THE UNIVERSITY SENATE OF MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

Meeting of September 21, 2016

I. Roll Call (2:40pm) – Present (33 at start of meeting): Abrams, Alvares, Bellum, Brook, Camacho, Chang, Collins, Curnutt, Cutler, Dinour, Domine, Ficke, Field, Friedman, Gingerich, Gurskis, Hunt, McDermid, Misra, Murray, Noonan, Nurse, Panorkou, Parashar, Pemberton, Pennington, Powell, Prezant, Rubin, Sadowsky, Salzman, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Trubatch, Wolfson.

II. Senate President Trubatch called the meeting to order, delayed reading of minutes and invited the administration to report.

III. Provost Report: Gingerich reiterated past messages from President re: good news items. Enrollments, Nursing, School of Communications construction, dance program 5th in country, parking (no news is good news)

  a. Response to Senate request for NSSE and FSSE report details: Handout circulated, with links to full reports: www.montclair.edu/oit/institutional-research/survey-research

  b. Presented update on Middle States Self-Study document, sharing circulation and feedback plans. 2 open forums in October, email feedback. Other important dates: Nov 18 committee chair visit; April 2-5 full committee visit. http://www.montclair.edu/middle-states/self-study-timeline/

  c. Repository factsheet handed out. Dean Hunt heading up implementation process.

  d. Handout on Jersey education statistics (from 24/7 wall street website?)

  e. OIR report: comparative summary of US News & World Report data. MSU's first year as a national institution (formerly regional.) Discussed reputation score changes, good performance with aspirational peers. Best news: Predicted grad rate is from USN&WR; we clearly outperform – credit spreads across campus for this.

  f. Questions from Senators:

    i. Wolfson – strategic goals for enrollment? Gingerich: new strategic plan formulated after MSCHE visit. We can handle 22,000, but likely not 25,000 with current facilities. Have room to optimize use of spaces in morning, Friday, Saturday. Also good for campus community. Online and of- campus options on table too.

    ii. Trubatch – 2% growth trajectory on hold? Gingerich: no, year by year judgment, will adjust as we go based on funding and capacity

    iii. Brook – where does NJ stand in terms of funding for HE? Can we use the USN&WR news to argue for more state funding? Gingerich: Still true that it's cheaper to go to Penn State as out-of-state than it is to go to NJ state university. We are one of the most outspoken institutions. Urged Senate to see "Starving the Beast".

    iv. Salzman – is the area of improvement our SAT scores and reputation? How do we continue to expand enrollment yet stay competitive with peers? Gingerich: we are SAT-optional; this might do some damage to our ranking. Agrees there are indicators we need to work on – alumni giving, reputation.

   v. Samuels – How many students in Nursing, when BSN in place next fall? Gingerich: 400 between RN to BSN and BSN, five years out.

   vi. Sullivan – Are any measures in USN&WR looking at FT/PT/adjunct ratios? Gingerich: No. They look at class size.

   vii. Alvares – attendance verification issues. Gingerich /Fleming: it's working for almost everyone. New system because new system. ~40% reported already. It's a new tool, has quirks. One specific problem still persistent affects ~30 faculty; IT is entering data for them. Are collecting feedback to adjust going forward.

   viii. Alvares – what was wrong with old system? Fixing unbroken things? IT rep: Old one was OK, but we moved to Banner and old system couldn't feasibly work with Banner.

   ix. Salzman – Online course attendance was difficult – invent meeting times for particular students to record "attendance". Advice? Fleming: Yes, online courses don't have time-of-attendance, it's not relevant. Couldn't modify that for fall; looking to fix for spring. Hotline for support: x3761 (Wolfson: that's not working right now.)

   x. Specchio – hotline works! But I'm still shut out. Help? Jones: Still working on that problem; hotline will enter data on your behalf if tech issues can't be resolved.

   xi. Sullivan – took attendance, but had to find a date where everyone was present to use the program. IT rep: dates don't matter; just pick a meeting time. Sullivan: didn't get a confirmation screen… Fleming: if you can see the data on your screen, we got it. Don't need confirmation.

   xii. Pennington – Reiterating importance: federal aid won't disburse without this!

   xiii. Salzman – some students thought they couldn't show up UNTIL they got funding. (Various: Wrong.)

IV. Approval of minutes: September 6 and May 11, 2016. Sullivan moved to approve both, with addition of date to September minutes. Samuels seconds. Approved without objection.

V. Academic Affairs Report
  a. Domine (chair) will contact members, possibly use Canvas as working home & repository. Items: doctoral programs, grad program coordinators, applicant qualifications, capacity of programs. Credentials for tenure-track appointments, job posting timings, digital repository.

VI. Admin Affairs Report
  a. Pemberton (chair) Will use Canvas setup like last year. Items: OneMontclair, traffic & parking, summer programs
  b. Samuels Q (to Gingerich): did we do a traffic study? Gingerich & Trubatch: we'll look it up.
  c. Sadowsky: For DegreeWorks, there is feedback route? IT rep: yes, degreeaudit@montclair.edu
  d. Alvares Q: do we have a timeline for feature implementation in OneMontclair? Pemberton: Council will follow up on that.

e. Brook question addressed to Domine: Is there a document that exists, that defines rank requirements and equivalencies assessment process? Brook thinks there is a Board of Trustees policy document, will try to find it. Gingerich: yes, there are documents for this issue.

f. Domine: Workday has different data than Banner (e.g., for addresses). Banner has old data, and it looks like you can change it, but you need to change it in Workday. Fleming: artifact of porting data from two legacy systems, integrations will be done (eventually) and mismatches shouldn't be a problem.

g. Adjunct Union President: Adjunct data could be an issue, as it's more variable. Many problems more acute for adjuncts than FT.

VII. Student Affairs Report
a. Items: forging more connections with students esp. SGA.
b. Domine Q: Student accommodation forms increasing in number; other accommodations for nontraditional students increasing too. Where do we refer such students? Pennington: Disability resource center! Even those w/o DRC accommodation forms.

VIII. Negotiations Liaison (Curnutt): hosting film series for students; negotiations scheduled soon.

IX. Elections: 2 vacancies – CEHS, CHSS. Working on timeline & nominations.

X. Constitution committee – handout on amendments (also on Canvas)
a. This presentation does not count as the first reading; next meeting will be first reading for these 3 amendments
b. Sullivan: list doesn't include Dean of Library. Trubatch: if you have corrections, forward them to Murray.
c. Student participation throughout constitution is complex and will be addressed eventually.

XI. Senate President Report (Trubatch)
a. Senate has a Canvas Community; all members of the Senate should have received invitations. Senate web pages also updated and are under management of the Recording Secretary (Field). Unlike the Web page, the Canvas Community is only accessible to members of the Senate..
b. Senate exec board to meet with Joanne Cote-Bonanno to coordinate Senate & constituents' feedback on Middle States process
c. Academic Tech committee meeting Oct 17. Organizational and substantive issues to be discussed. Erik Jacobson is leading the effort.
d. Mac issue/nonstandard lifecycle replacement issue. In May, President Cole stated to the Senate Executive Board that users will get what they needed to do their respective jobs. Candace Fleming has stated that recommendations of Deans carry significant weight. Provost and President Cole stated to Executive board that OIT is preparing a report on issue soon.
e. Following up on financial management and administration of grants. Systemic improvements being made; Fred Bonato is the contact for acute issues with grant administration.
f. Recording Secretary vacancy. Trying to arrange a clerical person to make notes, Secretary will then compile/revise to construct minutes. Job will be less onerous than in past!

XII.   New Business/Community Voices:
   a. Jean Camacho, new SGA rep to Senate. Senior in Biology, former minor in Pub & Prof Writing.
   b. Wolfson: policy on faculty phones, expenses for phone uses transferred to departments. Need a policy on basic phones and who pays. LSPA says faculty get phones; issue here is policy question if faculty don't want phone (whether because of cost, or other.) Some discussions of boundaries between Senate bailiwick and working conditions. Alvares: phone costs seem steep esp. for those not using phones a lot. Trubatch: Admin Affairs will address. Adjunct Union President: adjuncts also having issues with phones being disconnected. Schneemeyer: phones make up half of discretionary budget for some departments, $11 per month per line. Gingerich: should be directed to Deans, as it's their budgets.

Meeting adjourned 5:00PM (Alvares)

Respectfully Submitted by Kirk McDermid, University Senate Student Affairs Chair.