

University Senate
Meeting Minutes

MEETING DETAILS

Date:	May 10, 2023
Time:	1:30PM
Venue:	Zoom
Minutes taker:	Nicole A. Fackina

Voting Members in Attendance:

J. Alvares, D. Axelrod, J. Baldwin-LeClair, S. Bellum, A. Broderick, L. Carr, S. Collins, H. Curnutt, L. Ellis, M. Heller, E. Jacobson, N. Fackina, L. Field, A. Kurze, P. LaFountain, S. Mamonov, S. McCarthy, R. Misra, V. Nauta, S. Sangregorio, M. Schmidt, W. Sullivan, D. Trubatch, K. Woolston

Voting Members Missing:

E. Berisha, J. Brater, C. Curran, A. Korotkin, K. McDermid, C. McKinley, D. Peterka-Benton, R. Rodriguez, R. Steiner-Otoo, K. Temoney, M. Viega

Meeting Documents:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aq85Awkf4rP-E9JxdvG0EoFI2EVgOyycUA_T--gHWO8/edit

Item	Notes
Meeting called to order at 1:31pm	E. Jacobson - called the meeting to order and reads the Land Acknowledgement Statement In the near future we plan to have people who speak the language help provide a pronunciation guide. Meeting minutes from April need to be approved. Motion to accept from W. Sullivan.
SGA President, Richard Steiner-Otoo	No report, Richard is taking finals. Sends his thanks and looks forward to the SGA Executive Board continuing to work with the Senate.

Reports from
Administration

President Koppell

The EB sent two items for discussion.

Tomorrow night is Satchel Paige bobblehead night at Yankees Stadium and part of the proceeds will go to support the new museum at Hinchliffe Stadium. Pre-game ceremony to recognize MSU and our involvement in the museum.

Bloomfield College is always a topic of interest.

- We are particularly focused on the Middle States accreditation process where the Middle States Commission on Higher Education has to approve our plans for the integration of Bloomfield into Montclair with particular attention to the plans that we have for Bloomfield students. We are prioritizing continuity for the students, they are able to take Bloomfield classes predominantly taught by Bloomfield college faculty.
- This isn't something that middle states is used to evaluating so it is sort of foreign territory.
- Working at the state legislature to effectuate the transition.
- Bloomfield College has 1,000 students and 30 faculty members. It is significant and is taking a lot of work but in the grand scheme Bloomfield College is relatively small.
- It will not make a significant impact on our daily operations.
- Opportunities to extend some of our programs to the Bloomfield campus.

Ronald Sharps: Will the programs at Bloomfield College be distinct from those of our campus?

President Koppell: There will be a distinctive experience for Bloomfield College students, but not necessarily independent academic programs.

David Trubatch: We'd all be well served by looking ahead to how all these things are going to be vetted, determined, and governed.

President Koppell: Yes, this will be a process. The focus right now is on the immediate logistics of the transaction and then there is going to be a process for how we integrate the academic side.

Erik Jacobson: The second topic that we had asked you to touch on is related to budgeting.

President Koppell: The question was about the budget generally, and particularly as people scan the environment of higher education, particularly in New Jersey, the question then leads to the condition of some of our peers that are struggling. What implication does that have for Montclair? The most immediate consequence for us causes people in the legislative field to look at the mechanisms in place to monitor and assess the financial well-being of universities in New Jersey. That would create some slightly more robust standards of transparency for universities. We welcome that at MSU.

The key question... Are we properly configured as a sector to serve the needs of New Jersey students in particular?

Enrollment challenges is a tale of two cities, there are some institutions that are struggling and there are other institutions that are seeing an increase in applications and enrollment.

We have to be thinking about the design of degree programs. There is always going to be demand for the traditional 4-year on campus face-to-face degree program. There is increasing interest at the graduate level as well. There is also increasing interest in approaches that blend learning modalities and that allow you to accomplish students' learning preferences and optimize your own resources at the same time. Creativity and flexibility of our university is going to be key to our ability to meet the needs of learners. We always have to be thinking about where the world is going, are we ready for the world that's emerging, and will we be poised to lead.

It is important to ensure that more people appreciate what goes on at this university and that Montclair is recognized for the powerhouse institution that it is. The drumbeat of positive accomplishments, in terms of faculty getting recognized, research being supported is really impressive.

Katherine McCaffrey & Esperanza Brizuela - Garcia,

Task Force Members:

The ballot is finalized.

Thank you to everyone who attended the information sessions.

Full-time faculty will be receiving a message from the Provost office tomorrow that will include a link to the ballot. Voting will begin. The voting will be open from Thursday, May 11th until May 20th. Faculty participation will be monitored, and if voting needs to be left open for a few more days, that can be done.

The ballot is divided in 2 parts. The first part is a vote on whether the faculty is in agreement or in support of the overall organization of the overall model and principles of the new core curriculum and then the second part is requesting feedback from the faculty on some of the minor details on how the model is organized.

Link to the ballot:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MXw2owGcyroWMWs4Vv1ZUavatw0nuYCU/view?usp=sharing>

Canvas for GenEd/Core :

<https://montclair.instructure.com/courses/106930>

The Canvas page has a slide show for frequently asked questions, it has a copy of the ballot, survey results and other data.

The ballot is structured so that you do not have to complete it in one sitting. You can look at it and come back to it. You do have 7 days to complete the ballot. The vote is limited to the full-time faculty but this impacts everyone who works with students.

Marisa Trubiano:

If you do not agree with the ballot then you are encouraged to just not vote. That is concerning advice.

This core is mandated through Middle States, our last GenEd was deemed insufficient by Middle States. We are operating within a set of constraints. The design is straightforward, looking to build a consensus on that, and then how it is implemented is another ongoing process. We are also suggesting a governance structure that allows for continual review and change as necessary. This will be a process that is participatory and responsive

Pascale LaFountain:

In terms of next steps, it would be great to know that advisors/staff are seeing this at some point.

Katherine McCaffrey:

That makes a lot of sense and will ask the Provost permission to.

	<p>Esperanza Brizuela-Garcia: If there is enough participation and a positive ratification of the overall model then the next step will be to look at and analyze the answers. If necessity pushes some changes in the proposed model, that will be done. After everything is analyzed then starting in September, courses can start getting approved so they can be scheduled for Fall 2024, which means they will probably need to be scheduled before the end of Fall 2023 semester.</p> <p>Start transitioning existing courses, approving existing courses, and creating the mechanisms to basically start to include more and more courses as we move forward but the idea would be to basically recruit groups of faculty and start doing this in September.</p> <p>This will be the first time that, rather than having a relatively decentralized committee, we would have an announcement of the core curriculum. This opens the opportunity for greater participation and to make changes as we move forward, so if you think that changes are necessary you need to get involved.</p>
<p>Voices of Community</p>	<p>Johnny Lorez, Latinx Caucus: Latinx caucus has revised its constitution this past month. New executive board. End of year celebration on Thursday, May 25th at 4pm at Pineapple Express at Lackawanna Plaza on Bloomfield Ave in South Montclair.</p> <p>Latinx caucus meetings will take place always on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30pm either through Zoom or in person.</p> <p>Alicia Broderick, Disability Caucus: Disability Pride Parade info: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FAsoz9vqSYfMLX7rxYB0y4EauQ_JYubG/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Saturday May 20th, 1 to 4pm.</p>

<p>Negotiations Agent Liaison</p>	<p>Hugh Curnutt: First, the local wants to commend the Career Development Committee for their hard work reviewing a very large number of applications.</p> <p>Second, the local wants to wish everyone a good summer and let you know that we will be working over the summer to negotiate a successor agreement.</p> <p>All pay increments will continue.</p>
<p>Standing Committees and Senate liaison</p>	<p>Elections Committee, Laura Field: At the organizational meeting Eric is going to seat the new Senators.</p> <p>We had one contested election for CHSS Senator and Rebecca Madsen was successful in that seat, so she'll be joining the Senate and be seated at the organizational meeting.</p> <p>Beyond that we have one vacant seat, which is a seat that's converted to At-large, and we'll run an election for that in the Fall.</p> <p>Task Force on Global Outreach, Daniel Mengara: The plan is to issue an Interim Report this spring and a Final Report in the fall. Since the first meeting in December 2022, we have been working on gathering data from all the units and individuals on this campus, whose work involves some type of global or international activity.</p> <p>We will be sending out a faculty survey in the next few days, that is meant to help collect data on the specific international activity faculty, are engaging in, which includes not only their research grant activities even types of courses that they teach the various types of collaborative activity they have with other scholars and institutions around the world you know these surveys very important</p> <p>We want to have as many responses as possible</p> <p>Land Acknowledgement Committee, Erik Jacobson: The committee has started to do planning for an event that is going to take place late November around decolonization.</p>

	<p>Also think of concrete ways to support the land acknowledgement statement by inviting and supporting indigenous youth to come onto campus. If you have an idea for summer programming or for ways to bring indigenous youth on campus in ways that they would find interesting and productive, certainly reach out to the committee or reach out to me, we would love to work with folks to create a program for that.</p>
<p>Council Reports</p>	<p>Student Affairs Council, Jessica Brater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No updates. <p>Administrative Affairs Council, Shannon Bellum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second read and vote our draft recommendation for support documentation for the flexible work policy. ● Consideration for the appointment of an administrative environmental justice leader on campus <p>Academic Affairs Council, Arnaud Kurze</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No report on the curricular process. ● Navigate reports - participation rate in terms of structures using these alert systems is still hovering around 38 to 40%, which is low, but the good news is that among this number 94 students have received at least one alert. ● AI conversations and training are happening and that will continue to stay on the agenda.
<p>New Business</p>	<p>E. Jacobson: Seat the Constitution Committee formally: Lauren Carr, Hugh Cornet, and Stanislav Markov are going to join the Constitution Committee.</p> <p>Flexible work policy first read by Shannon Bellum. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ql6_Bmqjb0BYVza0bzOdMNxYOww3Nk6qxMNrytG7DiA/edit</p>

	Academic IT Liaison - please contact Pascale Lafountain or David Trubatch if you are interested.
Old Business	No old business.
Senate President Report	<p>Erik Jacobson</p> <p>Thank you to the Senators who have served their time and are stepping down, and I want to welcome the new ones.</p> <p>The MSU Foundation Development Office wanted to pass along a couple of updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Everybody's invited to Yankee stadium on Thursday, May 11th- One Day for Montclair tomorrow, April 27th- May 10th is our last meeting and we will have a Spring Social.
Adjourned at 3:44pm	Erik Jacobson moved to adjourn. Ram Misra: First By unanimous decree.