



Monroe Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

MCC VALUES:

COMMUNITY.
INCLUSIVENESS.
INTEGRITY.
EXCELLENCE.
EMPOWERMENT.
STEWARDSHIP.

Monroe Community College Board of Trustees Minutes

Monday, December 9, 2024

MCC Brighton Campus, Monroe B

4:00 PM

Present: Allen K. Williams, Chair
Carla M. Palumbo, Esq., Vice Chair and Chair, Personnel and Programs Committee
Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres, Secretary
John B. Baynes
Joseph Leichtner, Student Trustee
Gladys Pedraza-Burgos
Angelica Perez-Delgado
Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
Connie O. Walker, Esq.

Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna, President
Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant, Board of Trustees

Excused: Grace S. Tillinghast

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Mission: Monroe Community College transforms lives and communities, fostering the success of diverse students through affordable and innovative academic, career, technical, and workforce development programs. Our shared work inspires and champions excellence in higher education and builds global engagement and understanding.

Introduction and Opening Remarks

Allen K. Williams, Chair, Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order and quorum was established at 3:59 pm.

Consent Agenda

The following items were proposed to be adopted and approved by consent:

Board of Trustees

- Minutes of the October 7 and November 6, 2024, Board meeting.

Finance & Facilities

- Operating disbursements totaled \$8,332,044.99 for the month of August 2024, \$6,708,038.95 for the month of September 2024, and \$18,033,683.60 for the month of October 2024, subject to final audit. (A detailed listing is available upon request.)
- Accept the Interim Financial Reports as of August 31, September 30, and October 31, 2024.
- Purchases of items over \$20,000 as listed for the months of August, September, and October 2024.

Personnel & Programs

- Adopts the revised “General Education Policy”
- Approves the Consent Calendar

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College adopt the consent agenda effective December 9, 2024. (T19-2024)

MOTION was made and seconded that the above resolution be adopted.
Motion was carried unanimously.

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Student Success

- Student Testimonial by Robert Gracie
- Student Trustee Update

College Updates

- Presentation on Strategic Enrollment Management and KPI 1 - Enrollment Trends
 - Christine Casalnuovo-Adams, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management
 - William Dixon, Director, Research
- President's Update
- Cabinet Updates
 - Dr. Robin Cole Jr., Economic & Workforce Development & Career Technical Education
 - Dr. Calvin Gantt, Vice President, Diversity, Equity and Belonging and Executive Director, Downtown Campus
 - Greg Hinton, CFO/Vice President, Administrative Services
 - Dr. Michael Jacobs, Provost & Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
 - Gretchen Wood, Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Executive Director, MCC Foundation
- Monroe Community College Foundation Report
- Shared Governance Updates
 - Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees, called on the shared governance groups for their updates. The following groups shared an update:
 - Student Government Association – Angelo Romero
 - Faculty Senate – Becky Babcock
 - Support Staff Planning Council – Emily Miesch
 - Administration – DeAnna Burt-Nanna
- Union Updates
 - Linda M. Hall, Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees, called on the union groups for their updates. The following groups shared an update:
 - Faculty Association: Bethany Gizzi
 - CSEA: written report

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Information Items

Finance and Facilities

- CIP Status Report as of November 5, 2024
- Grants Report from September 13 to November 7, 2024

Personnel and Programs

- Title IX Grievance Policy for Sex-Based Harassment Complaints Involving a Student
- Responding to and Accommodating Pregnancy and Related Conditions Policy
- Nondiscrimination Policy for Discrimination Complaints for Students and Employees

Board of Trustees

- Biographies
- Staff Recognition

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Summary

- Chair Williams gavelled in the meeting at 3:59 pm and thanked the President and the MCC Association for the tours of the Residence Halls and Child Care Center for the Board.
- Student Robert Gracie provided his testimonial. The Board of Trustees and President Burt-Nanna thanked Robert for sharing his story.
- Student Trustee Joseph Leichtner gave his report. Trustee Leichtner reported on the activities and initiatives he has taken to represent the voices of the students and ensure their perspectives and needs are reflected in the decisions at the College. Highlights included speaking at the MCC Foundation President's Circle Reception, participating in the Student Government Association election watch party and the Veterans Day ceremony, representing MCC at the New York Regional Fall Honors Conference at Mohawk Community College and the SUNY Student Assembly Fall Conference. Trustee Leichtner attended the MCC Foundation 33rd Annual Salute to Excellence and participated in the launch of Phi Theta Kappa's College Project, which is a transfer certification program that equips students with essential tools to navigate the transfer process.
- Christine Casalnuovo-Adams and William Dixon presented on Strategic Enrollment Management and KPI 1 – Enrollment Trends.
- President Burt-Nanna expressed gratitude to some 1,200 employees who use their talents and passion to educate, train, and support MCC's approximately 24,000 students. The President acknowledged the dedicated colleagues who will be voluntarily separating from the College and those who remain, as well as the dedicated service of the members of the Board of Trustees. Other highlights included the recent MCC Economic Impact Study; Student Success achievements, including the highest rate of graduation in 20 years, fourth consecutive year of enrollment increases, being ranked by Newsweek #41 out of 250 of America's top online schools for 2025; and the relocation of RochesterWorks! to the MCC Downtown Campus.
- Divisional highlights were shared with the Board and delivered by selected members of the President's Executive Leadership Team.
- Gretchen Wood, VP Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the MCC Foundation, gave the MCC Foundation report. The 33rd Annual Salute to Excellence was held on November 14. The Salute to Excellence award was presented to three leaders in the optics industry, Tom Battley, Jim Sydor and late Richard Nasca. The 2025 Gold Star Gala will be held on April 26 and the theme will be *Behind the Curtain*. Naomi Silver and Lori Van Dusen were selected as 2024 ICON Award winners. The ROC the Day 24-hour online event raised \$22,500 in support of students.
- Student Government Association President Angelo Romero presented on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA held events to spread awareness for Adoptee Awareness Month throughout November. Overall, the campaign was very successful. SGA held a table for ROC the Day to raise money for scholarships by offering cupcakes to those who donated \$1 and \$130 was raised. The SGA attended the Fall 2024 SUNY Student Assembly Conference in November. Over 55 SUNY schools attended the conference. Elisabeth Cole, Residence Hall Senator, co-presented with Christina Lee, Coordinator, Global Education and International Services, on *A Sense of Campus Belonging*. SGA was awarded the SUNY Student Assembly President's Award for Civic Engagement for their hard work in voter registration and engagement for the 2024 election.
- Faculty Senate President Becky Babcock reported on the activities of the Faculty Senate (FS). Faculty Senate recognized two award winners: Erin Strobl, Biology, for the League Excellence Award and

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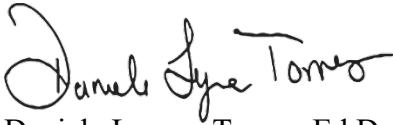
Benjamin Schermerhorn, Engineering Science & Physics, for the Emerging Excellence Award. Chair Williams joined the Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) plenary in October which brings together shared governance leaders across SUNY's community colleges with presidents, chief academic officers and board members from many institutions. Special Committee for Administrative Affairs (SCAA) has been working on three reorganization proposals from three divisions and looks forward to partnering on two dean searches in the Spring. President Babcock also recognized the work being done in support of the Middle States self-study across the institution.

- Support Staff Planning Council Chair Emily Miesch reported on the activities of the Support Staff Planning Council (SSPC). Emily has been selected to present at the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education (NAPAHE) conference in January, the topic will be *Why Support Staff Councils are Important in Higher Education*. The SSPC hosted an annual holiday social with over 40 support staff in attendance. A tour of the Finger Lakes Workforce Development (FWD) Center took place in November and Public Safety Training Facility (PSTF) in December. Social lunches and the craft club will continue to take place in the new year. Several community service projects have taken place to support the Doing What Is Good and Healthy Together (DWIGHT) food pantry, Pencils and Paper for Jewish Family Services, and employee duck hunts in collaboration with the Wellness Council.
- President Burt-Nanna reported on behalf of the Administration and recognized the Student Government Association on being the recipient of the SUNY Student Assembly President's Award for Civic Engagement at the SUNY Student Assembly Fall conference. President Burt-Nanna recognized the Faculty Senate as they helped to strengthen MCC's curriculum and instructional practices; informed organizational restructures; accreditation; contributed to the selection of senior leaders to fill vacancies; informed policy decisions and much more. The President recognized the Support Staff Planning Council for prioritizing opportunities to build community and offer professional development for their members. Gratitude was also extended to the Board of Trustees for exercising its role in policy governance, which helps the College fulfill its mission and objectives.
- President Bethany Gizzi reported on behalf of the Faculty Association (FA). FA leaders attended the 45th Annual New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) Community College conference. President Gizzi led a roundtable discussion about Academic Freedom. President Gizzi and FA Diversity & Inclusion Director April Daniels attended the NYSUT Social Justice conference, which focused on the important work of ensuring that schools and colleges remain inclusive and welcoming spaces for students and employees. President Gizzi had two requests to the trustees: do not obey in advance and defend institutions which are the first two lessons from *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder. President Gizzi noted academic freedom and DEI efforts on campuses will likely face significant challenges. President Gizzi expressed concerns around a draft policy currently in review, "Political and Legislative Policy."

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- CSEA provided a written report.
- Chair Williams expressed his gratitude in recognition of the work being done every day by MCC employees. Chair Williams announced there will be College Forum held on March 13 and May 14. The Board looks forward to these opportunities to hear from college employees.
- The board meeting adjourned at 5:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniele Lyman-Torres". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daniele" being more prominent and the last name "Lyman-Torres" following in a similar style.

Daniele Lyman-Torres, Ed.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees