

MC GOVERNANCE

**Montgomery College
College Council Meeting #8
Minutes**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
1:00 – 3:00 PM
Zoom

Attendees

Present: Shakenna Adams – Gormley Dr. Paul Miller (Vice-chair), Tilandra Rhyne (Secretary), Akima Rogers, Amanda Darr, Dr. Anestine Theophile-LaFond, Dr. Christine Crefton, Katie Goldstein, Nghi Nguyen, Ernest Cartledge, Matt Wilson, Rabbee Awan,

Absent: Jefferson Vasquez Reyes, Brenda Knopp

Proxy: Anestine Theophile-LaFond for (Brenda Knopp)

Guests: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, Dr. Stephen Cain, Dr. Michelle Campbell, Dr. Monica Brown, Dr. Michelle Scott, Dr. Deidre Price, Dr. Meghan Gibbons, Lisannie Montilla, Angie Moy, Maria Adams, Sherwin A. Collette, Krista Leitch Walker, Susan Madden, Billy Struemke, Kimberly Jones, Josephine Trawick, John Amoroso, Shannon Roundtree, Mike Humphries, Suzette Spencer, Sokol Mato, Wenona Daniel

Liaison: Dr. Stephen D. Cain

Governance Director: Dr. Clevette Ridguard

Call to Order

There was a quorum to conduct business. Shakenna Adams - Gormley (Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Nghi Nguyen made a motion to approve the agenda as written and Matt Wilson seconded the motion. The agenda was approved as written. Dr. Cristine Crefton made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Dr. Paul Miller seconded. The minutes for December 12, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously as written.

Constituent Concerns

There were three presenters of concerns:

1. Wenona Daniel brought forth a constituent concern regarding food service options on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus west side and the return of the Cafe in the Cafritz building. The Cafe has been gone since the closing of the Carfitz Art supply/Bookstore in 2016. Due to the short break periods between classes, specifically for students within Health Sciences, crossing the busy Georgia Avenue traffic or walking across the bridge to the east side of campus are not viable options to get food or beverages while on campus. What is currently available – soda, cold coffee, and snack machines are not sustainable options. Additionally, the cafeteria's hours, which often end around 2:30pm, are not accommodating to students or employees who are here beyond that time. Additional healthy vending machine options be offered?
2. Akima Rogers brought forth two constituent concerns, the first seeking more clarity about telework policy and the inconsistent application of the policy for administrators. Some units are only allowed one day, while others are allowed two days, depending on the department and/or supervisor. The second concern is regarding employees sharing their unused leave with other employees, particularly personal, annual, or medical leave. An HRSTM representative will visit the Administrator Council to address these two concerns.
3. Tilandra Rhyne brought forth three constituent concerns presented to the Academic Services Council. A) There was a post in Inside MC about Governor Moore suggesting the community college collective budget be cut by \$22.5 million. This is a state concern for all community colleges if it moves forward to become law. Students will have to pay more, and student services may become more restrictive. B) A faculty member recently tried to make accommodations for a DSS (Disability Support Services) student to set up alternate testing arrangement with assessment center. The faculty found the hours are inconsistent and reached out to Guillermo Layla, who informed them that the first half of the semester hours are 8:30-5:00pm, Monday-Friday; second half of the semester evening hours until 7:30pm. Consistency and awareness of hours of operation is needed. C) Bookstores are not open during the first week of classes during evening hours, leaving evening students without the ability to purchase textbooks. This issue also extends to weekend students. A faculty member made a phone call to the Germantown campus bookstore this semester and the hours were extended during the first week. Additionally, Sherwin Collette was contacted. He immediately reached out to each campus bookstore manager to ensure evening hours were accommodated for the first two weeks of classes. The concern is that there is service continuity offered beyond the first two weeks of classes, and no consideration of extending the hours for late start classes.

All concerns are noted, Paul Miller will keep a record of them to follow up with the College Council later.

Presidential Remarks *(Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, College President)*

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams addressed the College Council and welcomed them back to the Spring semester. He is excited to see everyone and is inspired by the energy that he sees. Specifically, governance allows for more faculty and staff to contribute to our mission. He expressed his gratitude to the College Council, and his reliance on the Council to connect him to what is happening on the campuses and within the College. Commencement is not too far away. A few things happening this semester include Staff Enrichment Day, East County Education Center opening in April, our Leggett building, Library, the State of the College, and the Town Hall.

Advocacy is well underway. We are in the General Assembly legislative session now. Last week, 15 students went down to Annapolis with a cohort of staff. They were able to share their lived experiences, talk with the delegates about why community colleges, and specifically, why Montgomery College is so critical. He was able to remind our delegates that our enrollment is up almost 4% over last year, 3.8% for the fall, and that protecting the county funding formula will be essential to keeping higher education affordable.

The Executive Branch's budget this year was reduced from 29 cents to 26.5 cents, which created about a 22 million dollar decrease. Some of our community college peers are going to receive double digit decreases in their state support. Dr. Williams, our Board of Trustees, alumni, faculty, and students have testified and continue to advocate for funding. He encouraged that if asked, to advocate whether written or through testimony, please say yes. Even though enrollment decreased, we increased graduating more students. Montgomery College offers other programs that are not state funded such as ACES, ATPA, professional development through ELITE, Mobile Markets. Our Strategic Plan, which is the framework for our transformational aspirations of access, completion, and post-secondary success.

Chair's Report, *(Shakenna Adams - Gormley, College Council Chair)*

Shakenna Adams - Gormley presented a PowerPoint presentation of the upcoming college events and important dates. To view the details of the report please visit the Governance Blackboard community.

Board of Trustees Meeting Update *(Akima Rogers, Administrator Council Chair)*

Akima Rogers gave an overview of the Board of Trustees meeting.

- 2022-2023 Collegewide Facilities Master Plan was approved.
- FY25 current enterprise and other fund budgets were approved
- Approved an Associate Degree in Psychology.
- Updates to the verbiage, to sections of our policies and procedures to include in the code of student conduct, behavioral intervention teams and student financial aid.
- Introduction of our new senior vice president for academic affairs/college provost, Dr. Deidre Price.

Staff Enrichment Day Update *(Tilandra Rhyne, Staff Enrichment Day Chair)*

Tilandra Rhyne presented a PowerPoint presentation of the upcoming events for the Staff Enrichment Day. To view the details of the presentation please visit the Governance

Blackboard community.

HRSTM (Human Resources Strategic Talent and Management) Update *(Krista Leitch Walker, Vice President of Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management)*

Krista Leitch Walker presented a PowerPoint presentation to give an overview of the classification and compensation study, flexible work arrangements, procedures and brief status update done in support of the Your Voice, Your MC survey. To view the details of the presentation please visit the Governance Blackboard community.

Government Advocacy Day *(Susan Madden, Chief Government Relations Officer)*

Susan Madden presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding Student/Government Advocacy Day. To view the details of the presentation please visit the Governance Blackboard community.

Governance Nominations and Elections *(Dr. Clevette Ridguard, Governance Director)*

Dr. Clevette Ridguard presented a PowerPoint presentation overview of the processes of the Governance Nominations and Elections status. To view the details of the presentation please visit the Governance Blackboard community. Presented an overview of the upcoming Governance Awareness Day.

Sharing Moments: Council Updates *(Shakenna Adams – Gormley)*

- Akima Rogers shared the Administrator Council held their December meeting in person. One of the council's goals was to support student athletics. There were 6 to 8 international student athletes unable to travel home over the holidays. They gathered nonperishable food, holiday items, and gift cards for these students to tell them we support them. We encouraged councils to attend the men's and women's sporting events to support our athletes.
- Nghi Nguyen shared the Staff Council's goal is to support the Mobile Markets and have a food drive to support our students and the community. They are making hearts for staff. We have cut out 500 hearts and we will write a message for each staff member to give out on Staff Enrichment Day.
- Dr. Paul Miller shared the Employee Services Council goal is to have in place a buddy system across the college to form a sense of belonging perspective to support one another in the roles they play. They are working on recommendations based on the constituent concerns received around the telework process. The council will bring the concern to the College Council later.
- Dr. Anestine Theophile-LaFond shared the Faculty Council completed and approved the faculty guidelines for the use of Artificial Intelligence guidelines. The document is now being circulated throughout the college community. The counselors have been charged to find themselves on the agenda of discipline department meetings to broadcast the facts. They are championing the faith-based and religious activity stipulations, the protocol for addressing those matters, especially since we would see an increase in holidays and faith-based activities, so there will need to be some

guidelines for faculty. In terms of the annual goal, the council is in the process of creating a fact sheet for faculty, because we want to support the whole idea of making the connection to the community in relation to civic engagement.

- Katie Goldstein shared the Rockville Campus Council this semester goal is to support the Mobile Market at the Rockville campus for April. We will get some pictures of the support given to the Mobile Market. We will continue to support athletics by inviting the final captains for the spring sports to be student speakers during the March meeting.
- Dr. Christine Crefton shared the Operational Services Council has had a lot of transitions since December with Marvin Mills departure, Terrence Evelyn has stepped in representing Facilities updates. Ramon De La Cruz has taken over as the Vice Chair for the rest of the year. We are trying to create information in a unique format that is a little different than just reading so that people can hear about what is happening from the operation side.
- Ernest Cartledge shared the Student Services & Success Council currently working to operationalize their goal to engage with the student senate on each campus. We had a guess in our December meeting, Dr. Jermaine F. Williams and Dr. Monica Brown addressed the council.
- Tilandra Rhyne shared the Academic Services Council at their December meeting was a discussion around assessment centers and the testing software, Examity. The council's first spring meeting was February 8th and we continued conversation regarding constituent concerns presented earlier. We discussed student access to services available on all campuses. The best way to get information to the students and how information dissemination differs campus to campus. We would like to create a central repository or make a recommendation for a central repository that all students have access to in hopes of creating greater awareness of all the free services and resources available to students.
- Matt Wilson shared the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Council has been moving forward with their goal of implementing a composting program for the campus. A small group has been formed to work with campus stakeholders and the County to identify what's possible.
- Amanda Darr shared the Germantown Campus Council volunteered at the Germantown breakfast for the faculty and staff. The council had t-shirts made in the fall, to bring awareness about governance. The council will vote on replacing vacant members on our council. The council plans to adopt a Mobile Market on the Germantown Campus in April.
- John Amoroso proxy for Rabbee Awan shared the WDCE (Workforce Development and Continuing Education) Council will host two Truth and Racial Healing Circles in March. One will be designed for WDCE council members to attend, and one for the WDCE community.

Announcements & Adjournment

Reminder for the council chairs to check the governance website to make sure there are no missing agenda or meeting minutes. Please check the latest governance council's roster to update your members. Elections and nominations are built with the existing roster. Governance Awareness Day is Thursday, February 15th on all campuses including the CT building.

Shakenna Adams-Gormley requested a motion for the meeting to end. Dr. Anestine Theophile-LaFond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tilandra Rhyne second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.