

**University Senate Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 23rd, 2022**

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1. Call to Order

Called to order at 1:33pm.

Welcome from the Senate President and reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. Roll Call

In attendance: Bellum, Billings, Brater, Brennan, Carr, Collins, Coutras, Curnutt, Curran, Dinosaur, Ellis, Field, Fleming, Gonzales, Gurskis, Halaby, Harness, Jacobson, Judge, Korotkin, Lafountain, Mac-C for Landa, Lin-Cook, McCarthy, McKinley, Misra, Mizzy, Panorkou, Phillips, Sangregorio, Schmidt, Spitz, Sullivan, Temoney, Trubatch, Vernon, Wallace, Wolfson, Woolston.

3. Approval of Minutes

**Temoney:** Move to approve February 2022 minutes.

**Brater:** Second.

Approved by acclamation.

4. President Koppell: Bloomfield College update

**Koppell:** By now you've all heard the announcement that Montclair State University will loan Bloomfield College money. I want to underscore that it's an important step for us as a public university that is community serving. It's been done in a way that protects the university, using a secured loan which is low risk and high level of opportunity. The next phase is to design the collaboration between our two institutions, in a way that preserves Bloomfield College's mission and they can continue to educate an underserved population.

**Trubatch:** So it's meant to be transformational, not only outreach. There hasn't been a lot of discussion here in the Senate, or in the councils about how that's going to be handled. And then we have this issue of the Montclair core, which hasn't been completed. It's not clear what the next steps are going to be, given the serious work that the committees had done and how it was going to move through to actual implementation. So, I foresee figuring out what to do with an implementation of Bloomfield College is going to require a lot of attention to systems that we don't have in place currently, and it will be a cultural change for all of us. One that I think will be useful and constructive but one that will be needed if we're going to make these things work to their full potential.

**Koppell:** That is going to be part of the redesign and you're 100% right that we're not there yet. We're going to figure out how to make it all work more smoothly so that we can proceed; and there's absolutely going to be an opportunity for faculty voices in all of this.

**Curnutt:** The purpose of this is because they're in financial distress, so we have to figure out a partnership that alleviates their financial problems, but to what extent do they become part of MSU? Would we be sharing facilities and programs?

**Koppell:** Both possibilities are on the table at this point and it requires a significant redesign. Will that mean full integration into MSU or will Bloomfield College stand on their own? Both are still options and this is a business relationship.

5. Report from the SGA

SGA Director of Academic Affairs Mac-C Johnson

**Johnson:** No report.

**Lafountain:** How are the SGA elections going?

**Johnson:** SGA elections are difficult, we are trying to get people to shadow so they want to get involved. It would be helpful if faculty mention to their students that the elections are happening and they can make a difference by getting involved in SGA.

6. Report from the Administration

Welcome to the new Provost, Junius Gonzales.

**Gonzales:** Presentation on shared governance and vision for MSU.

**Wallace:** Welcome from the 1,200 adjuncts at MSU, glad to hear you are already thinking and talking about adjuncts.

**Curnutt:** Welcome from the Local 1904, represents specialists, faculty, librarians, and staff

**Fatima DeCarvalho:** Food insecurity on campus. The University received a \$100,000 grant as part of the HERF grants. We are conducting food insecurity audits, the funding helps to increase the number of students involved. The Food Pantry is now located in Blanton Hall for students who need it, it is now open Wed 5-8 and Thur 11-2. Students can contact the coordinator if they need access at other times. The Pantry is 100% funded by donations.

**Wolfson:** Thank you for putting these issues in the forefront of our minds. I encourage everyone to visit the Pantry, and twice a year Parking Services accepts canned goods to waive parking tickets.

**Sumner:** The MSU Syllabus shell includes information about the Food Pantry on it. Can Faculty and Staff donate swipes?

I'll have to check with Food Services.

**Trubatch:** Besides food insecurity, we learned during the pandemic that being part of a community, so a question for long term planning is how Food Services can be reoriented to address larger issues of community and food insecurity.

7. Voices of the Community

Reports from the

a. African American Caucus

**Hill:** On behalf of the AAC, welcome Provost Gonzales, we look forward to working with you. Thank you to the community for supporting and attending our Black History Month events, especially President Koppell and the Student Dining Center. We are planning an end of year celebration for all members and the community on May 11th.

b. Disability Caucus

**Broderick:** We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Provost Gonzales and look forward to working together. Our general membership meetings are typically held on the second Fridays of the month via Zoom. The mission statement and upcoming events for the caucus are located on the website.

c. Land Acknowledgement Committee

**Martini:** We developed a page on the university website which will have a pronunciation guide and links to educational materials. We've also been talking about how to make the statement visible on campus such as outdoor installations by indigenous artists to begin thinking about the committee's role in following through with the actual commitment of the statement which is for MSU to actively work to benefit native communities, especially in New Jersey.

d. Latinx/a/o Caucus

**Colon:** Co-sponsor an event with Black History Month. This coming Tuesday, March 29th is Latina Day. April 28th is MSU's Giving Day, the Latinx Caucus will have a table to raise money for the Emergency Book Fund. Our meetings are held at 1pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

e. Montclair Votes Coalition

**Lafountain:** One of the big topics for the Montclair Votes Coalition recently has been the involvement of students and community members to advocate for Montclair State in the youth forum around state budget hearings that are taking place this week (Monday and today). There was great participation at the "letter writing to elected officials" event this past Monday on the Student Center Quad. Students could write letters to anyone from the SGA to President Biden. Over 100 letters were written and we can expect to see more of these events. Also - We of course from time to time have provocative demonstrations on our campus and one of the of the results of recent discussions has been a new part of the civic engagement website about "Campus Expressive Activity" that describes the rationale for allowing this activity and offers students ideas about how to respond to it in productive ways.

f. Open Floor

**McCarthy:** Please encourage students to take the library services survey that has been circulated.

**Wallace:** Working with Emily Issacs to make Adjunct faculty feel more a part of the community.

8. Negotiations Agent Liaison (NAL) Report

**Curnutt:** New relationship with Bloomfield College, President Koppell arranged a meeting with the locals and their leadership, this kind of invitation is unprecedented and much appreciated. We are moving forward with grievances and look forward to working with the Provost to resolve these. We resolved a huge grievance around Specialists and their pay. I will share a PowerPoint on how to apply for unemployment benefits if you never received yours during the height of the pandemic. Please try again and follow the directions carefully.

9. Standing Committees  
Elections Committee

**Field:** We mistakenly asked you to vote for three candidates rather than two, we just sent out a new link which ends on Friday so you'll have to re-vote. We are going to open the constituency elections shortly, and we will open nominations for the executive board too.

Council Reports

a. Academic Affairs

**Temoney:** Happy to find that people are reaching out with their concerns and units across campus are being supportive. Active business includes Doctoral Programs Recommendation which we received a lot of feedback on from the Graduate Council; GNED199 conversation has begun with Assistant Provost Danielle Insalaco-Egan and she will attend a future AAC meeting to further discuss.

**Calvert:** Two policies are open to comments, we would like to do this in future with changes in policies. Any other feedback you can email me.

b. Administrative Affairs

**Bellum:** We continue to await HR responses on open inquiries. We are working on a recommendation on best practices for meeting modalities. Full report available on the Senate Canvas.

c. Student Affairs

**Brater:** We are preparing a list of questions regarding student account holds, if you have any feedback on the subject please email me.

10. Business

a. Recommendations

i. AV Surveillance Policy

Second read of AV Surveillance Policy Recommendation.

Voting results:

Yes: 20 No :2 Abstain: 0

Recommendation passes.

b. Resolutions

No resolutions on the table.

c. New Business

11. Report of the Senate President

**Jacobson:** From the MSU Foundation, the President's Club members have increased and have given more than \$1 million more than last year. World's Fair Day is upcoming. AAUP and Debt Collective are organizing an event for nationalized student debt relief. The issue of Tuition Reimbursement is on our radar and we are proceeding with it.

12. Adjournment

**Spitz:** Move to adjourn.

**Brater:** Second.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27pm.