Meeting minutes for April 18, 2018

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:50 pm


III. Minutes for March 2018 meeting approved by acclamation.

IV. Report from the Administration: (Sumner)
   a. Update on University College (UC): UC Advisory team roster is posted on Canvas. The resolution and plan are posted on Canvas as well, people are encouraged to read it and comment.
      We’ve had a lot of applicants from our job postings. Next Friday, the Advisory Committee will begin to review applicants. There will be an aggressive build in the Library, 1st floor. The unit will eventually be housed in the renovated College Hall.
      Discussion included Senator Wolfson.
   b. Digital commons: (Hunt)
      Digital Commons is up and running as of April 25, 2018. Digital Commons provides the technology platform and the University provides and owns the content. We encourage all faculty and administrators to upload materials such as syllabi, reports, etc.
      There’s a handout available and the librarians will be available to assist you.
      Thesis, dissertations and culminating projects from this semester can be uploaded. Next Fall, all theses will be digital and available in Digital Commons. We will be working backwards to upload previously submitted theses.
      For previously published articles, please check on copyright issues with publishers. Some publishers will allow and others will not. It will be very much up to the individual. We do have a take-down policy. Librarians are prepared to come to College and Department meetings to discuss the processes. We also have a sign-up sheet circulating here today.
      There is an intention to have the Repository as a resource to store and disseminate data, but there is not a set date for implementation.
      Discussion included Senators Trubatch, Murray, Gaynor, Curnutt
   c. Update: Strategic Planning
      Design teams are forming and they will be working with members of the community and CUE Committee. We encourage people to participate. We expect to have a plan to the Board of Trustees in the spring of 2019. If you consider some information is missing, we can amend the data. Your Senate representative on the CUE will have access to the data and can report. The CUE leadership will give him guidance about what he is free to share with both the Executive Board and with the Senate as a whole.
      Discussion included Senator Trubatch
d. Course-end Student Surveys: The student survey forms opened on Monday. Please encourage students to fill it out. If you have problems, please contact Ken Sumner.

e. Software: On-campus presentations by vendor of Interfolio, a software-as-service platform designed to handle re-appointment, tenure, promotion, and other application processes.

Trubatch: The procedures for personnel actions are subject to collective bargaining. The Senate needs clear guidance from the Union Local regarding which items related to implementation of personnel actions can be considered by the University Senate.

Wolfson: Two areas of note: 1. Interfolio has, baked into it, a means to collect outside letters of review. The procedure for use of letters in personnel actions at Montclair State needs to be determined by collective bargaining. 2. What does someone do with a physical object? Interfolio representatives said "scan it". That's not the way to handle it. The Senate should discuss the ramifications of moving personnel actions to an electronic platform.

f. Cellular Coverage (Fleming): We have contracted Verizon improve coverage on campus. There are coverage problems inside buildings because of the infrastructure. We are still waiting Verizon to get back on campus to complete the project. Once completed, the inside-building infrastructure could also be used by other carriers if they choose to do so.

V. Council Reports

a. Academic Affairs (Domine): No report.
   i. Graduate Council meeting minutes are posted on the Senate Canvas.

b. Administrative Council (Pemberton): No report

c. Student Affairs (McDermid): No report.

VI. NAL Report (Curnutt): The Local is dealing with three grievances. Two of these are moving to arbitration. The CWA has reached a tentative agreement with the State.

Trubatch: The tentative Contract seems to signal an end to pattern bargaining in State-wide Contracts. Specifically, the CWA Contract includes COLAs of 0-0-2-2% over the four years of the agreement (first two years retroactive).

   a. Noonan: Membership in the Adjuncts' Local is now greater than 700, the highest ever.

VII. Constitution Committee Report (Murray)

In the fall, the Committee will propose a plan for implementation of the representation scheme in the amendment passed at the March meeting.

Trubatch: Future amendments to the Constitution need to include language on how and when changes embodied in a given amendment are to be implemented.

VIII. Election Committee

Nominations for the Senate Executive Board positions are open. Encourage people to participate and be part on the Executive Boards.

IX. Report of the Senate President (Trubatch)

   a. Technical Committee is working on a proposal for open ed resources. We'll make a proposal for a recommendation to the Provost and President.

   b. Socially responsible investing: President Cole is looking at the recommendation and she will formulate a reply.

   c. Policy on policies: Our goal is have a vote at the next meeting. Please look at the document and give input.

      Misra: Will the proposal be shared with President Cole and the Provost before it is voted on by the Senate? Trubatch: Yes.
d. The Board of Trustees (BOT) met on April 11. Five students spoke out about tuition increases. Students still can make comments online. University College was approved by the BOT. I made a report to the BOT. My report included a brief statement on the role of the BOT in assuring that shared governance is functioning well at Montclair State University. The text of my statement is on the Senate Web pages.

e. “3+1” programs: I was at Rowan College at Burlington County for an undergraduate conference and I observed that promotion for “3+1” was ubiquitous on the Campus. This is three years (90 credits) at a County College, followed by one year (30 credits) at Rowan University, or a private university, to earn a Bachelor’s degree. In discussion with the Executive Board, President Cole and the Provost expressed concern about the quality of education offered by these programs, as well as the potential impact on Montclair State of the growth and diffusion of “3+1” in New Jersey. Faculty, Librarians, Staff and Specialists should be cognizant of developments as Montclair State University will need to adapt appropriately, and hopefully pro-actively, to a changing higher-education environment in NJ.
Discussion included Senators Dacey, Nurse, Misra, Murray, Alvares.

The meeting was adjourned, 3:40 pm.