
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE
STUDENT SERVICES & SUCCESS COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 10, 2025, 1:00 – 2:30 P.M.

Zoom

MINUTES

Attendees

- Members Present: Ernest Cartledge, Judith Taylor, Marcus Peanort, Miho Shimizu, Brenda Crist, Claudia Salas, Bonita Parker, Yabesira Shiferaw, Rosa Garcia, Guillermo Laya.

Call to Order

Chair Ernest Cartledge called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Constituent Concerns

Ernest read a letter from Prof. Greg Samber who has presented a concern regarding the Smart, Professional Intangibles Free For You (SPIFFY) closet project at the Rockville Campus. The concern relates to how the SPIFFY closet project has been handled by Rockville campus administrators. This project started as a Service-Learning project entirely ran by students from 2023 to 2024.

Campus administrators decided to remove the project from student's control. These administrators had never visited, volunteered, donated or provided support to the project before. They also didn't have previous service-learning experience.

Due to lack of planning and leadership, the closet closed throughout the winter months.

Donations continued arriving, but they were left outside the closet location because there was nobody to process them. There was plenty of winter clothing that could have been shared with students. Student concern increased and SGA organized a petition to express their concerns to campus leadership and local media.

Rockville campus administration has not provided a response to this concern. This concern has been shared with Staff Council and College Council for assistance. The Student Services and Success Council will reach out to Student Affairs for a response.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Agenda and minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

College Council Meeting Updates from March 25, 2025:

- Guillermo attended this meeting as proxy for Ernest.
- Governance Elections: encourage colleagues to participate by April 11.
- P&P Request for Feedback. Feedback on proposed modifications to P&P 11005 are due by April 16, 2025. Also, feedback for P&P 61006, P&P 61007, and P&P 66001 are due by April 2, 2025.

- Equity Week activities will run from April 7-13.
- Student Job Fairs will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in TP/SS on April 10th at the SC Atrium, Germantown on April 2nd in BE151-152, and Rockville on April 25th in the PE Gym.
- The Student Wellness Centers have food on campus for students. Encourage your students to stop by and register for free food. The centers are also doing Rapid HIV testing the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of the month at all campuses.
- Paul Miller, Professional Development Director, presented information on the Universal Design Center (UDC)'s CLEAR Framework to make MC digital content fully accessible. Details of this framework and how employees can participate is available at the UDC's website. Paul is also available to present this information at other governance councils.
- Paul also invited members to participate on April 11th in the Inclusion by Design Summit via Zoom, 9-3 p.m.

College Council Meeting Updates from April 8, 2025:

- **Constituent Concerns**
Dr. Roberto Gomez Jr., Chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus, raised concerns regarding the removal of a Pride flag from the Cafritz building by Facilities staff without prior communication. Despite the flag being part of a broader, multilingual display promoting inclusivity and belonging, it was taken down, returned in a trash bag, and later questioned again when rehung inside the department suite. Dr. Gomez is seeking clarification on the application of posting guidelines and how to ensure expressions of support for diverse communities are respected and aligned with college policies moving forward.
Chair Adams-Gormley confirmed the concern was noted and would be assigned to a council member for follow-up with Facilities leadership.
- Germantown Campus is hosting a Fun at the Park event on April 4th.
- Dr. Debbie Van Camp provided updates on several policies, including the recently approved Bank Services policy and upcoming board reviews for Placement Assessment, Asset Management, and Acceptable Use of IT. For full details and opportunities to provide feedback, visit the Montgomery College Policies and Procedures website.
- Tommy Luginbill, PIC-MC Executive Director, shared that PIC MC originated as a technology park through a public-private partnership between Montgomery College, Montgomery County, and Holy Cross Hospital.
- Anna Donahoe, Blackboard Instructional Designer, provided an update on the upcoming transition to Blackboard Ultra, which will be fully implemented for all courses beginning in Fall 2025.
- President Williams recognized student achievements such as Montgomery College's first Goldwater Scholar and ten Jack Kent Cooke semifinalists. He praised the East County

Education Center for serving over 1,500 students in its first year. Dr. Williams also acknowledged the staff's efforts in hosting impactful events like MC Experience and World of Work. Approximately 5,600 8th graders from MCPS participated.

Updates

- At our next May 8th meeting, elections for new officers will take place. New council members for 2025-2026 will be invited.
- Council Goals 202425: Ernest has attended the Student Council (SGA) meeting on April 4th. The meeting was in person at the Rockville campus with several students participating. Several graduating students shared their experience at MC and their plans to transfer to University of Maryland and out of state institutions. Ernest responded to a constituent concern regarding official transcripts for international students. There was also another concern regarding feminine hygiene products in bathrooms. It seems GT women bathrooms consistently have these hygiene products available. However, in Rockville and TP/SS, only one bathroom tends to carry these products.
- Guillermo reported on the flyer to share with college students about our council meeting and contact information. There were no additional revisions to the forms. The flyers are ready for distribution.

Announcements

- Grad Finale for students to pick up tickets and purchase cap and gown in person are happening in Germantown, April 8th, TP/SS, April 9th, and Rockville, April 10th.
- Students enrolled in 15-week courses have until April 20th to dropout and still receive a grade W. Students must check with Financial Aid for any impact on their account.
- Miho shared that there will be a 1-on-1 Online WDCE information session on April 25th, 1-2 p.m. The CRN is 35353. This session will offer information on college resources for students.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Guillermo Laya
Student Services and Success Council Secretary