



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING  
MINUTES FOR  
Tuesday, November 3, 2009  
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

**Student Senators:**

Academic Clubs Senator Rahul Raja  
At-Large Senator Blum  
At-Large Senator Cohen  
Interdisciplinary Senator Blair-Absent  
Service Clubs Senator Monroe  
Social Clubs Senator Mac

**President:**

Qasim Ijaz-Absent

**Vice President:**

Jason Childers

**Speaker/At-Large Senator**

Ted Carey

**Deputy Speaker/ Science, Health & Business Senator**

Simon Ruhindi

**Campus Center Advisor:**

Elizabeth Stewart

**Faculty Advisor:**

Joseph McCauley

**Visitors:** Annette Agness, MCC Association; Richard Ryther, Student Services; Lee Struble, Public Safety; Jodi Oriel, Campus Center; Justin Young, Campus Activities Board; Donna Brennan, Secretary.

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

**A. Roll Call**

(See attendance above)

**B. Approval of October 27, 2009 minutes**

**Speaker Carey** called for a motion to approve the minutes for the October 27, 2009 Senate meeting. **Senator Cohen** so moved, seconded by Deputy Speaker Ruhindi.

**Discussion:**

The following corrections to the minutes will be made:

Pg. 2 – 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should read, “Rates will be \$80 per semester plus a \$10 refundable deposit.”

Pg. 2 – 9<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence, Senator Moore should be Senator Monroe

Pg. 2 – 10<sup>th</sup> paragraph, “One one hand...” should read “On one hand...”

Pgs. 3 & 4 – Speaker Carey, President Ijaz, Senators Blair, Blum, Mac and Raja did not report so their names should be removed from the minutes

Pg. 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, 6<sup>th</sup> sentence should read “Although neither was...”

Pg. 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 4<sup>th</sup> sentence should read “...and he successfully...”

Pg. 5 – Questions and Comments, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence should read “...SUNY Student Assembly Executive Board...”

**Speaker Carey** called for a motion to approve the minutes for the October 27, 2009 Senate meeting as revised.

**Deputy Speaker Ruhindi** so moved, seconded by Senator Monroe.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate** unanimously approves the revised minutes for October 27, 2009.

**II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE**

Lee Struble, Director of Public Safety, was present to speak about parking and public safety issues. Three years ago a parking committee was established to look at parking on campus. They took a look at the parking programs at other colleges and a couple of recommendations that came from that committee were to

computerize the parking program and raise the parking fines. They are in the process of computerizing the parking program on campus which should help eliminate some of the human error involved; the software should be ready to go next fall. The parking rates are established by the County and they made the changes based on budget issues. The parking at MCC is managed by the County Parking Program; Leah Santirocco manages the MCC parking program for the County. When asked about students being directed to park on the grass, he stated that was only for 2 – 3 days at the beginning of the semester and they were being directed to an area that was outlined with orange cones. The officers should not be directing students to park on the lawn; inform him with the name and description of the person or persons who are doing that. He talked about the transition to Peace Officers. They have 19 Peace Officers who are armed and who can make arrests. Currently the armed officers work on outdoor patrol; they are the officers in blue uniforms. The guards in grey uniforms work building security, take reports, and lock and unlock doors. The officers in yellow shirts patrol the campus spine area and the marketplace area; they cannot make arrests. Last year they lost 8 officers so there has been a big turnover. They are currently training two new dispatchers which might be the cause of some of the issues regarding handling of calls. He stated that all of the calls that come in are taped and if anyone has an issue with a specific case let him know but he will need the dates and times of the calls in order to look into them. For customer service issues, contact him by calling his office directly or emailing him at [lstruble@monroecc.edu](mailto:lstruble@monroecc.edu). For parking issues, contact Leah Santirocco at [lsantirocco@monroecc.edu](mailto:lsantirocco@monroecc.edu).

Annette Agness, Director of the MCC Association, Inc., informed the Senate that the current contract with Aramark is up in the spring. They will be seeking proposals from Aramark and other companies to determine who will be the best company to serve the campus community going forward. The MCC Association has also hired a consulting firm. A representative from the firm will be on campus November 17, 18 & 19. They will be meeting with a variety of focus groups to get feedback and to understand the campus needs in respect to dining services. On Wednesday, November 18 at noon and at 4:00 p.m. in 3-121 they would like to meet with 8 – 10 students from the Brighton campus to learn about what the students like about the dining services, what they would like to see, and what could be done differently. At both of those sessions she would like to have a couple of SGA representatives and some students at-large attend. She would also like suggestions on how to reach out to the college community to find some students at-large. On Tuesday, November 17 the consultant will be meeting with the Damon Campus students and on Thursday, November 19, they will be meeting with other internal groups and touring the dining facilities.

### **III. REPORTS**

#### **A. Speaker**

##### **Speaker Carey...**

- ASACC Conference, Oct. 24-26 in Washington DC – he, Senator Blum, Director Idris, Advisor McCauley and members of SEGA attended. He, Senator Blum and Director Idris met with one of Congresswoman Slaughter’s staffers asking for the Congresswoman’s support in lobbying for permanent Pell Grant funding with yearly increases, an open textbook policy to make them less expensive for students and lowering the dependency age for students who no longer live with their parents. He is hoping that at the conference in March they will be able to meet with Congresswoman Slaughter personally. A personal highlight was seeing the sights of Washington Saturday night on a 3 hour walking expedition led by Advisor McCauley.
- Wednesday, November 4, in the North Atrium in Bldg. 12 the SGA is hosting a rally to protest Governor Paterson’s SUNY cuts. He will be one of the speakers and they will have a petition to sign which will be sent to the governor voicing concerns about the budget cuts and opposing them.

#### **B. Deputy Speaker**

##### **Deputy Speaker Ruhindi...**

- President’s Program for Students was held at FLCC on Friday, October 30. They went over their top 5 strengths from StrengthsQuest. It was wonderful to see everybody smiling and enjoying the presentation and he feels everybody left feeling uplifted and good about themselves. He also feels everybody took something home from that night. He looks forward to the next one and he hopes to see even more people attending.

## C. President

### **President Ijaz's report was read by Vice President Childers....**

- On Wednesday November 4, 2009 at 12pm in bldg. 12 North Atrium by Mercer Gallery the SGA is hosting a rally against SUNY budget cuts. Governor Paterson has ordered another \$24 Million budget cut from SUNY in addition to the \$90 Million last month. This not only means an increase in tuition but also a \$26 Million cut from the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). The goal is to get at least 1,000 signatures and ideally to reach 4,000. He asks every member of the Brighton Campus Student Government to reach out to their classmates, friends, and any student they see to ask them to sign the petition. But first, make sure they know what they are signing for. He also asks everyone to write a letter to their Legislator letting them know that students are the only ones who can save the economy by studying and paying taxes to the government.

## D. Senators

### **Senator Blair was absent, his report was read by Deputy Speaker Ruhindi...**

- The next stop on Dr. Anne Kress' "Listening Tour" (aka "Ask Anne Anything") will be at MCC in the Forum, on Monday, November 9, 2009 from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. Dr. Kress has openly stated that these stops on her "Listening Tour" don't just have to concern MCC or MCC-related issues. These are opportunities for Dr. Kress to meet students, parents, faculty, and professional staff. He encourages everyone who has the ability to attend this event.

### **Senator Blum...**

- Suggestion Boxes – two boxes are up; one outside the SGA office and the other is in the Marketplace near the microwave. The other two will be placed in the lobby of Canal Hall and by the bus loop. She is waiting for approval of 3 more copies of the signs in the suggestion boxes. Her next project is a fundraiser.

### **Senator Mac...**

- She sent emails to all of the active Social Clubs explaining her position and the responsibilities she has, as Social Clubs Senator, to work closely with them, to keep track of all of the activities and events they get involved in, and also to help them whenever they need help.
- On Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, she attended the Personal Health and Safety Committee meeting. They discussed the following topics: **the Flu** - the swine flu itself is not life-threatening but if the patients don't have a healthy health condition, the symptoms can get more complicated in a short time and be dangerous for their lives; **Status on campus smoking policy:** The smoking situation on campus has seen improvement this semester. It was felt that a year of being in place has had a good effect. There are still certain areas which are problems. A fine is being considered at present for non-compliance of the smoking laws, and for littering as well if no proper receptacles are located near the areas of violation; **General Campus Safety:** she asked for better lighting in the parking lots for students coming out of late classes and for students going back to the Residence Halls. Poor lighting conditions should be reported to Public Safety so that a light survey can be performed for evaluation of the problem. An escort from the Public Safety Department can always be requested when there is a concern. It was also noted that instructors should have students go in groups to parking lot locations after late classes, and cars parked a long distance from a late hour class should be moved closer to the final campus location at some point during the day. It was recommended that students watch "piggyback" entry to residence halls, and not allow a person to enter without the proper identification card to swipe at the entrance door. Security should be called if anyone is seen on campus who looks as if they do not belong. It was recommended that an enforcement of wearing student/staff identification should be encouraged and with uniform general enforcement at all locations.
- She attended the Presidential Cabinet meeting to keep a connection between the Senate and the Cabinet.
- She attended the Global Union and Chinese Culture Club meetings to inform them about the new parking permit fee and fines. She also asked for suggestions, concerns and ideas to be sent to her email regarding food service and the new downtown campus. Global Union has several activities

- they are planning: International Movie Night, November 9 – 11, they will be helping at the Bone Marrow on November 4; a trip to Washington, DC is being planned for March 18 – 21.
- The Travel Contingency Committee met on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>; they approved \$1,000 out of \$1,775 requested by the Engineering Leadership Council to go to Clarkson University; they also approved \$2,500 out of \$4,698 requested by the Travel Club to go to Montego Bay, Jamaica.
  - The SUNY Student Assembly Conference in Binghamton, New York was held from October 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 25<sup>th</sup> – she learned about how the SUNY system works, dining etiquette and Robert’s Rules. Moreover, she observed how freedom of speech works when everybody contributed at the conference. She hopes SUNY SA can improve the workshops for non-voting delegates because many of the workshops she wanted to attend were cancelled. Overall, she is proud to be on the MCC team. They were the most energetic team, the noisiest team when they needed to have fun and the most respectful team when they needed to show respect.
  - Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>, she attended the President’s Program for Students at Finger Lakes Community College. Students from FLCC, MCC and GCC got together to talk about StrengthsQuest and about everybody’s experiences in their leadership roles. They had a tour of the campus and a warm dinner. The more she goes to other colleges, the more she talks to students from other colleges, the more she feels proud and lucky to be an MCC student. She thanked Betty Stewart for giving her that great experience.

**Senator Raja...**

- He met with the president of SADHA to discuss their upcoming events and the Bone Marrow Registry Drive on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**E. Campus Center Advisor**

**Campus Center Advisor Stewart** stated that the President’s Program for Students was awesome. She loves the opportunity to be with students from other campuses and seeing all of the students instantly forming a connection.

**The Civility Committee** is organizing some workshops based on the Making Courtesy Common theme. Lee Struble, Director of Public Safety will be the co-chair. He wants to do presentations to help people know how to get voluntary compliance and give people the tools to know how to approach people.

**F. Faculty Advisor**

**Faculty Advisor McCauley** mentioned that the ASACC Conference will be moving out of Washington, DC to New Orleans next fall but the conference will still be in Washington next spring.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

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

**a. Resolution to approve funding of \$2,950.00 to Campus Activities Board, Phi Theta Kappa, et al.**

*Resolved* that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve the funding of \$2,950.00 to Campus Activities Board, Phi Theta Kappa, et al.

**Speaker Carey** called for a motion to approve the funding of \$2,950.

**Senator Blum** so motioned, seconded by Senator Cohen.

**Discussion:**

**Justin Young**, Co-Director of CAB, explained that the request is to help cover the cost of the Mitch Albom event which will take place on November 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gym. This event is part of the visiting scholars series and is being co-sponsored by many clubs. The \$2950 will be used to help pay for the lighting /sound equipment and for a dinner with Mr. Albom.

**Senator Mac** questioned how this event will benefit MCC students when the books are being given away to three faith based organizations. She also asked if the event was free to the public.

**Jodi Oriel**, Assistant Director, Campus Center, explained that the three faith based organizations that were chosen to receive the free books were chosen by the student committee from a list of possible organizations. MCC students are benefiting from this event through 2 book give aways, book discussions on the Brighton & Damon campuses, and many of Mitch Albom’s other books

have been taught in MCC classes. The 14 people on the committee have worked very hard to inform the MCC population about the events surrounding Mr. Albom's visit to campus.

**Justin Young** answered her question regarding admission fee for the event. The event is \$3.00 for MCC Students, Faculty and Staff and \$15.00 for the general public. The tickets can be purchased through [monroecctickets.com](http://monroecctickets.com) or at the Campus Center Service Desk.

**A vote was taken.**

**Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate** unanimously approves funding \$2950 to Campus Activities Board, Phi Theta Kappa, et al.

**V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Speaker Carey stated that tickets for the Winter Ball sponsored by SEGA are available at the Campus Center Service Desk. Tickets are free, 1 per student and 1 per guest. Student ID and guest name are required when picking up the tickets and ID will be required at the door.

Senator Cohen reminded everyone that today is Election Day. There are many important races and he encourages everyone to vote. Wednesday, November 4, is the second meeting of the SUNY Group 200 in Buffalo at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

Vice President Childers reminded those who get out to vote not to forget to vote for the propositions which will appear above the top line.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:10 p.m. Speaker Carey called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Blum so moved, seconded by Senator Monroe. The Senate meeting was adjourned.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan  
SA Secretary