



Monroe Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

MCC VALUES:

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

Monroe Community College Board of Trustees Minutes

Monday, October 6, 2025

MCC Downtown Campus, High Falls A/B

4:00 PM

Present: Allen K. Williams, Chair
Carla M. Palumbo, Esq., Vice Chair and Chair, Personnel and Programs Committee
John B. Baynes
Angelica Perez-Delgado
Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
Tashanda Thomas
Grace S. Tillinghast
Connie O. Walker, Esq., Chair, Risk Management Committee
Parker Werven, Student Trustee

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

Excused: Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

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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

Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee, Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order and quorum was established at 4:02 pm.

Consent Agenda

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

Board of Trustees

- Minutes of the August 4 Board Meeting

Finance & Facilities

- Operating disbursements totaled \$11,604,656.18 for the month of July 2025, subject to final audit. (A detailed listing is available upon request.)
- Accept the Interim Financial Report as of July 31, 2025.
- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation that the new health care labs on the fifth floor of the Downtown Campus be known as the Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk Foundation Center for Excellence in Nursing and Health Sciences.
- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation that the new Advanced Technology Center on the Brighton Campus be known as the Sydor Optics Advanced Technology Center.
- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation that the Monroe Community College Bookstore on the Brighton Campus be known as the Joanne D. & John T. '72 Smith Bookstore.
- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation that the Optical Systems Lab in the new Advanced Technology Center on the Brighton Campus be known as the SPIE Optical Systems Lab.

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Personnel & Programs

- Approves the MCC Foundation's recommendation to establish the Barbara and John H. Bruning Endowed Optical Systems Technology Directorship in support of the optics program.
- Approves the Consent Calendar

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College adopt the consent agenda effective October 6, 2025. (T14-2025)

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

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Finance and Facilities

WHEREAS, Monroe County hosts an Energy Aggregation Group Program that offers the management of electricity and natural gas purchases for municipalities and related organizations in Monroe County. Through aggregation of these accounts, the County program is able to secure volume discounts and lower costs than the market for its participants; and

WHEREAS, the College desires to participate fully in this electricity and natural gas Program seeking to obtain more favorable pricing, available for its campuses and locations; and

WHEREAS, an assessment of the College's supply rates over the 12-month period ended July 31, 2024, showed that total savings across its campuses could have exceeded \$90,000 with participation in the Program versus the current purchase model; and

WHEREAS, the College will continue to rely on RG&E for the transportation and delivery of the natural gas; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost for electricity and natural gas is fully budgeted in the College's annual Operating Budget, totaling approximately \$3.3 million; and

WHEREAS, the College seeks to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with Monroe County, setting forth the terms and conditions under which the College will participate in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Intermunicipal Agreement references Article 5-G of New York Municipal Law, which states in part that "...any agreement entered into hereunder shall be approved by each participating municipal corporation or district by a majority vote of the voting strength of its governing body (General Municipal Law 119-O), and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President or her designee is authorized to enter into an agreement with the County of Monroe for participation in the Energy Aggregation Group Program for electricity and natural gas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President or her designee is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed, for and on behalf of the College, to perform any and all actions and to execute any and all documents on behalf of the College as may be deemed necessary, appropriate or advisable to carry out the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolution. (F03-2025)

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

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Student Success

- Student Testimonial by KhaNy Sangasy
- Student Government Association Update
- Student Trustee Update
- Student Success Dashboard with Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Measurements
 - William Dixon, Director, Research

College Updates

- 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:
 - Faculty Senate – Julie Babulski
 - Support Staff Planning Council – written report
- Presentation on Annual Sexual Harassment Training
 - Shannon Glasgow, Director, Title IX, Human Resources
- Selected Executive Leadership Team 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
 - Darrell Jachim-Moore, Interim 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
- Joint Finance and Operations Report
 - Dale R. Rehkopf II, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
 - Darrell Jachim-Moore, Interim CFO/Vice President, Administrative Services
 - Guests from JMZ Architects & Planners, PC
- President's Update
 - Administrative Shared Governance Update
- 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 September 12, 2025
- Grants Report from July 11, 2025 to September 11, 2025
- Facilities Master Plan Update

Personnel and Programs

- None

Board of Trustees

- Biographies
- Staff Recognition

Board of Trustees

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Monroe Community College conduct an Executive Session pursuant to Public Officers Law §105, subsections (d): discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation. (T15-2025)

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

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Summary

- Trustee Rehkopf gaveled in the meeting at 4:02 pm.
- Trustee Tashanda Thomas was welcomed to the Board.
- Student KhaNy Sangasy provided her testimonial. The Board of Trustees and President Burt-Nanna thanked KhaNy for sharing her story.
- Student Government Association President Jalisia Burno presented on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA). President Burno highlighted two events. The 9/11 memorial ceremony is one of the SGA's biggest projects. The ceremony was beautiful and heartfelt. The other was Constitution Day, which provided an opportunity to engage with students about the importance of the Constitution and its role in shaping democracy. A new initiative was launched around communication and how students receive campus updates, resulting in the Student-to-Student Communication Committee being formed. Other items highlighted were participation in the Middle States visit, the MCC Association Board meeting, and the campus 5K. Weekly voter registration drives are being hosted through October.
- Student Trustee Parker Werven gave his report. Trustee Werven attended the New York Community College (NYCCT) conference in Saratoga Springs, September 10-13. Other events attended in September were the Executive Leadership Team meeting and the Board Dinner with the Middle States Chair. The different events allowed Trustee Werven to connect with community college presidents, board chairs, trustees, other student trustees, and leadership team members.
- William Dixon, Chief Data Officer and AVP, Institutional Research and Assessment, provided an update on the Student Success Dashboard and Key Performance Indicator Measurements. Highlighted at this meeting was fall enrollment, the demographic shift in the student body and the impact of SUNY Reconnect. Enrollment in SUNY Reconnect programs is up, even if the students do not qualify for SUNY Reconnect.
- Gretchen Wood, VP of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the MCC Foundation, gave the MCC Foundation report. VP Wood shared that the MCC Foundation transferred \$4.8M program and grant funds to the College between January and August of this year, which is double what was transferred in the same time period last year. With a \$3M investment in the MCC Optics program, the new Advanced Technology Center (ATC) will bear the Sydor Optics name. John and Barb Bruning have committed \$1M to establish the Barbara and John H. Bruning Optical Systems Technology Endowed Directorship which is MCC's first endowed directorship. The new ATC will feature a named lab supported by SPIE, the international society advancing light-based technologies worldwide. New naming opportunities can be viewed on the new virtual tour website (<https://atctour.monroecc.edu>). A similar website is being developed for the FWD Center at the Downtown Campus. The annual Salute to Excellence will be held on November 19 at the Floreano Convention Center. The Salute to Excellence award will be presented to Lauren Dixon and Mike Schwable, and the Salute to Volunteerism to MCC Foundation Director Scott Kogler. The MCC Alumni Hall of Fame inductees will be: Emad Kadhim '13, Ebony Miller '98, Kevin Salva '84 and Stephanie Von Bacho'88. ROC the Day will take place on Giving Tuesday, December 2nd, when individuals can go online and make a gift to support MCC students. Cabin Fever will be held on February 26 at Arbor Loft. This event is designed to engage new philanthropists and community leaders in the work of MCC and the Foundation. The life and legacy of MCC Chair Emerita Dr. Alice Holloway Young was celebrated for her what would have been 102nd birthday with treats for students in the residence halls. Dr. Young's son, Rodney, launched a challenge to grow the Alice Holloway Young Society. Every new planned giving

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intention shared with the Foundation unlocks an additional \$5,000 gift from Rodney. Thanks to this challenge, seven donors have been welcomed to the Alice Holloway Young Society.

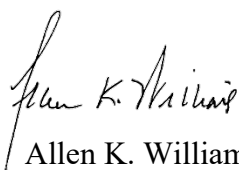
- Faculty Senate President Julie Babulski shared a situation unfolding at the Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) and Nassau Community College around shared governance. The FCCC President, Candice Vacin, cited that Nassau administrators obstructed the FCCC VP from assuming her role, Nassau administration disputed the claim and stated the faculty member chose not to continue in the role. The FCCC Executive Committee released a statement reaffirming that shared governance is enshrined in New York State law and essential to SUNY's academic mission and condemned Nassau's leadership. President Babulski met with President Burt-Nanna and Provost Jacobs and discussed the state of shared governance at Monroe and across the SUNY system and agreed that shared governance at MCC is strong and remains strong and they rely on open communication and transparency between governance and administration. Faculty Senate is committed to their partnership in shared governance.
- Support Staff Planning Council provided a written report.
- An annual training on Sexual Harassment Response & Prevention was provided by Shannon Glasgow, Director, Title IX and Title VI.
- Divisional highlights were shared with the Board and delivered by selected members of the President's Executive Leadership Team.
- Trustee Dale Rehkopf and Interim CFO and VP of Administrative Services Darrell Jachim-Moore gave the Joint Finance and Operations Report. The Facilities Master Plan Update was handed out as a first read, and the planning process was reviewed. There were three phases taken: data analysis, space needs analysis, and master plan concepts. Guests from JMZ Architects were available for questions. The Facilities Master Plan Update will come to the Board for a vote at the December 8 meeting. The financial report focused on financial results through July with a glimpse at year-end. Note was given to the use of fund balance and the need to continue to pay attention to the structural gap. Congratulations was given to the healthcare committee for their hard work in keeping healthcare cost increases down to 3.8% vs 12% last year.
- President Burt-Nanna began her report with respect and appreciation to all trustees and welcomed the newest trustee, Tashanda Thomas. Condolences were given on the loss of one of MCC's student athletes who passed last week. The President acknowledged the numerous recent and tragic events that have affected our local community and nation and asked that we come together with compassion and respect. Recognition was given to faculty and staff who were approved for appointments, promotions and title changes and to those retiring. The President connected with students and MCC colleagues through various events this semester such as Pancakes with the Pres at Brighton and Downtown campuses, Pop-in with the President at the Residence Halls, Employee Appreciation drop-in at the Public Safety Training Facility, and remembrance of the heroes of 9/11 and their families during a ceremony organized by the Student Government Association. Congratulations were given to the Middle States Accreditation Liaison Officer, Co-Chairs, Steering Committee, and Working Group members on a well-organized and well-written draft self-study and comprehensive preliminary visit with the accreditation Team Chair in late September. Special thanks also to the students and employees who gave of their time to meet with Dr. Polnariev and to the Trustees who joined the President and Team Chair for a meal and discussion, and to the MCC Foundation Directors who championed MCC's mission. The self-study draft has been shared with the entire college for feedback. The self-study will be finalized for final submission by December 1. MCC's Fall enrollment exceeded enrollment projections, marking a fourth consecutive Fall semester of enrollment growth, reversing over a decade of declining enrollment. The President and VP Cole were invited to attend an

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invitation-only event at Harvard University to participate in its “*Leading with Evidence: Data & Technology in Action at Community Colleges*” one-day convening. Searches for the Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director of Human Resources are in progress and the CFO finalists were on campus this week. The goal is to fill these critical positions this Fall. Federal updates that have impact on the College continue to be closely monitored. The College recently responded to a SUNY request for information related to the cancellation/ discontinuance of TRIO and Title III awards. None of MCC’s TRIO awards were cancelled and our Title III Grant award: MCC APPLIED (Advancing Pathways for Partnerships in Learning through Integration of Education and Data) was coming to its natural end by September 30, 2025. Thanks and appreciation was given to the work of the shared governance partners among Trustees, Faculty Senate, Support Staff Planning Council, and Student Government Association.

- Faculty Association President Bethany Gizzi reported on behalf of the Faculty Association. The Faculty Association is preparing to reconvene the Labor-Management committee to address three topics related to evaluations, titles and job descriptions and compensation for prior-learning assessment. The Legislative Committee has endorsed two candidates for the Monroe County Legislature: Dr. Nazish Jeffery and Marvin Stepherson. President Gizzi is a member of AFT Higher Education Policy Council and participated in the development of a campaign to protect higher education from political and economic attacks. The Social Justice is a primary commitment for the FA and they have representatives on both state and national social justice committees. The FA is pleased with the enrollment increases and looks forward to continuing to collaborate with management on recruiting and retaining faculty to meet the needs of the students.
- CSEA provided a written report.
- Chair Williams recognized the following award winners for the New York Community College Trustees (NYCCT): Trustee Dale Rehkopf received the Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service and Trustee Angelica Perez-Delgado received the Distinguished Alumni for Professional Contribution Award and for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT): DeAnna Burt-Nanna received the 2025 Northeast Regional CEO Award and Linda Hall received the 2025 Northeast Regional Professional Board Staff Member Award. Chair Williams expressed his gratitude in recognition of the work being done every day by MCC employees and announced there will be a College Forum held on October 29th at the Downtown Campus. The Board looks forward to these opportunities to hear from college employees.
- The Board entered into executive session at 6:37 pm and adjourned at 7:02 pm.
- The Board meeting reconvened and adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Allen K. Williams
Chair, Board of Trustees