

- I. The September 17, 2014 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:04 pm. (Collins)
- II. Roll Call (Sadowsky) Present: Allen, Alvares, Ambrose, Benfield, Brook, Chang, Chapel, Chatterjee, Collins, Jerry Cutler, Fails, Gainor, Gardin, Gaynor, Gingerich, Hollister, Hunt, Jacobson, Kelton, Lal, Lin, McCann, Mengara, Montesinos (Wilson), Murray, Nurse (rep), Oosting, Pennington, Peterman (Brown), Powell, Prezant (Schneemeyer), Sadowsky, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Trubatch, Wilson, and Wolfson.
- III. Approval of September 2, 2014 minutes – Motion by Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alvares, motion passed.
- IV. Good News/Announcements
  - a. The cross-disciplinary lunch series will take place from 12-1:30 in the SC Ballrooms on October 27, November 24, and December 1. Let President Collins know if you can present.
  - b. Senator Greenberg has resigned leaving 2 years of an at-large term. For anything less than 2 years we can make an appointment, but for this seat we will need an election.
- V. Elections Committee (Alvares) – We will send out a call for nominations by the end of the week. We will have election results by the Oct 29 meeting. All tenure-track members, including librarians are eligible for at-large seats.
- VI. Report from Administration – Provost Gingerich
  - a. Emphasis on Competency
    - i. The provost shared results from a survey conducted by the Lumina Foundation indicating that fewer than 15% of employers strongly agree that college grads are workforce-ready. An Inside HigherEd survey states that 96% of us believe we are effectively preparing students for the workforce. This misperception may be contributing to a skills gap. Another Lumina Foundation article states that programs that look at competency outcomes are eligible for federal aid under Title IV.
    - ii. At the Deans Retreat a document was drafted to challenge academic leadership to look at the following competency priorities: Communication, Collaboration, Citizenship of the World, Creative thinking and problem solving, and Critical reading and thinking. These are closely related to the gen ed curriculum and will be shared with the Gen Ed committee. We need to be a part of the competency conversation.
    - iii. A spirited discussion ensued. The provost suggested the academic affairs council can look into this if they wish, but he expects the Gen Ed committee to be working on it.
  - b. Social Media Policy
    - i. A much-improved social media policy has been posted. Thank you for the input. It will go out to the allstudents and allusers lists.
    - ii. Questions were raised as to whether professional staff were also covered from having conversations posted to social media or if this just applied to faculty. There was also a question about promoting political events, parties and candidates as union leadership often does this.
    - iii. Vice President Chapel stated that the point of the policy is to articulate MSU's general intended position with respect to social media. The technology guidelines are much more specific.
    - iv. The provost agreed to send the policy to the administrative affairs council for review before announcements are sent out to the campus. The policy will be a working document.
  - c. Advising Summit – All those who advise are encouraged to attend the morning of September 18. Topics will include effective and efficient advising practices, statistics regarding the implemented policies and practical input on how to use outreach tools.
- VII. Academic Affairs Council Report – No Report

VIII. Administrative Affairs Council Report (Kelton)

- a. Update: Institutional Repository Task Force – Senator Kelton distributed an executive summary of the Task Force’s findings. Senator Kelton made the following motion. Senator Sullivan seconded: Whereas the resources already exist for a limited, small-scale, proof-of-concept project evaluating the services and features of an institutional repository, and  
Whereas the proposed project would not cost Montclair State University any additional financial investment or change to the MSU systems infrastructure, and,  
Whereas this limited, small-scale-proof-of-concept project would allow Sprague Library and the university to show how policies, metadata, procedures, and workflow might utilize the Sprague Library Staff, and,  
Whereas this limited, small-scale, proof-of-concept project could provide a model for a much larger, more complex, university-wide project,  
Be it resolved that, the University Senate supports Sprague Library’s limited proof-of-concept small-scale project titled **MSU Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Project** and requests that Sprague Library present a report on the progress of said project at the University Senate meeting on March 25, 2015. The report should be submitted to the Chair of the Administrative Affairs Council no later than two (2) weeks prior to the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 deadline.

Motion passed with no opposition and no abstentions.

b. Committee of the Whole Discussion: Financial Aid Verification

- i. The eboard met with the Provost the day after the last senate meeting to discuss alternate solutions. The Canvas quiz questions were changed, but there was not enough time to use FASS as an alternative. Senators Trubatch and Pardo are invited to join the eboard to dialogue with the provost to get something different for the spring. This discussion is to gather ideas for moving forward.
- ii. VP Chapel shared that as of Sept 17, 86% of every student registration have completed the survey. Jim Anderson stated that as long as students responded for 6 credits, they will get federal aid, with the exception of Pell Grants.
- iii. Sullivan moved and Wilson seconded the motion for a straw poll to see whether senators would prefer to remove the survey from their course or have the administration remove it. 14 were in favor of administration removal, 8 preferred for instructors to remove.

IX. Student Affairs Council Report (Allen)

- a. Ife Olayinka is this year’s recipient of the Senate Book Award. She wrote about Nelson Mandela and his impact on Education.

X. NAL Report (Benfield)

- a. The union is preparing for its first meeting with VP Cutler. Senator Wolfson and the VP of the Local met with a group of public employee union leaders to discuss strategies when the law that took away the bargaining of healthcare sunsets in June 2015.

XI. New Business

- a. CSAM – The Sokol Lecture will be September 30 at 8:00 in Kasser Theater. Dr. Maureen Raymo will speak on “Collapse of Ice Sheets in the Ancient Climate and what this means for the world now.”
- b. Senator Sullivan raised two at-large issues: Some chairs and program coordinators are giving permits to students to enroll in courses knowing that students haven’t completed the prerequisites. Senator Spechchio commented this is a difficult problem for transfers with 60 credits and gen eds completed who can only take major and collateral courses. Senator Alvares commented he will give permits if students have fulfilled the spirit of the prerequisite. The Provost commented that he and VP Pennington have spoken about transfer issues and this is a good issue for the advising summit.
- c. The second at-large issue is bake sale tables that are left in fire exit areas for multiple days.

- d. Professional Staff – walking from the back to the front of Bond Lot is dangerous. A cross-walk or sign that is viewable to drivers would be helpful. This issue should be brought to VP Bressler in Tim Carey's absence.
- e. Voices from Community – Wolfson requested a report from the Constitution Committee at the next meeting. Bob Noonan, president of the adjunct union reiterated his request that was submitted in writing in April of 2013 to have the president of the adjunct union be an ex officio member of the senate. He requested that this be made an agenda item and highlighted his three years of participation at Senate meetings. President Collins mentioned that requests have been made from multiple bodies for Senate representation, and they have all been forwarded to the Constitution Committee. The Voices from the Community agenda item was added because it is important to hear these voices. Vice President Mengara stated the Constitution Committee is working on a comprehensive overhaul of the Constitution. It will make a recommendation to the Senate. There are usually two hearings and then a vote. Senator Samuels stated that proposed changes need to pass by a 2/3 vote.

XII. Senator Kelton moved and Senator Alvares seconded the motion to adjourn at 5:10 pm.

Minutes Approved October 29, 2014

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary