

# THE UNIVERSITY SENATE OF MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

---

*Montclair, NJ 07043*

Meeting of November 16, 2016

- I. Roll Call (2:42pm) – Present (32 at start of meeting): Abrams, Brook, Panorkou, Pemberton, Sullivan, Trubatch, Curnutt, Domine, Dinour, Jacobson, Murray, McDermid, LaFountain, Parashar, Alo, Gaynor, Misra, Samuels, Field, Dacey, Bellum, Sadowsky, Camacho, Wolfson, Gingerich, Cutler, Pennington, Friedman, Gurskis, Hunt, Prezant, Ficke
- II. Senate President Trubatch called the meeting to order
- III. Committee of the whole: Self Study comments
  - a. Trubatch introduced accreditation process & drafting of SS. Asking not for endorsement of collected comments, but to move these as Senate response to first draft. Discussion should focus on drawing attention to sections of draft that others should read & consider commenting on. Dec 2: deadline for comments on second draft.
  - b. Wolfson: as past president & faculty member. Description of transparency is... misleading, in BoT statements. “not accurate, or slightly disingenuous”
  - c. Sullivan: often, union president is asked to comment on contracts without having seen contracts.
  - d. Samuels: not all search committees are elected.
  - e. Wolfson: tuition hearings as example of transparency in BoT meetings; suggests people (students) look at that & respond.
  - f. Curnutt Q to Samuels: faculty search committees specifically? Samuels: there’s a line in there that “all” are elected; not true.
  - g. Trubatch: call to Senate to officially transmit these collected responses to ELT/Joanne Cote-Bonanno. Acclaimed.
- IV. Administration Report:
  - a. Self Study is still a live document; Chair of visiting committee arrives shortly, to scout campus in prep for full visit.
  - b. Sony & School of Comm: developing relationship further, specifically “pedagogical equipment”. Visitors from Sony here next week to promote products to faculty. Anticipates partnership/visits with Sony engineers for “several years”
  - c. Course fees: holding course fees stable for Spring while they are investigated. Why so much, auditing usage of funds. “Process underway to review” thousands of distinct course fees.
  - d. MSU adopted policy of smoke-free campus... premature! Still studying policy. Pennington: students conducting survey re tobacco free campus; will have recommendations after Thanksgiving. Grant of 19k involved with study.
  - e. Grade repeat policy: to be addressed in Academic Affairs report.
  - f. Questions from Senators:
    - i. Gaynor: old ‘committee’ on pedagogical tech should be tapped for Sony interactions; Wolfson & Pemberton were members. WG: will make sure to try to involve anyone interested in collaborating with Sony

- ii. Dacey: asked about test fees being incorporated into course fees (to allow for student aid to be used) WG: no issue here, freeze not affecting that.
  - iii. Sullivan: course fee system not functioning well, in terms of releasing funds to purchase equipment.
  - iv. Sullivan: registration technology issues... difficulties e.g., sophomore PINs. WG: ask that you forward those to Jim German to be addressed.
  - v. Nurse: Not speaking of general fees? WG: no.
  - vi. Wolfson: General fees approved by BoT? WG: yes, and technically all fees are approved. Trubatch: general fees, Pres. Cole feels, are already well regulated by BoT as they are aware of them. Issue is in lack of transparency over course fees.
  - vii. Discussion of terrible SBUS whiteboards... recognized issue, plan to replace in effect. Camacho: breakout rooms are also affected; not sure they are on list.
- V. Committee of the whole: Gen Ed Interdisciplinary Studies endorsement
  - a. Senators engaged in a good deal of discussion with many questions for Kirk McDermid. Decided everyone needed more time to review materials and consider before voting. This will be added to the next meeting's agenda.
- VI. Constitution report
  - a. Presented the three amendments again, second reading
- VII. Academic Affairs Council
  - a. Nov 9-15 deliberated on L
  - b. UUC – next full meeting Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>; program alterations deadline already passed
  - c. Policy on repeats discussed, clarified with Jim German
    - i. Trubatch: we should work towards lengthening distance between notice and implementation to allow for room for full collaboration with Senate/other constituencies before implementation.
    - ii. Higgins: questions about student path to graduation must come earlier than course repeat – i.e., admissions.
    - iii. Sadowsky: do medical withdrawals count? JG: yes because they show up as WDs, but they would be grounds for exception.
  - d. Academic Tech Cmte report (Erik Jacobsen reports): still forming agenda/mandate. 3 issues: accessibility to tech, software purchasing (coordination/sharing), software approval policy transparency, legacy media & copyright.
  - e. Emergent issues: we need bylaws.
  - f. Strategies for increasing engagement... we need more participation in this Council, Senate, everywhere.
- VIII. Admin Council report
  - a. Parking/safety – cameras. Unclear where they are, whether they are monitored or are recording.
  - b. Normal Ave crossing – not functioning properly. Several solutions proposed; Roger Solomon will follow up, additional issues to him please.
- IX. Student Affairs report
  - a. ENWR/WRIT 105/106 issue on DegreeWorks – Registrar is working on it
  - b. Those interested in permits, tallies, etc. should get COGNOS reports set up
- X. NAL report

- a. Starving the Beast screening very successful
  - b. Women's march on Washington: bus being organized, already 2/3 full.
- XI. President's report:
  - a. Honorary degree cmte – Dinour selected as rep from Senate. (Process is different than we understood last meeting; now clarified as Senate sends several names, one is picked.)
  - b. Final Grades policy – once final grades are “rolled to history” (i.e., blocked from faculty revision), cannot be change by faculty in system. Starting Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, input grades, starting Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> will input “NR”s that cannot be changed in-system and will need forms to change. Some clarification needed to make sure faculty know when grades need to be inputted; when grades can only be changed through forms.
- XII. New Business:
  - a. Statement of support for DACA students (Krystal Woolston) – draft circulated for discussion.
    - i. Curnutt: policy requests will need time to work through; perhaps we need a statement without policy in it to get out quickly.
    - ii. Gingerich: caution about speaking for the University. Also, some caution about other declarations at other institutions backfiring; take care to make sure this is truly representative.
    - iii. McDermid will bring to Student Affairs Council for further discussion & development

Meeting adjourned 4:46