

University Senate Meeting - April 27th, 2022 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order at 1:31pm.

Welcome from the University Senate President.

Reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. Roll Call

In attendance: Alvares, Axelrod, Bellum, Berisha, Billings, Brater, Brennan, Bulkley, Carr, Collins, Coutras, Curnutt, Curran, Dinour, Ellis, Field, Fleming, Gonzales, Gurskis, Halaby, Hollister, Hood, Jacobson, Korotkin, Lafountain, Lin-Cook, Mamonov, McCarthy, McDermid, Misra, Mizzy, Panorkou, Phillips, Sangregorio, Schmidt, Soufleris, Spitz, Sullivan, Taha, Temoney, Trubatch, Vernon, Wallace, Woolston.

3. Report from the SGA

No report.

4. Report from the Administration

Gonzales: Presentation on Montclair State University from the Provost, Junius Gonzales.

Sutton-Smith: We sent a link for all the deadlines for grading and an update that will accommodate the 5 business day due date. Presentation on Academic Engagement as we call Attendance Verification.

Sumner: Canvas usage increased to nearly 99% since the start of the Pandemic. We now have the syllabus shell available, and hope faculty continue to utilize Canvas so students understand their courses.

Trubatch: A number of years ago a quiz was added on all Canvas courses and there was no notice from the administration to the faculty. The administration recognized that this was a misstep, and took it back. The idea that you're going to put something in my Canvas is like walking into my classroom, it's totally unacceptable and instructors need to have control of their Canvas. The general larger principle here is that people should not be putting things into our Canvas that we can't remove since Canvas is an extension of our classroom.

Isaacs: I had a chance to talk with Leslie about this a little bit, I was generally pretty enthusiastic I think it seems like a very easy, efficient way to achieve a very important aim with just a tiny ripple. The wonderful thing about canvas is that we all go there: faculty, students, and that's the place we live. I supported Leslie's work on this. I felt like it was a better way to accomplish this goal. I wonder if we're fighting a really tiny little battle on a tiny hill.

LaFountain: If I unpublished my course and then re-publish it, this assignment is still there, correct?

Sutton-Smith: Yes, and students will be directed to complete the assignment to receive their federal aid.

Collins: So, as I understand this is an ungradable assignment and it will not affect any assignments or grades that we put in our courses?

Sutton-Smith: Correct.

Fleming: Please activate 2-factor authentication in Google before May 15th. Multiple emails have gone out with instructions. We will roll out 2-factor authentication in other applications shortly.

Gonzales: Title IX update presented by Soufleris and Connor. The lead for student matters is Yolanda Alvarez, and the lead for employee matters is Dr. Ashante Conner.

Soufleris: We focus on making sure that our students have the resources that they need. We help them understand how to engage with the Title IX process, explain what it is, and help our students move forward through the process.

Ashante Connor: Presentation which explains Title IX and employee responsibilities to comply with Federal and State regulations.

5. Voices of the Community

a. African American Caucus

Hill: Updated Executive Board members have been posted to the website, we have some vacant positions available for folks to run for. End of year celebration is May 11th, event details are on the website, please RSVP.

b. Disability Caucus

Broderick: Our April events were a great success. We were really pleased with the amount of community engagement we have. One of the things we've been working on all year as a caucus is, how do we both model and problem solve around making it easier to utilize access technologies and support at campus wide events. Final meeting will be Friday, May 13th.

c. Land Acknowledgement Committee

Martini: We're prioritizing the adoption of the land acknowledgement statement as approved by the University. We don't want to force it on people for everything to the point where it becomes a token gesture, but rather to read at major events and make it available for folks to read when they find it appropriate.

d. Latinx/a/o Caucus

Colon: Our Latinx Day was successful. Caucus has been holding listening sessions with Latinx faculty and staff on campus to assess their experiences. End of semester gathering is on May 12th. Tomorrow, April 28th is the World Fair Day and Giving Day.

e. Open Floor

Jacobson: Montclair Votes coalition provided support for the many students who presented at the State tuition hearing this month, and students have written hundreds of letters to advocate for finances at the state level.

Brater: Theater for Community Impact final presentation with Abington Ave School, Newark- 5pm on Weds, May 4 in 1200 Life Hall. Free & no reservations necessary.

6. Negotiations Agent Liaison (NAL) Report

Curnutt: Working actively to settle active issues and grievances before summer. 12-month will get their 2% salary increase in mid-May and 10-month employees in June. Specialists are not included, email Laura Field with questions.

7. Elections Committee

Field: New senators will be set in May. We have 4 open seats available, in the fall those become At-Large seats and we will run an election in September. Executive Board nominations are open until Sunday, May 1st. We will also take nominations from the floor.

8. Council Reports

a. Academic Affairs

Temoney: Active business includes Doctoral Reassigned Time Recommendations which is moving forward in collaboration with the Graduate School. Reports from the Academic Policy Committee and the Graduate Council are reviewing several policies which are open for comments. The Undergraduate Admissions Criteria and Policies Committee has drafted two new proposals and is looking for comments. The Office for Faculty Advancement and the AAC will continue to work together for best practices. Full report available on the Senate Canvas.

b. Administrative Affairs

Bellum: We have had an open inquiry to Hr on policies processes. procedures for contractors and other non-employees who may experience harassment and bullying. Dr. Assante Conner, helped us understand that both State law and Montclair State University policies about harassment and bullying do cover contractors and non-employees. Formal response from David Vernon states that Montclair State is committed to providing a professional working and learning environment that is free of discrimination, harassment or bullying and is inclusive and welcoming to all persons. The university takes every report of harassment or bullying in the workplace seriously, whether it constitutes a violation of title IX or EOAA. The University Safety Committee report is attached to the AAC Report available on the Senate Canvas.

c. Student Affairs

Brater: So the council has prepared a list of questions regarding student holds, and we're hoping to get responses about these from relevant staff at our next Senate meeting.

9. Business

a. Recommendations

- i. Guidelines for Best Practices for Choosing Meeting Modalities (First Read)
- ii. Recommendation for the Development of a Supplier Diversity Policy (First Read)
- iii. Recommendation for Tuition Waiver for Employees and Dependents (First Read)

b. Resolutions

No resolutions.

c. New Business

No new business.

10. Report of the Senate President

Jacobson: The MSU Foundation reminds you that One Day for Montclair and World's Fair Day is upcoming, there is a latte challenge collaboration with Java Love. The Senate The Executive Board has been discussing with the President and Provost several topics: Bloomfield College, the split of CEHS, recreational spaces for staff wellness, scheduling changes, and potentially rethinking the common hour.

11. Adjournment

Jacobson: Move to adjourn.

Field: Second.

Adjourned at 4:04pm.