

**University Senate Meeting  
Wednesday, March 24th, 2021**

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1. Call to Order  
Call to order at 1:30pm.
2. Roll Call  
In attendance:  
Alvares, Axelrod, Ball, Bellum, Berger, Billings, Brater, Brennan, Carr, Collins, Connolly, Coutras, Curnutt, Curran, Dinosaur, Emery, Fackina, Field, Friedman, Gaynor, Gingerich, Harness, Holliser, Hresko, Hunt, Jacobson, Judge, Kelly, Wilson for Kingstone, Korotkin, Kurze, Lafountain, Lemons, Lin-Cook, McCarthy, McDermid, McKinley, Panorkou, Spitz, Sullivan, Temoney, Trubatch, Vernon, Wallace, Wolfson.
3. University Senate President Welcome  
**Jacobson:** Mourning at a national level for the recent acts of violence.
4. Approval of January and February Minutes  
**Sullivan:** Move  
**Kurze:** Second  
Approved by acclamation.
5. Report from the Administration
  - a. **Gingerich:** Concern about phishing email that went out last week. Jeff Giacobbe, Associate Vice President for Enterprise Technology Services will speak to this event.  
**Giacobbe:** We were advised that these tests were prudent in this time frame. These types of threats are very real with the coronavirus vaccine rollout. It is standard practice for the rest of OIT to not even be informed, for the learning process. In many ways it is similar to a fire drill. About 1/3 of recipients did click on the false phishing link, so it is vital to remain vigilant.  
**Sullivan:** Many people are struggling to find vaccine appointments, and many are signed up with several counties and providers. It would've been helpful to send a list of reputable sources instead.  
**Wolfson:** what data was collected and how will it be used? For those who clicked on the link, will there be follow up with them?  
**Giacobbe:** We do track by NetID so we can determine who clicked on the links.  
**Berger:** It doesn't fall into the IRB purview.  
**McCarthy:** As a Librarian I am very aware of phishing scams, this event was in very poor taste.  
**Curnutt:** I agree, this was a very traumatic exercise, and many felt shame after realizing it was phishing. Fires kill people, so comparing phishing dangers to fire is unrealistic. We are in a global, once in a lifetime pandemic and this should have been thought through in more depth. Several emails are highlighted by Google in yellow saying they are potential spam.  
**Giacobbe:** That happens based on Google's algorithms and we unfortunately cannot control that inconsistency. There is real risk to not preemptively testing this scenario.
  - b. **Gingerich:** Shawn Connolly, Vice President for University Facilities will discuss the recent power outage on campus.

**Connolly:** Power outage created by a racoon. In 3-4 microseconds breakers are supposed to open, and at the time of the event multiple breakers opened at the same time causing a black out. The generator had issues maintaining voltage, which we are still investigating.

- c. **Gingerich:** Danielle Insalaco-Egan, Assistant Provost for Student Success will discuss Navigate updates.

**Insalaco-Egan:** New feature in Navigate that assigns tutors to students of concern when applicable. Instructors and correspondence will see updates on the concern. There were 599 new cases in Navigate for 566 unique students; 341 cases have been closed to date.

- d. **Gingerich:** Mental health services for employees can be found on the website under HR Benefits> employee assistance program> concern website- links directly into Atlantic Health Mental Health Service site (<https://www.montclair.edu/human-resources/current-employees/employee-assistance-program/>). This service is free to MSU employees and their families.
- e. **Gingerich:** 50% increase in applications for Fall 2021 has increased significantly.,

**Jacobson:** What about first generation students?

**Lin-Cook:** It's too soon to compare this year's numbers to last, we should have the data to share in about two months

**Wolfson:** Is the Common App part of the reason we have increased applications.

**Lin-Cook:** Yes, part of the increase is due to the switch to Common App. At other schools when I've used Common App it increased about 20% on average. This also increased acceptances by 70%. So we have applicants by students that are highly qualified.

## 6. Voices of the Community

- a. African American Caucus

**Temoney:** The AAC will put on a lecture for the series *This is What Democracy Looks Like*, to discuss African American voting rights. Meetings have changed to Tuesdays at 1:20pm, the next one is April 6th. A professional development committee is working on a panel to help professional staff.

- b. Asian Pacific Islander Caucus

**Wadhvani:** Check out the website, we have upcoming Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage month events.

- c. Disability Caucus

**Temoney:** There is a job opening for a Fellowship Position to report on disabilities issues for the New York Times. March 29th film screening of *Deaf Jam*. The Facilities Office is working on mapping areas of campus that need accessibility improvements.

- d. Latinx/a/o Caucus

**Colon:** Tomorrow is Latinx Day. The Latinx/a/o Caucus read a statement of solidarity for Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

- e. Montclair Votes Coalition

**LaFountain:** When women run, they win at the same rate as men, but not enough women run in the first place. The workshop discussed this issue and is endorsed by many organizations on campus, it was very well attended.

- f. Open Floor

**Wadhvani:** As a reminder, if you have any students struggling, especially during coronavirus, recommend them to Let's Talk via Zoom.

**Brater:** The ADVANCE Committee held an event about the Emily Johnson, Peak

Performances, and Jed Wheeler issue. Many people have been discussing this in their courses and on committees. We held a town hall meeting so people could voice their concerns and ask questions.

g. Board of Trustees

**Emery:** The Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees was excluded from the presidential search, the final decision is made by the BOT. Tuition hearing is upcoming, encourage your students to speak their concerns.

7. Negotiations Agent Liaison (NAL) Report

**Curnutt:** Dues reduction errors in reference to furloughs. Local Scholarships are due March 31st.

8. Standing Committees

a. Election Committee

**Field:** Constituency elections opened today for 9 seats and remain open until April 2nd. The Committee wants to formally thank OIT support with these elections.

b. Constitution Committee

**LaFountain:** We will be voting on an amendment later in the meeting.

9. Council Reports

a. Academic Affairs

**Kurze:** Active business includes recommendations on Emeritus status, which we will address later. We had a productive meeting with Sutton-Smith and Lin-Cook about the final grade submission timeline, Bellum will update further. Committee reports are available on Canvas.

**McCarthy:** Working on getting the library tab integrated into all Canvas courses, it will likely not be rolled out this semester. Open education resource plan is in progress.

**Kurze:** Montclair Core is still in progress, take the opportunity to send feedback.

b. Administrative Affairs

**Bellum:** Draft of a new grade grievance policy was sent to Hood and Gingerich for feedback. We are trying to understand the 72 hour turnaround time for final grades and its impact on graduating students. The full Administrative Affairs Council report is on Canvas.

**Lafountain:** Change of major form and leave of absence form will be rolled out soon. Also, Cyber-Security Training is underway and required by all employees.

c. Student Affairs

**Lafountain:** Welcome back to Temesia Lemons. Ongoing issues include questions around the Common App. Putting forth a resolution to recognize Karen Pennington later in the meeting.

10. Business

a. Voting Items

i. Constitutional Amendment: Constituency and At-large Elections, third reading

**Lafountain:** Full amendment document is on Canvas.

Would Adjuncts be able to  
Faculty, specialists and librarians.

**Spitz:** Move to approve.

**Temoney:** Second

Votes: 32 Yay, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain.

Amendment is approved.

ii. Resolution for Karen Pennington

**Collins:** Read formal resolution of appreciation for Karen Pennington.

Full statement is available on Canvas.

**Spitz:** Move to approve.

**Collins:** Second.

Approved by acclamation.

b. New Business

**Field:** Welcome to new senators Kira Maffett and Christopher Curran.

11. Report of the Senate President

**Jacobson:** Saturday May 22nd Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. There was an invitation to participate in the Shared Sacrifice Statement straw poll, so please participate before Friday. At the end of the Presidential search process I asked if the candidates could speak to the Senate, but it is not possible due to confidentiality.

12. Adjournment

**Lafountain:** Move to adjourn.

**Spitz:** Second.

Adjourned at 3:45pm.