I. The February 20, 2013 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:08 (S. Collins)

II. Roll Call (Sadowsky) Present: Allen, Alvares, Benfield, Chang, Chatterjee, Chrite, Collins, Cutler, Davis, Dickinson, Gardin, Gaynor, Gill, Gingerich, Lakusta, Lal, Lin, Mahadevan, McCann, Meneghin, Mengara, Morrissey (Montesinos), Nurse, Oluwole, Oosting, Pardo, Poon, Powell, Prezant, Rodak, Rubin, Sadowsky, Specchio, Sullivan, Wilson, Wolfson, Yu, and Zamanian

III. Approval of January 23, 2013 Minutes – Approved with the adjustments that Zamanian was present and Montclair State is not a land grant university.

IV. Good News/Announcements
   a. Thank you to Danne Davis for serving as interim secretary while Kathy Sadowsky was on leave. Her input at executive board meetings was invaluable.
   b. The most recent cross-disciplinary discourse by Dr. Diana Thomas: “Does exercise lead to fattening?” was very successful. The next discourse will be on March 27. Dr. Luis San Vicente Portes from the School of Business will speak on “Women’s empowerment: Social, economic, and technical aspects.”
   c. The Tobacco Task Force will be holding a campus forum on February 27 from 11-2 in SC 419. Please spread the word.
   d. President Cole selected Jean Alvares to be the Senate representative on the honorary degree committee

V. Elections Committee Report (Lin)
   a. The At-Large election concluded on February 15. 5 candidates ran and all positions were filled. This week the call for nominations for constituency positions will go out with a tentative deadline for nominations of March 20. We hope to conclude the election in early April. Please encourage your colleagues to run.

VI. Faculty Representative to BOT Report (Jack Baldwin-LeClair – not present)

VII. Report from Administration – Provost Gingerich
   a. Montclair is applying for new bond issues. In addition to the Building our Future bond act there are 4 previously existing bond issues focusing on higher education capital projects. There is a total of $1.3 billion available. We do not know what response we will get but we believe we are better prepared than anyone else to be shovel-ready. A complete, board-approved capital plan is a requirement and we have this. Our top priorities remain the Center for Environmental and Life Science Building, the School of Business Building, the School of Communication and Media and renovations to Science and Richardson Halls.
   b. Revisions have been made to the draft of advising policy concerns taking into account comments by the Senate and academic affairs council, deans, and departments. There are now seven rather than six issues. Students now apply for majors rather than declare majors. Rather than a change in process, this is a change in attitude. Freshmen who apply to Montclair in a major will still be accepted into majors. To apply for a 2nd major or minor, students must have at least a 3.0 overall gpa and 3.0 in their first major and present a compelling reason to the adviser for adding an additional major. Students must
complete a math course in their first year for their major or prospective major. Copies of
the updated draft will be circulated.
c. I have noticed that some majors have very high credit requirements – some as high as
108. This has an impact on the graduation rate, as students in these majors are often
graduating with 150-160 credits. This issue has been taken to the deans.
d. Meneghin commented that majors with many credits are burdensome to transfer students
who may not have been able to take major courses at their previous institution.
e. Alvares expressed that the 2nd major policy should not be one size fits all. We should
look at whether the majors have a lot of overlap such as physics and math. It should be
within the purview of the department.
f. Poon expressed concern over the policy on not changing a major after 90 credits because
accounting majors are required to change if their gpa drops below 2.75. The provost will
look at this. He is more concerned about adding a 2nd major.
g. Zamanian is happy that the Business building will be on campus but is concerned that we
will lose 300 parking spaces. Having to park on the outskirts is an inconvenience and
people may be less likely to come to campus. The provost stated that parking is always a
consideration but facilities need to be accessible which necessitates parking being at a
distance. One design for the building did include parking below the building but not 300
spaces.

VIII. Academic Affairs Council Report –no report
IX. Administrative Affairs Council Report – (Oluwole) – railings are now installed by Normal Ave.
a. Paula Maliandi, Communications Program Executive spoke about OneMontclair. This is
a campus-wide initiative looking at all our business processes on campus and how we can
make them better. We are starting in budget and planning, then moving to finance, human
resources, student and campus services, advancement, and finally enterprise research.
Some improvements are already in place such as allowing paypal payments, accepting
faxed and scanned forms, and piloting p-card use for grants. Unlike in the past, we are
planning before implementing technology. We are not necessarily using one vendor – we
are looking for any solution that best meets the needs of the university. The project is
taking place in three phases through fiscal year 2018. There are team leaders for each
area who are managed by a project steering committee. Please participate in focus
groups, committees and trainings surrounding this project. The website is
Montclair.edu/one-montclair.
b. Wolfson asked what the project will cost – I will have to get back to you on that, but
there is no alternative to this project.
c. Davis – how are students being involved in the project? Students will be involved very
quickly as we move into the student and campus services area
d. Alvares – can we test other schools’ systems so that we know what our options are? This
would not be possible but there will be aggressive testing of whatever system we
implement.
e. Zamanian – since technology changes so rapidly how do we know that what we are
testing now won’t be obsolete in 5 years? Every system we’re looking at has upgrades
built in.
X. Student Affairs Council Report – Michael Allen
a. Denise Rodak, Coordinator of Veteran and Military Services, spoke about her role and
working with veterans. She serves as veteran and military students’ academic advisor,
teaches veteran-specific new student seminar and coordinates academic and social
programming. It’s important to recognize the quick and difficult transition from military
to student life. Students have 36 months to complete their education on the GI Bill. She
encourages faculty to take advantage of an online faculty development program on best
practices for working with veterans. The program takes 30 minutes and is a series of four vignettes illustrating how best to handle different situations.
b. Dr. Bryan Terry reported on Blackboard shutoff for students with outstanding balances. On February 4, 1286 students were notified that their Blackboard would be shut off. By February 11 only about 400 had it shut off. By February 18 only 96 students were dropped from their courses. 18 have since been reinstated. Those students are back on your rosters but another email to faculty will not be going out. No reinstatements after February 20.

XI. NAL Report – David Benfield

a. We are in the middle of elections for our professional staff review board.
b. We are dealing with a lot of pending grievances and having ongoing discussions about the role of instructional/clinical specialists and what committees they can serve on.
c. Dr. Sullivan has brought two endorsements that were unanimously approved by the union. These are endorsements to the DREAM Act which would allow qualifying undocumented youth a pathway toward US Citizenship and Tuition Equity for New Jersey DREAMers which would permit eligible New Jersey undocumented immigrants to pay the New Jersey resident rates of tuition and qualify for state aid. President Collins requested that the senators review and discuss these endorsements before voting on them at a subsequent meeting.

XII. New Business – Issues from CART, CEHS, CHSS, CSAM, SBUS, Librarians, Professional Staff, At-Large

a. The adjunct union has a proposal for a contract which will be voted on on March 28.

XIII. Adjournment at 4:56

Minutes Approved March 20, 2013
Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary