

University Senate Meeting Wednesday November 17th, 2021

1. Call to Order/ University Senate President Welcome
Call to order at 1:30pm.
2. Roll Call
In attendance: Alvares, Axelrod, Bellum, Berisha, Brater, Brennan, Carr, Coleman-Carter, Collins, Connolly, Courtras, Curnutt, Curran, Field, Fleming, Gurskis, Hollister, Hood, Jacobson, Judge, Korotkin, Lafountain, Landa, Lin-Cook, Mamonov, McCarthy, McDermid, McKinley, Misra, Mizzy, Panorkou, Phillips, Sangregorio, Schmidt, Soufleris, Spitz, Sullivan, Taha, Temoney, Trubatch, Bernon, Wolfson.
3. Approval of the Opening Meeting Minutes
Trubatch: Move to approve minutes.
Spitz: Second.
Minutes for October, 2021 approved by acclamation.
4. Report from the SGA President
Landa: Connecting with campus partners, successful town hall with dept of public health last night, we will do more events in the future.
5. Report from the Administration
 - a. Preferred Name Policy
Questions about preferred names policy on
Hollister: Article in the Montclarion, there was an issue with where the preferred names are stored but it was not an issue with things rebooting. Looking at the roster is the best way to find the correct preferred names of students. A message to the Deans will be sent with instructions to address the faculty.
Sullivan: Do you get to the class list through Nest?
Hollister: Yes. The other question was regarding using the preferred names on documents like diplomas and transcripts. We had to address legal questions, so to date the transcripts and diplomas have reflected legal names. Transcripts will continue to do this unless students change their name legally. However, we are working towards allowing students to request preferred names on diplomas, many other schools have similar policies.
Jacobson: When this becomes an option there needs to be an outreach plan so students know.
Lafountain: Will alumni be able to re-request diplomas with preferred names?
Hollister: It is one thing we are hoping to respond to, we don't have a solution to it right now but it is on our list of questions to address.
 - b. Report from Police Chief Paul Cell
Hollister: Police Chief Paul Cell will address questions about safety committees and pedestrian safety.
Jacobson: Yes, we requested Senate representation to the Safety Committee
Cell: The Safety Committee will be rebooted and we want representation from as many units as possible. We've had many positive impacts in the past such as crosswalks and crossing guard programs. We are looking to get it up and running as soon as we can.

Curnutt: The crosswalk on Normal avenue is very dangerous and needs to be further addressed.

Cell: We are working on adding reinforcement and repainting the lines to keep cars farther from crosswalk. We are working with the town to get this resolved. Non-emergency safety concerns can be sent via email at msupolice@montclair.edu.

Cell: Pedestrian safety in Red Hawk deck seems to be a big concern as well. We have had officers walking in that area in the past, but we are currently short on officers due to traffic issues. We will work to get more visibility there.

Trubatch: All of these comments show we have a clear need for a safety committee, it needs a web presence and does outreach when it is up and running again.

Hollister: There will be two designated areas for Lyft and Uber pickup and drop off coming soon.

Community college course equivalency project to make it more efficient on this process. We are in the process of updating our transfer agreement policies with the colleges.

c. Community Colleges Course Equivalency Project

Hollister: The goal is to make it easier for community college students to transfer their credits. We are in the process of updating our articulation agreements among the various community colleges as well as identifying majors and courses with standard equivalencies to update. This will hopefully reduce the amount of credit adjustments needed for transfer students.

Trubatch: For courses that will count toward general education credits, undergraduate curriculum committees should be involved in their review.

Hollister: We'll look into that.

d.

6. Voices of the Community

a. African American Caucus

Temoney: The next membership meeting will be on November 23rd at 1:30pm, all are welcome.

b. Disability Caucus

Broderick: Held an inaugural community event, we brought susan birch to give a presentation to DREAM students.

c. Land Acknowledgement Committee

Jacobson: Tomorrow night's event will discuss the process of putting together a land acknowledgement statement. There will be discussions with students, and local tribe representatives.

d. Latinx/a/o Caucus

Lorenz: Successful even earlier this month honoring Carlos Ortiz. The next membership meeting will be tomorrow.

e. Montclair Votes Coalition

Lafountain: MSU voting rates from 2020 compared to 2016, they increased from 53% to 71%. National average for institutions is 66%.

Davis: Where are we with supporting absentee ballots for students on campus?

Lafountain: There are initiatives and events to communicate with students. Any other ideas are welcome.

f. Open Floor

7. Negotiations Agent Liaison (NAL) Report

Curnutt: Important rally to protest firing of tenured faculty and staff this Friday, plan to arrive closer to 11:00am. Employees in our unit have done well with the vaccination mandate, those who have not complied are subject to disciplinary actions such as loss of pay and medical benefits starting December 15th. AFT won a lawsuit about student loan forgiveness, we are running a workshop December 7th to take advantage of this time sensitive opportunity.

Wolfson: I'm getting feedback from our members that some of them may have about \$100,000 loans forgiven so it is a significant change for previous years.

8. Standing Committees

a. Elections Committee

No report.

b. Council Reports

c. Academic Affairs

Temoney: Active business includes: UCC communication strategy, inquiry into Enrollment Management Committee, Doctoral Program Structures, Amorous Relationship Policy, Transfer equivalencies, and curriculum development processes. The full report on current business is available on Canvas.

d. Administrative Affairs

Bellum: Active business includes: inquiries into HR policies and practices, video surveillance survey, virtual options for University meetings, and three recommendations and resolutions to read in the business section of the meeting. The full report on current business is available on Canvas.

e. Student Affairs

Lafountain: Active business includes: preferred names and graduation documents, Educate the Educators survey results, food options on campus, Covid related student life issues for next semester, and mental health support.

9. Business

a. Recommendations

- i. Recommendation on Single Use Plastics (Second Read and Vote)
Second read and electronic vote.

Yes: 25, No: 0, Abstain: 2.

The recommendation is approved.

- ii. Recommendation on To-Go Containers

First read and opportunity for feedback.

- iii. Recommendation on University-wide policy Process and Committee

First read and opportunity for feedback.

b. New Business

Vote to install Jessica Brater as Student Affairs Committee Chair.

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain:0.

Vote approved, Jessica Brater will act as the new Student Affairs Committee Chair on the Executive Board.

10. Report of the Senate President

Jacobson: The MSU foundation campaign exceeded the initial goal and has been extended, gifts to the Fund for Montclair State which helps provide scholarships and new programs and technologies. If you make a gift of \$25 or more you'll receive a special

MSU mask. Finally, thank you to everyone for their hard work on the Senate, caucuses, committees and in the classroom.

11. Adjournment

Spitz: Move to adjourn.

Sangregorio: Second.

Meeting adjourned at 3:16pm