



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, November 12th, 2013 2:15 PM-Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Jopson
At-Large Senator Poloznik
Senator Richards
Foundation Senator White-**absent**
Science, Health & Business Senator Wyble
Service Club Senator Schollnick
Social Clubs Senator Williams
Senator Miner
Senator Jackson

President:

Nelson Clark

Vice-President:

Mark White-**late**

Speaker of the Senate:

Adrian Hale

Deputy Speaker:

Alexandria Cassidy-**absent**

SL&LD Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

SL&LD Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog

SA Secretary:

Lisa Truman

Visitors: Kristal White, Student; Glenn Rapp, SGA; Kyle Savarese, Student; Morgan Shoff, Celtic Society; Rob Lelio, Student.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:17pm)

A. Roll Call (See attendance above)

B. Approval of the November 5th Minutes

Speaker Hale called for a motion to approve the November 5th minutes.

Senator Jopson so moved, Senator Wyble seconded.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the November 5th minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

There is no one to speak to the senate.

III. REPORTS

President Clark

Updates all on the cabinet members polling of students regarding the smoking policy changes effective January 2014. He is looking to poll 5000 students on policy change. Recent polling suggests student body majority not in favor of change in policy. He attended the SUNY Conference and thanks all who attended with him. They voted on many issues, a SUNY Transfer Initiative, Childcare facilities on campus, and the Red Cross Blood Drives. He enjoyed the experience although felt the speakers should have ran more orderly meetings. It was difficult to get business completed in a timely fashion. He thanks Sean Jopson for his advice on how to keep things moving swiftly and smoothly. President Clark feels our representatives should vote on behalf of the schools they represent on all non-binding legislation. He would support this change and feels it would speed up the slow legislative process. He felt the ideas and suggestions of Sean Jopson should be implemented as By-Law changes and offers assistance in re-writing the By-Laws with these changes. They discussed the new Shared Governance, which will be a new standard for SUNY institutions. The concept is still being developed, and he hopes to help define this concept here at MCC.

Senator Jackson

Senator Jackson is designing T-Shirts for the Civility Project's Street Team and the "Enough is Enough" Campaign alongside Margaret Whelehan. The "Enough is Enough" Campaign educates students on a variety of social issues. She met with Skip Bailey and confirmed there is no longer a hockey team at MCC due to expense. The women's basketball team will move from a Division I to a Division II title to play more local games. The changes are not necessarily due to budget cuts, the budget has remained the same for the last four years, it is that costs have risen so much. If we raise the student life fee, we will be able to serve the athletes better.

Deputy Speaker Cassidy (*Deputy Speaker Cassidy was absent, Speaker Hale gave report*)

Last weekend she attended the SUNY Student Assembly conference with Senator Poloznik, and President Clark as voting delegates along with Senator Jopson who was there as a MCC representative. The following resolutions were passed: 2013-2014 University-wide Policy Agenda, Blood Donor Equality, 2013-2014 Legislative Agenda (with changes), Textbook Affordability Solutions, Whistle Blower Protection, and Child Care Service & Seamless Transfer (with changes). Information can be found about these resolutions at studentassembly.org, or by speaking with any of the SGA attendees of the conference. The event allowed us to help many people learn about the candidates, learn where their polling places are, and even to show how to register to vote. On a more pensive note, the event was an eye opening reinforcement of the low voter turnout among the youngest age bracket. She asks everyone to consider this, and encourages all to vote. A reminder that she will be leading the trail mapping hike through MCC's woodlands this Sunday at 9:30 AM. We will be going snow or shine. Please arrive with the APP Map My Hike downloaded on your phone. She will send out reminder emails which will include the meet up location. If you still plan on attending let her know ASAP.

Senator Williams

He has been reworking a piece of legislation which will be discussed during today's discussion section of the Senate meeting. He has spoken with students and staff members of MCC regarding the new "Tobacco Ban Policy" that is supposed to be effective January 1, 2014. Senator Williams was looking for their opinions. He attended November's Roundtable Meeting and shared information on the Toys For Tots campaign. He also told the clubs that today's Senate meeting will hold a discussion on the "new guidelines for club's active status". He asked clubs and members to attend and be a part of the discussion. The following clubs missed the monthly Round Table Meeting and are subject to the \$25.00 fine: Auto Club, Cinema Society, Pride Alliance, and the Psychology Club. There were many organizations and associations that were absent, but there are no requirements for these groups, though he would appreciate hearing from them.

Travel and Finance Committee Report-Glenn Rapp

Last week no new business was presented to the Travel and Finance Committee so we did not meet. Two weeks ago we met and considered an application from the Travel Club. They requested \$5,016 in addition to funds the students would be providing and money that was fundraised for their yearly cruise. We approved the full amount of \$5,016 for the educational trip. We would also like to thank the club for being ahead of the game and saving money by placing their reservation so far in advance and for responding to the committee member's questions so quickly.

Advisor Stewart

Thanks all who attended the past weekend's SUNY Student Assembly and would also like to thank Corina Neelin who attended. She is our Student Trustee. Advisor Stewart felt the event a success with lots of excitement and energy. She thanks President Clark and Vice-President White for a successful Veterans Day. It went extremely well and had a very positive effect on everyone. She notes Speaker Hale was in the Democrat and Chronicle Sunday paper in a feature article. You can view the article in Advisor Stewart's office or via the web at the Democrat and Chronicle web site. She congratulates Speaker Hale.

Advisor Herzog

The CAB's Hypnotist event was a great success. She reminds all the Breakfast With Santa event is taking place on December 7th. Please get your tickets as they sell out quickly. There will be more available this year, and students are free. She recommends getting your tickets on line at monroecctickets.com. Advisor Herzog is looking for clubs to sponsor an activity/crafts table at the breakfast and invites SGA to do so. The NCSL Conference is next week from Wednesday to Monday. The winter Leadership Retreat is January 13th, and she urges all to try to attend.

(SGA recesses from 2:33pm-2:43pm before beginning New Business)

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Items (items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to approve amended SGA By-Laws.

Resolved, that the Senate approves the amendment of the following By-Laws: 12.3.7, 8.3.3, 8.3.2 subsection I, 8.3.6 subsection I, 8.3.1 subsection F, 8.3.5 subsection I, 8.3.9 subsection H, 8.3.11 subsection I, 12.3.1, 8.3.7.

Discussion:

Senator Jopson ask Speaker Hale why all By-Law changes are bundled into one resolution?

Speaker Hale states they were presented that way and will stand as submitted.

Senator Schollnick makes a motion to separate and vote on all By-Law changes and amendments separately.

Senator Jopson seconds.

A vote was taken.

The motion to separate and vote separately on all above By-Law changes and amendments passes.

Speaker Hale will separate each change listed above and call for a separate vote for each change/amendment.

Amendment of By-Law 12.3.7 to change title from “Interdisciplinary Studies Senator” to “Academic Foundations Senator”.

Senator Schollnick called for a motion, Senator Jopson seconded.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the amendment to By-Law 12.3.7 to now read “Academic Foundations Senator”.

Amendment to By-Law 8.3.3 change title from “Student Services Coordinator” to “Student Coordinator” and change “Student Services Department” to “Student Services Division”.

Discussion: After Speaker Hale reads the current By-Law Senator Jopson asks for clarification. The wording in the By-Laws states “4 hours per month” not “4 hours per week” as Speaker Hale read. Speaker Hale acknowledges that it does state “4 hours per month”. Senator Jackson asks for clarification on the bi-weekly reports. Senator Poloznik states the amendment is asking for reports two times per month. Senator Jopson would like the wording “in conjunction too” stricken from the amended By-Law. Advisor Stewart states the title “Student Coordinator” is misleading and confusing and asks specifically what the title change amendment will accomplish. Senator Poloznik answers it was meant to assist students who were looking for guidance so they would know who to ask.

Senator Jopson calls for a motion, Senator Wyble seconds.

A vote was taken to change the title from “Student Services Coordinator” to “Student Coordinator”

The motion failed.

Amendment to change the word “department” to “division” of By-Law 8.3.3.

Discussion: Advisor Stewart lets all know there is not a “Student Services Division” on the MCC campus. Speaker Hale makes the suggestion of just ‘Student Services’ if a change is to be made. The discussion continues as to whether there is in fact a “Student Services Division”, if the By-Law should remain as is, or if it should be changed. There is agreement that there is not a “Student Services Division” at MCC as per discussion and Advisor Stewart’s information given.

Senator Wyble calls for a motion to end the discussion and call for a vote. Senator Jopson seconds.

Senator Jopson calls for a motion to vote on the resolution, Senator Miner seconds.

A vote was taken to change the word “department” to “division” in By-Law 8.3.3.

The motion failed.

Amendment to By-Law 8.3.2 to add additional information and amend Section I.

Senator Williams calls for a motion to table this and the remainder of the amendments until they can be researched and formatted correctly and voted on as separate resolutions. *Senator Schollnick* seconds.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association unanimously agrees to table the remaining resolution items/sections indefinitely.

2. Discussion Items

a. Senator Williams proposal for Active Club Guidelines/By-Laws Amendment

Discussion: Senator Schollnick feels this proposal will help clubs and keep them active and make more efficient use of funds. Senator Jopson agrees with some points of the proposal but does not want to put too many restrictions and guidelines on clubs. Senator Williams is up for discussion on what would be beneficial and what would hinder clubs. Senator Jopson does not feel clubs can guarantee a certain number of members and have all officers in place in the Fall. Senator Schollnick says the ELC recruits and has all in positions by Fall. Advisor Stewart applauds all the work that has gone into the proposal and does feel some changes may be beneficial, but she is concerned. January is a time when students may feel they need to improve on their Fall semester grades and may drop out of clubs, and officers may not return. The ELC is not a good example as they have a large base of interest of which to recruit and clubs arise and prosper out of student interest. If there are too many mandates and restrictions it will deter people from joining and creating clubs.

Senator Williams says he is flexible but still feels clubs should have some accountability. President Clark suggests a coalition umbrella that could house small clubs that could be run independently but if membership is low or certain clubs are struggling in certain areas, their entity as a whole would be considered the “club” so they would meet all membership criteria. This would allow greater flexibility to pursue areas of interest.

b. Library Survey/Policy

Discussion: Senator Jopson states there is already a policy in place at the MCC Library that states if a student is in need of a computer to complete an academic assignment, a student on a social media or recreational site must relinquish the computer so the academic work can be completed. Senator Williams met with the library personnel and while they did agree there is a policy, they do not enforce it. Advisor Herzog and the Civility Project stated that she was aware that 50% of the library staff felt they would not enforce the policy. She is working with them on training so all are comfortable enforcing the existing policy. Vice-President White would like to see a separate area of computers strictly for academic usage. Advisor Herzog notes that there are laptops and iPads available as well, and felt if the information was available on how to use one of these items it would lessen the desktop usage issue. President Clark felt a separate bank of computers strictly for academic use is a good idea and agrees with Vice-President White’s suggestion.

c. Social Media

Discussion: Several Senators and visitors discuss the different venues of social media and wonder if SGA should be utilizing these at present to pass information along to the many people who use these sites on a daily basis. Senator Schollnick states she would like to see more Twitter usage as it is short and to the point. Senator Jackson would like to see Facebook used. Speaker Hale asks what social medias are directly tied into OrgSync and if you can access them directly from OrgSync. Advisor Herzog and Advisor Stewart say you can. If you log onto OrgSync you will see the icons for the various social media sites it supports. President Clark does not like social media and cautions all to what they put out there for all to see. Senator Schollnick feels the SGA is a responsible and aware group and they can handle these types of media without issue.

d. Professor Announcements

Discussion: President Clark has proposed professors at MCC give announcements at the beginning of each class due to what he feels is the low-level of information exchange at MCC. A discussion ensues as how to determine what information will be given to what professors, and will all professors have to give out all the information they are given to announce or can they decide what to say at the beginning of their classes. Senator Jackson does not believe that spending valuable classroom time should be spent giving announcements, it should be spent learning. Senator Miner suggests a written page posted and not a verbal announcement. Advisor Herzog states that is exactly what the Tribune and Student Tribune are. Any advisor or support person would be glad to post any event/information for you. Several Senators would like to see WMCC have announcements at specific times throughout the day. President Clark states the professors would volunteer to read the announcements and this would not be forced on anyone.

e. Coffee Mug Logo’s

Discussion: Sodexo will be selling refillable coffee mugs and President Clark suggested clubs and the SGA purchase cups and put their logos on the cups to sell. Advisor Stewart states SGA monies cannot be used for this purpose. Advisor Herzog asks if funding can be provided for a branding partnership initiative and Advisor Stewart said that is a possibility, but would like to see details. There are several ideas on how to brand the mugs, some would like side logos and others would like interchangeable lids.

V. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Senator Poloznik would like to thank Ginny Geer-Mentry for the ATC microwave oven. All appreciate and thank her. Senator Williams took notice of the new signs in the lounges directing all to treat school property correctly. He thanks whoever has put those up and feels they are working.

The Celtic Society is presenting the movie “King Arthur” today at 6pm and there will be free pizza available.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Hale called for a motion for adjournment. Senator Schollnick so moved, with a second from Senator Jackson.

A vote was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Truman
SA Secretary