

University Senate Meeting Wednesday, November 18th, 2020

1. University Senate President Welcome

Call to order at 1:33pm.

Jacobson: Welcome, everyone should be proud of their work in the current situation, thank you for all the work you're doing for your students and the University.

2. Roll Call

In attendance: Alvares, Axelrod, Ball, Bellum, Berger, Berisha, Billings, Brater, Brennan, Carr, Coleman-Carter, Collins, Coutras, Curnutt, Dinour, Emery, Fackina, Field, Fleming, Friedman, Gaynor, Gingerich, Sharps for Gurskis, Harness, Hollister, Hood, Hresko, Hunt, Jacobson, Judge, Kelly, Korotkin, Kurze, LaFountain, Lemons, Lin-Cook, Gonzalez for Lucas, Mamonov, McCarthy, McDermid, McKinley, Misra, Panorkou, Pennington, Peterka-Benton, Smolowitz, Spitz, Sullivan, Temoney, Trubatch, Vernon, Wallace, Wolfson.

3. Approval of the October 2020 Minutes

Spitz: Move to approve.

Trubatch: Second.

Approved by unanimous consent.

4. Report from the Administration

a. Office of International Education updates

Gingerich: International education week, though not a lot of international travel, the OIE presented on Fulbright opportunities and a new collaborative online international learning initiative with SUNY. We received a grant to work with the University of Bordeaux, France. German language program was recognized by the American Association of Teachers of German as one of this year's two new German "Centers of Excellence;" Montclair State is now one of 15 Centers of Excellence in the United States.

b. Office of Information Technology updates

Gingerich: New data from OIT says 2,539 employees (93%) completed the required cybersecurity curriculum.

c. Covid-19 notifications

Gingerich: A new memo in the Covid weekly newsletter this Friday will inform all faculty members who've had a student who has tested positive for or been exposed to Covid. It goes to only the faculty member of the student. It will give you the name of the student- which you cannot share. You'll also receive another notice when that student has been cleared to return to campus.

d. Navigate and advising

Gingerich: Question of full access to technology, advising, pass/fail are still pending.

Hood: As we continue to use Navigate, we've received feedback on efficiency and alerts and that the system has been able to close the communication loop. Continue to work with EAB to deal with other concerns.

Insalaco-Egan: Instructors are now in the habit of completing progress reports and raising alerts for students at risk. This allows advisors to do an outreach campaign and assist students with their individual needs.

e. Streaming copyrighted materials for class memo

Gingerich: Associate University Counsel Maria Anderson to talk about streaming videos memo.

Anderson: Under what circumstances can you stream copyrighted videos and materials: if there is not a permission agreement you can display it or use it in a physical classroom on campus for instructional purposes. Restrictions on use for remote viewing- cannot show the material in its entirety and it must be password protected. Violating the law can result in fines to the instructor and university.

Fleming: Use Panopto or Canvas as it is password protected, the materials cannot be downloaded by students.

f. Procedure for Emeritus Faculty recommendations

Gingerich: There is a statement in the faculty handbook; the recommendation emerges from a department or faculty, then goes to the Dean, to the Provost, and to the President. Policy states that the President makes the recommendation to Board of Trustees approval. Over 300 faculty have received Emeritus status since the 1960s.

5. Voices of the Community

a. African American Caucus

Temoney: The AAC is continuing to be vigilant as the Presidential search continues, to make sure there is a diverse pool of candidates. Also continue to forge a strong connection with students and units on campus- two events focusing on students of color support.

b. Disability Caucus

Gerber: First open membership meeting last week, the next one will be in January and fully accessible. There is now a dedicated email address to respond to communications disabilitycaucus@montclair.edu. We now have 3 standing ad-hoc committees: governments, cultural issues and events, universal access and community inclusivity.

c. Land Acknowledgement Committee

Martini: Drafted the land acknowledgement statement and still awaiting final approval from the regional tribal leaders. The Indigenous Studies Challenge is going on this week and there are 164 people signed up for it.

6. Presentation from the Dean of Students' Office

a. Covid Related Student Suspension and the Disciplinary Process

Coleman-Carter: Advocating for students affected by Covid-19, this notification is more specific where we actually tell instructors of a student's positive test.

b. Quarantine Provisions for Students

Jerry Collins: Addressing concerns over student quarantine procedure and compliance. Kevin Scafer shears quarantine presentation.

Pennington: 0.7% positivity rate on campus by students who have left campus and then brought it back.

7. Negotiations Agent Liaison (NAL) Report

a. Survey on working after Thanksgiving

Curnutt: 1904 administered a survey to see how our unit members feel about working after Thanksgiving. Just over 300 people completed the survey in a few days, a good representation of faculty, specialists, staff, and librarians. Many people are experiencing different things depending on their role and unit in university; many offices are fully remote with some individual exceptions- Registrar, Student Development, Nursing, and Kasser, are required to come back to campus. Of the 100 employees returning to campus, 60 feel comfortable doing so- 40 said they felt that they had no choice but to return and 10 felt they feared retaliation. In general many have grave concerns, especially around ventilation. A lot of confusion about what is happening after January 1st.

b. Furlough schedules for Faculty

Curnutt: A furlough schedule spreadsheet was shared with the local showing two anomalies: some have scheduled over individual days over 5 weeks rather than 5 days in a row which makes them ineligible for unemployment; the Business school faculty are scheduled 10 days in a row. Some faculty have scheduled furlough days that don't align with university reported days.

8. Council Reports

a. Academic Affairs

- i. **Kurze:** Report posted on the Senate Canvas. The University is working with the vendor to resolve CIM implementation hiccups.
- ii. **McDermid:** We need more feedback on the Blue Ribbon Task Force proposal, feedback so far shows the proposal seems conservative in its focus.

b. Administrative Affairs

Bellum: Report posted on the Senate Canvas. Last week we contacted the Registrar's Office about the extra Monday on the schedule and it has been resolved. Grade grievance recommendation is in progress.

c. Student Affairs

Lemons: Active business and report posted on the Senate Canvas. Cost of health insurance for graduate students sent to the VP of Finance as the UG cost is significantly lower than graduate costs. Emily Issacs will help assist students with communications around synchronous courses. Outreach to Residence Life to discuss winter housing deposits and contracts. Tutoring less accessible without notice, the Director of Academic Support Center explained changes to the tutoring platform integrating with Navigate.

9. Report of the Senate President

a. University Restart Health and Safety Committee

Although many details of the restart have been addressed at this point, this committee is still in operation. People should forward concerns and questions to representatives from their colleges and units. They can also contact the Senate President, who is co-chair of the committee. As a reminder, this committee does not make or interpret policy. It is charged with gathering information from the campus community and forwarding concerns to the administration.

b. Presidential Search

This process has begun. Although the Senate President is a member of the committee, he is not representing the Senate as a body. As the process by designedt to be confidential, he cannot share details of the search process with the Senate or the campus as a whole. However, this does not preclude him from accepting comments from the Senate or the campus community and bringing them to the search committee.

c. Plagiarism Working Group

This group has met once and the work is ongoing. They are collecting information about how incidents of plagiarism are handled on campus and what resources there are. They are also planning on doing some shared readings.

10. Adjournment

Collins: Move to adjourn.

Jacobson: Second.

Adjourned at 4:01pm