

- I. The February 17, 2016 meeting of the University Senate was **called to order** at 2:52 pm. (Collins)
- II. **Roll Call** - Present: Abrams, Alvares, Brook, Collins, Curnutt, Jerry Cutler (Williams-Edmund), Jonathan Cutler, Ficke (Carolan), Field, Fleming, Friedman, Gainor, Gardin, Gingerich, Higgins, Jacobson, Kelton, Lal, Lucas (Brown), Mengara, Misra, Murray, Noonan, Nurse, Oosting, Parashar, Pemberton, Powell, Prezant (Schneemeyer), Rosa, Rubin, Sadowsky, Salzman, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Trubatch, and Wolfson.
- III. **Approval of January 20, 2016 minutes** –motion passed with addition of clarifying abbreviations for FSSE and NSSE (Faculty Survey of Student Engagement and National Survey of Student Engagement).
- IV. **Good News/Announcements**
  - a. Senator Goeke, an at-large replacement for Senator Grinberg, has resigned.
  - b. The Senate participated in a Black History Month program by reading a statement on civility and human dignity. The brother of Sharonda Coleman, the former MSU student who was slain in the South Carolina massacre, was present to accept an award on her behalf.
  - c. Senate meetings will start earlier.
  - d. A discount is available for MSU community members interested in the Emerging Learning Design Conference.
- V. **Elections Committee Report**
  - a. A call for nominations for four at-large positions is about to go out with nominations closing February 29. The election will be the following week and constituency elections will be completed by the end of March. Those not elected for an at-large position may run for a constituency.
- VI. **Report from Administration – Provost Gingerich**
  - a. The renovation of Partridge for the new School of Nursing is underway as is a search for a founding dean. A job has been posted for a Director of Undergraduate Nursing to get the RN-BSN program launched.
  - b. The Center for Clinical Services’ soft opening at the beginning of the semester has gone very smoothly. A search for that director is underway.
  - c. Dr. Belay Begashaw, who sits on several leadership councils of the United Nations was invited to speak on February 18 about sustainability. Montclair is part of the Sustainability Development Solutions Network of the UN and he will speak about that.
  - d. The Provost will present a report on the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement at the next meeting. We had a 16% response rate for seniors and 12% for freshmen. We do well on community engagement and the freshman experience. Our freshmen write more than others.
  - e. The institutional priorities assessment that went out is related to MiddleStates. Pieces of the self-study are being drafted and the self-study will be distributed when it is ready. The provost will see a draft in mid-March, but it will not come to the Senate right away.
  - f. The 3 evacuations in University Hall were related to a burst pipe. Perimeters are not set up for quick alarms because once they are set up it is difficult to get the students back to class.
  - g. It is critical for all members of the university community to change their passwords every six months. There will be a lot of reminders. Single sign-on is rolling out over the next few months.
- VII. **Academic Affairs Council Report –Cutler**
  - a. A new draft of the Student Rights Within and Instructional Context was distributed. Senator Sullivan moved to approve the edits. Senator Murray seconded. Many suggestions were recommended to edit the document again. After much discussion, Senator Cutler reiterated the new proposed changes:
    - In #1, change “MSU to “Montclair State.” Change “course outline” to “syllabus.”

- In #2, after “modifications” add “during the course of the semester.” After “assignments” add “evaluation and grading procedures.”
  - In #3, change language to “class, periods, labs, studios, and off-campus activities.”
  - In #4, change language to “will be available for purchase by students in a timely fashion”
  - In #5, the second sentence should read, “course instructors will advise a way...” Delete “prolonged excused” before “absences.” Change “whenever” to “as soon as.”
  - In # 9, delete “and place” change “schedule of courses booklet” to “final exam schedule.” Change language to “students are responsible for participating in student questionnaires.”
- b. Concern was expressed that if the Senate voted now the Council would not have a chance to accept the changes as proposed. Concerns were raised about whether the questionnaires were related to terms and conditions of work. Senators also expressed the need to address more thoroughly the issue of accommodations for students with disabilities. Senator Sullivan, who made the motion, requested that the statement be brought back to committee. A clean document will be brought forward next month.

**VIII. Administrative Affairs Council Report – Kelton**

- a. Captain Kieran Barrett spoke about Emergency Plans and Campus Preparedness. Every Tuesday and Thursday Campus Police are offering a preparedness program for members of the campus community, addressing when to run, hide, or fight. The emergency plan should be online this week. Faculty and staff can refer concerned prospective students to the website and inform them that presentations are made at orientation. Students of concern can be referred to the CARE team. Campus Police is also looking into bringing back more community policing, such as officers on bikes.

**IX. Student Affairs Council Report – Allen – no report**

**X. NAL Report – Trubatch – No report**

**XI. Motion to Amend 1995 Constitution**

- a. Senator Mengara shared decisions from January’s meeting. Clarifying language was added to the document. He made a motion to accept the clarifying language, which was seconded. The request was made to change item 10 to “When only one candidate per position is running, the election is considered uncontested and the candidate is elected by unanimous consent.” A motion was made to accept items 8-12 as revised. The motion passed, with 22 in favor and none opposed.
- b. Article X, Section F, number 13, was discussed. “Additional procedures for the election of the members of the University Senate’s Executive Board, if any, shall be as set forth in the by-laws.” Many senators expressed that this item seemed superfluous as it could be added after every article, and since there are no other branches, the Senate does not need to reserve the right to make bylaws.
- c. It was confirmed that there was still a quorum. The question was called to vote on whether senators were in favor of keeping number 13. The motion was defeated with 5 in favor, 13 opposed, and no abstentions. As a result, number 13 will be struck.

**XII. New Business – no issues brought forward**

- a. No issues from constituencies, at-large, or voices from the community

**XIII. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary  
Minutes Approved March 30, 2016