
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

College Council
October 11, 2016
MKE 115
2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Attendees

- Members present: David Anthony, Amy Crowley, Maria Adams Davidson, Cathy Giovannetti, Linda Griffin, Ben Nicholson, Ed Riggs, Steve Taylor, Laurie Williams, Page Whittenburg, Norma Winffel
- Proxies present: Donna Schena for Nancy Lineman
- Members absent: Christian Gbewardo, Rick Penn
- Guests: Ray Gilmer, Julie Weber, Stephen Cain

Call to Order

Chair Ed Riggs called the regular meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. The agenda was reviewed and approved as amended.

Constituent Concerns

Tracie Witte informed the council about a proposed new organizational structure for academic regulations and said the Academic Regulations Committee of the Faculty Council is interested in sharing the draft with constituents to obtain feedback. Interested council chairs can e-mail Tracie Witte to schedule a presentation at an upcoming meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Steve Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2016, meeting as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MC Web Design Update

Ray Gilmer updated the council on the new College website. Redesigned Financial Aid and About MC web pages are scheduled to be unveiled by the end of October, and the for-credit catalog will reflect the same look as the new website. He also discussed continuing work to migrate internal content to My MC. Council members provided feedback and suggestions regarding information they believe is important to have on the homepage and website. They also discussed the need to revisit how directory information on the website is updated. Ray Gilmer noted that the College Relations Policy & Procedure is open for comment through October 27 and encouraged council members to review it.

Ombuds Introduction and Updates

Julie Weber described the role of ombuds and the services the Office of the Ombuds provides. She also informed the council that research is under way to develop a student ombuds program. The third annual ombuds report will be published on October 20.

Student Council Non-Reprisal Proposal

A revised draft of a proposed non-reprisal statement from the Student Council was distributed to council members. Steve Taylor made a motion that the College Council approve the Student Council recommendation as written:

Assurance of civility and respect for students and student leaders

The Student Council respectfully requests that an official, declarative statement be considered regarding the College's commitment to providing an environment in which students and student leaders can participate freely in governance, clubs, public forums or meetings without being subject to undue influence or retaliation of any kind.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

College Council Goals

David Anthony reviewed feedback received from council members and revisions made to the council's annual goals to date. Maria Adams presented a new council goal related to supporting student success. David Anthony will e-mail a revised goal plan to council members for additional comments so it can be voted on at the next meeting.

College Council Subcommittees

The following subcommittees have been established:

- Subcommittee on populating committees—will consist of representatives from Faculty, Staff, Student, and Administrator councils.
- Tracking subcommittee—Steve Taylor will lead the effort to develop an instrument to track the status of each proposal that comes through every governance council, including feedback received.
- Communications subcommittee—consists of Rick Penn, Christian Gbewordo, Nancy Lineman, Amy Crowley, and Ed Riggs. Amy Crowley is organizing the first meeting.

Update on Employee Code of Conduct

Council members raised questions about the status of the draft Employee Code of Conduct forwarded to the Office of the President by the College Council at its last meeting, particularly whether there would be an opportunity for further input from governance. They also asked about the status of recommendations approved by the College Council in March 2016 to help leadership prepare for implementation of the Code of Conduct.

David Anthony made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Dr. Cain to speak on this subject at this time. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Stephen Cain informed the council that Julie Foster, Ellen Terry, Amy Crowley, and Ed Riggs would be invited to the November meeting of the President's Executive Council to share the document and answer any questions, noting that Dr. Pollard would like that input before making any decisions. He further stated that Dr. Pollard envisions the Employee Code of Conduct as being part of Policies & Procedures. In its current form the draft code is more of a manual, he said, so the approach is something that will need to be explored. He told the council that no matter what specific process is used, it will be transparent and inclusive from beginning to end and will involve as many people as possible.

In terms of the recommendations for implementation, Stephen Cain said they would be looked at in light of whatever decision is made regarding the code itself.

Announcements & Council Member Concerns and Input

Ed Riggs reminded members that council reports are due at the next meeting.

Council members are encouraged to read the summary of the College Council officer meeting with the senior vice presidents and share the information with their councils.

Ben Nicholson made a motion to adjourn at 4:10 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Cathy Giovannetti
College Council Secretary