utmost importance that we begin preparing students for the competitive world in years ahead.

Senator M. Snyder...

Senator Snyder reported that CAB has been very busy this past month with all their events. On November 9th and 10th, CAB hosted the "I Am Thankful" event, where students had the opportunity to write on paper hand cut-outs, what they were thankful for. This event was a great success resulting in CAB obtaining approximately one-hundred fifty to two hundred paper hands. These hands are on display in the Terrace Lounge until the end of the month. CAB also hosted an "Open Mic" event in the North Atrium, where students had the chance to show off their talents. This event is also a great success and had a really great turn out.

On Saturday, November 3rd, CAB will be hosting "Breakfast with Santa," in Monroe A&B, from 10am to 12pm. This event will give members of the community the chance to have breakfast with Santa, and take part in other holiday-themed activities on Campus. SGA will have a table at this event, and distribute hot chocolate to those who attend. CAB will be giving students the chance to relax and relieve their stress, while building their own Zen garden at their "Make Your Own Zen Garden" event. This will take place on December 14th, from 12pm to 1pm, in the North Atrium of Building 12.

On the weekend of November 11th, he attended a SUNY SA business meeting at SUNY Oneonta, with members of the Executive Committee. They attended a Safe-Zone workshop that was facilitated by Associate Director of Government Relations, Christopher Hollander. The workshop was a great success, and everyone learned something new about what it meant to be Safe-Zone certified.

The Executive Committee reflected on the Fall Conference that took place in Latham, New York. Everyone agreed that the conference was a great success. Attendance at the Fall Conference was the highest it's been in the organization's history. The Spring Conference is scheduled to take place on April 27th through the 29th in Syracuse. The Executive Committee unanimously passed SUNY SA's List of Federal Priorities. This is an addendum to SUNY SA's Legislative Agenda for 2012, making their Federal Agenda more specific. The List of Federal Priorities deals with ensuring college affordability in order to build and strengthen a 21st century workforce within New York State, as well as increase research funding to strengthen American competitiveness.

Senator Valone...

Senator Valone met with the Automotive Club, ASL Club, Psychology Club, Student Nurses Association, Hospitality Club, and an advisor of the Student Music Association. They were all happy to hear that the budget for travel had thawed. She contacted the advisors of the Chemistry Club and the Math Club, and was happy to hear that they were active. She plans to attend their weekly meetings.

The Automotive Club is planning details for their first "Open Shop." On Saturdays and Sundays, they open up their garage to anyone who wants to work on their car. You must make an appointment and get directions on how to complete online training. You also need to bring your own tools. If your car can't be fixed by the end of "Open Shop" you need to have it towed home. This isn't the time or place to take apart your engine just to see how it works. This club is interested in being more present on campus.

The ASL Club is ordering hoodies with their logo to be used for fundraising. They are also planning to go to Gallaudet University in DC, which is one of the top universities for hard of hearing students in the country. This will be especially educational for a couple of the members who wish to be interpreters.

Finally, they are inviting a deaf comedienne to perform for a fundraiser dinner. They are finalizing the details.

The Psychology Club is embarking on a replication of a controversial study by a prestigious social scientist at Cornell named Daryl Bem. It tests the ability of humans to foresee future events. The study seeks to answer the question, "How much of human intuition is natural, and how much reaches beyond normal limits?" Contact her for more information.

There are three clothing drives going on around Campus, sponsored by the Student Nurses Association, the Hospitality Club and the Health Information Technology Club. She hopes to see all of their boxes filled by Christmas!

The Student Nurse's Association's other initiative is piloting a peer-program for incoming nursing students.

The Student Music Association is brainstorming ways to fundraise for their trip to Carnegie Hall. I met David Shaw, one of the advisors, as well as one of the student members, who said that they are considering raising funds by selling singing telegrams.

There was a Roundtable on November 9th. She is working with Adriana and Meagan to find an easier way to get the minutes out from now on.

B. Advisor Stewart...

Advisory Stewart reminded everyone that this Fall there was a registration deadline designed to improve the student success rate. Students who enrolled late showed less than a 50 percent chance of succeeding. The deadline is on Tuesday, January 17th. It is important to get the word out to students, so they aren't forced to sign up for late-start classes. She stated that she hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving holiday.

C. Faculty Advisor McCauley...

Advisor McCauley also wished everyone a nice holiday.

D. Committee Reports

Senator Bynes stated that the By-Laws Committee is on schedule. They just finished up Section 13 and have a few revisions and committee descriptions to be worked on. They plan on working on the Election Packets in the near future.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution to Support SUNY Student Assembly's List of Federal Priorities

Resolved that the MCC Student Government Association Senate approve of the SUNY Student Assembly's List of Federal Priorities as written.

Speaker Blue called for a motion to approve the SUNY Student Assembly's List of Federal Priorities as written.

Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Bynes.

Discussion:

Senator Snyder outlined these priorities. Senator Bynes commented that their rationals are extremely well-planned and will be beneficial to students.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the MCC Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the SUNY Student Assembly's List of Federal Priorities as written.

IV. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

President Gray, Student Services Coordinator Ukatu and Campus Technology Coordinator Aruya met with Dr. Salvador and Mr. Bartkovich to try to work out the WiFi problem in the Residence Halls. President Gray congratulated Coordinators Ukatu and Aruya for making progress. He had a meeting with the Director of Public Safety, David Moore, regarding the smoking policy on campus. Smoking policies at other colleges are being looked at. Weekend parking passes for the Residence Halls were also discussed. President Gray will have lunch on Tuesday with the SUNY Chancellor. He is glad to be going over goals. He looks forward to reaching out to other clubs and organizations and to get their thoughts. Senator Snyder will be attending too.

Senator Snyder thanked everyone who attended the Complete to Compete program. They received 400 to 500 pledges. He also thanked organizer Elaina Caven, Dr. Kress and Carlos Medina, Associate Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at SUNY.

Speaker Blue reminded everyone that November 23rd is the last day you can withdraw from a class and receive a "W". He then congratulated President Gray on being honored at the Salute to Excellence Dinner. He is a perfect symbol of change that the SGA hopes to bring to the future of the Senate at MCC.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:55p.m. Speaker Blue called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Isaacs so moved, seconded by Senator Snyder. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Higgins
SA Secretary