I. The May 8, 2013 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:08 (S. Collins)

II. Roll Call (Sadowsky) Present: Alvares, Ambrose, Benfield, Chapel, Chatterjee, Chríte, Collins, Cutler, Das, Davis, Dickinson, Ficke, Gardin, Gaynor, Gingerich, Kelshaw, Lakusta, Lal, Lin, Mahadevan, McCann, Mengara, Morrissey (Cottrell), Nurse, Oluwole, Oosting, Poon, Powell, Rodak, Sadowsky, Specchio, Sullivan, Wilson, Wolfson, Yu, and Zamanian.

III. Approval of April 17, 2013 minutes – approved

IV. Good News/ Announcements
1) Congratulations to those whose efforts led to the passing of the Higher Education Bond act.
2) Congratulations to those who published or received grants this year
3) Congratulations to Danne Davis, recipient of the LGBTQ Ally of the Year award

V. Report from Administration (Provost Gingerich)
1) The provost shared copies of the brochures from the Books Reception and the Grants Celebration events. As of April, faculty have been awarded over $10.5 million in grant monies. The 7th Annual Student Research Symposium was a success.
2) Communications is rolling out a new marketing plan for the university. This plan will brand the university and get our profile out to impactful venues such as 60 Minutes and the Wall Street Journal.
3) Vice President Chapel and Provost Gingerich have received the report from the Learning Management System Committee. Just as we were about to move to Moodle we heard of Canvas. The committee looked at this system and unanimously recommended the move to Canvas, a first of its kind software as a cloud-based LMS. We will be early adopters. It will take a minimum of 18 months to be running this platform. Canvas is a dynamic solution that integrates with online and social media. Online academic programs will be switched over to Canvas. If you are interested in exploring in the sandbox contact Yanling Sun.
4) In the five years that the Provost has been here the work with the Senate has been very effective. He is pleased with how we have accomplished things and feels the Senate is a full partner with the provost’s office in the management of Academic Affairs.

VI. Academic Affairs Council Report (Cutler)
1) Update: Change in Course Repeat Policy – The Provost provided information on this item. We will not be discontinuing developmental coursework but we want to stop the growth of enrollment in these courses. ENWR 100 will no longer be a repeatable course. This will not affect students negatively with regards to gpa. Students who were going to fail the course in the spring received an NC and moved on to ENWR 105. We are developing increased support services for these students and the Center for Writing Excellence will be an integral part. Few students who earned D’s in ENWR 100 ask to repeat the course. All students who earned Fs prior to 2012 have left MSU. Anyone who is readmitted with an F in 100 will register for 105 with support services and that will serve as a repeat for 100. Joanne Cote-Bonanno, Denise DeBlasio and Allyson Straker-Banks are making sure we are staying within University Policy with regard to these changes. Since the CWE has outgrown its space we are working with facilities and the president to find a more appropriate space. The First Year writing program that Jessica Restaino heads is extraordinary and this change is not a criticism of that program.
2) In response to questions from the senators: The incentive for students to pass the course with a C or D even though this could hurt their gpa when a NC would not is that with a D or C they will earn credit towards graduation. The mechanism for placing students into 100 or 105 remains the same: a preliminary assessment based on test scores and then an internal assessment based on the common book assignment. Fewer students will be placed into 100 this year after the internal assessment but more will be placed into 105 with supplemental assistance from the CWE. We are still looking at whether students who earn an NC will move forward in a cohort. There has been no change in policy. Students who earn a D will have the option to repeat. The only change is that students will earn NCs instead of Fs and move forward to enwr 105. When asked if a similar change will be made to the basic skills math policy it was stated that admission is not rescinded for students who do not pass basic skills math.
3) Student Handbook Statement – Student Rights Within Instructional Context – The Senate has been asked to take a look at this. Many faculty have never seen it. Some items need to be addressed and we would like feedback from AFT as well. This document is policy and what students refer to so faculty need to take ownership of it. Historically Student Affairs and the Dean of Students have taken charge of documents concerning students so there needs to be a conversation with them as well. Senator Mengara moved for a committee of the whole to parse the document for 10 minutes. Motion was denied. Senator Collins stated the the eboard, student affairs council and academic affairs council will review it and also speak with AFT and the Dean of Students.

VII. Administrative Affairs Council Report (Oluwole) – No report.

VIII. Student Affairs Council Report (Allen) – No report; Senator Allen not present.

IX. NAL Report (Benfield) – Negotiations continue about the Friday schedule. Important issues are on the table.

X. New Business

1) Recognition of Senators Leaving the Senate – Thank you to senators who will be leaving the Senate.

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION, May 8, 2013:

WHEREAS, membership in the University Senate is a significant measure of commitment to Montclair State University, and

WHEREAS, those Senators retiring from the Senate this year have given generously of their time, talent and energy, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the University and the Senate have been significantly furthered by their individual and collective efforts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that members of The University Senate extend its appreciation and sentiment of WELL DONE to

Meena Mahadevan
Cindy Meneghin
Joseph Oluwole
Denise Rodak

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expression of thanks be noted in the minutes of The University Senate.

2) Issues from Campus:

a. Professional Staff – Lisa Ambrose stated that several professional staff approached her because they were concerned with how the Senate election was handled and were curious about the process that is used to determine who may run.

b. A request was made that Adjunct Union Local 6205 have the same status as Local 1904 on the senate with a representative as an ex officio non-voting member

c. Joan Ficke would like the Graduate School to be represented on the Senate as all other colleges are.

d. David Benfield expressed that it is very dark on campus at night since the generator with lights is no longer around.

XI. The 2012-2013 University Senate was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Convening of the 2013-2014 University Senate

I. The meeting was Called to Order at 4:14 p.m. by President Collins

II. Seating of New Senators:

At Large: Joe Specchio, Jaime Grinberg, Jonathan Cutler
CART: Stephen Oosting
CEHS: Douglas Murray, Fred Gardin
CHSS: Jean Alvares, Daniel Mengara
CSAM: Jerry Fails
Professional Staff: Kathy Sadowsky, AJ Kelton, Nyieta Charlot

III. Roger Solomon will continue to serve on the Safety Committee

IV. The Senators submitted their Council Assignment requests and the meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm.

Minutes Approved September 3, 2013
Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary