MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

College Council

Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Zoom
1 – 3 P.M.

Attendees:

- Members present: Angel T Griffin, Angela K Nissing, Angie O Moy, Erik E Swanson (Vice-Chair), Jason A Bruffy, Jin L Khademi, Maria Gabrielle Rosales Solano, Mark Levine, Paul D Miller (Chair), Stephanie Krasnoff, Tamesha S Robinson, Vickie Drake (Secretary)
- Proxies present: Sepy Yousef (for Surayya S Johnson)
- Members excused: N/A
- Invited Guests: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, Dr. Deidre Price, Kimberly McNair, Sherwin Collette, Tonya Addleman, Dr. Glenda Hernández Tittle, Dr. Sylvea Hollis

Call to Order

- The regular meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by Chair Dr. Paul Miller. Quorum was verified.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from the 9/22/2026 meeting were approved as submitted

Constituent Concerns

- Erik Swanson – anonymous concern has been received, will discuss at new / unfinished business portion of the meeting
- Word on the Street:
  - Stephanie Krasnoff shared that Spirit Nights – Volleyball tomorrow, at RV in Gym at 5 PM
    - New Raptor Mascot unveiled recently
  - Administrator Council shared that they are discussing lessons learned from the bridge program and taking that positive energy to focus on dialogues – developing curated discussions designed to help employees process institutional challenges and opportunities through meaningful conversation, invitations will be sent out

Chair's Report

- Will be emailed to everyone, but a few items to be aware:
  - 2 Policies and Procedures are available and comments are open, deadlines are on the P&P website
  - Your Voice Your MC (YVYMC) Employee Survey deadline is 10/16
  - Open Enrollment runs from 10/26-11/13/2026. Everyone must verify their current selections in Workday.

Unfinished Business

- Working on old constituent concern between meetings.
- Received concern about YVYMC confidentiality – Scot Brown developed a document that explains the confidentiality process and that MC does not receive any Personally Identifiable

Information (PII)
    - ModernThink is the vendor and all PII stays with them

Committee Reports

- Admin Council – shared earlier in the meeting
- Staff Council – shared goals, constituent concerns
- Operational Services Council
    - Shared they have started their goal plan, to offer on campus assistance at the start of the semesters to be a guide to new students who need information or directions
    - Amplify student voices within spaces and services the council consists, such as IT and Public Safety
    - Two constituent concerns currently under review.

New Business

President's Report for October – Guest: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

- Highlights:
    - The College submitted official comments to the U.S. Department of Education regarding proposed federal accreditation rule changes. Dr. Williams stated that while Montgomery College supports continuous improvement and accountability, the College raised concerns about proposals that may diminish the role and independence of postsecondary education institutions
    - Raptor Ready Scholarships – 1000 scholarships administered to recently graduated high school students
        - Helps access, 25% of MC students are Pell Grant recipients, so this can help students make it to postsecondary education
    - Advising Month – helps align to changes we seek. Inclusive approach
        - Greater focus on equitable and holistic student support.
    - Transfer initiatives – Transfer Fairs help pave the way to MC students to get to next step – farther reach than just the DMV region.
    - Questions/Thoughts:
        - Chair Miller: Changes to federal student loans – how is MC poised to assist?
            - Montgomery College will remain mission-driven and student-centered.
            - The College continues advocating through professional associations and public comment processes.
            - Affordability initiatives such as Dual Enrollment, Fuel for Success, food support programs, and Raptor Ready Scholarships demonstrate MC's commitment to student access and success.
        - Vickie Drake – IL Week – thank you for mentioning it and highlighting. Numbers of attendees down, hard to get the word out, so if anyone has ideas, please let me know.

Academic Affairs Updates – Guests: Dr. Deidre Price and Sharon Anthony

- Dr. Price introduced a new communication strategy for the Academic Master Plan (AMP), including:
    - Monthly theme-based communications
    - Short informational videos
    - Written updates and memos
    - Virtual and in-person engagement opportunities
    - Recurring College Council updates throughout the year
- The first focus theme is: Advising and Communication
- Sharon Anthony – leading this area (advising)
- Sharon Anthony reported:

    - Advising redesign is being implemented as a three-year rollout.
    - Current work focuses on small student cohorts.
    - New navigator positions are supporting students directly.
    - Significant professional development opportunities are planned for faculty and staff.
    - Feedback and participation from employees are essential to the project's success.
- October 20 – Advising Day – day-long to learn advising tools and basics
- Questions:
    - Stephanie Krasnoff – is there something we should promote, what is the correct name for October 20?
        - Advising Day but this is targeting faculty/staff - 9AM-2PM
            - But students will still have access to libraries and learning centers
    - Where can we refer others about everything?
    - Mark Levine: Long term goals – timeline about achieving the goals? Redesign team (cross-divisional) - vision of holistic advising network for ALL MC students – 3-year rollout
        - Expands every year, more people trained, by 3rd year hope it is ready to roll out college-wide
        - Make sure it's feasible and fiscally responsible.
        - Learning as go, challenges and opportunities
        - 2026 is early days – rolls out to 2029
    - Chair Miller – thanking Nghi Nguyen for his work for the video and web support
    - Encourage chairs to share the video, memo, and other materials in councils.

Student Enrollment Plan (SEP) Milestones – Guest: Dr. Kimberly McNair

- 4 Goals:
    - Continuous enrollment growth
    - Equitable retention and completion
    - Academic and career advising
    - Data-informed recruitment and support services
- Year 1: Accomplishments
    - CRM implementation
    - Application processing reduced from more than four days to approximately one day
    - Expanded multilingual outreach
    - Increased recruitment activities
    - Extended service hours
    - Enhanced communication strategies
    - Expanded Recruitment Outreach – high school outreach
        - Although MCPS graduating class was smaller, admission applications up 2%
- Year 2: Continuous Enrollment Growth
    - Excellence service, availability, and delivery
    - Early alert and peer mentoring – using Starfish
    - Microgrants
    - Scale and enhance financial aid
    - Mandatory FTEIC (First time enrollment in college) orientation
- Academic and Career Advising at Milestones
    - Career checkpoint
    - Expand scholarship services to GT and TPSS
- Data Informed Recruitment and SSS
    - Data and assessment
- New Strategies
    - MORE COMMUNICATION
    - Sharing with college community, especially faculty and staff
    - How do we get prospective students into the MC sphere, even attending events?

- The asks for Faculty and Staff:
    - Faculty – persistence and completion initiatives
    - Staff – Service and Process Improvements
    - Student Leaders – Belonging and Engagement
- Questions/Comments:
    - Chair Miller – take information, especially key messages, back to councils
- **She urged all employees to support Winter and Spring enrollment efforts, noting that enrollment targets were narrowly missed during Summer and Fall and that enrollment projections directly affect institutional budgeting.**

FY 28 Budget and and Financial Outlook – Guest: Sherwin Collette

- Capital and Operating Budgets – separate but connected.
- Planning establishes priorities to help outcomes identified
- Pay close attention to enrollment and trends, not just headcount, but also fees and credit charges
- Budgets must be balanced! No deficits.
- Fiscally responsible and able to deal with obligations, care for continuity of operations, risk management and controls
- Year to year, able to reallocate and allocate to support priorities, funding sources are stable
- Governance elements
- FY 28 Capital Budget (CB) – Facilities Master Plan – required by the state every 10 years, but can be amended
    - Establishes framework to support the capital expenditures
- Capital Improvement Program – FY 27-32
    - Phases of work – schedule budgetary dollars along the timeline
    - 24 capital budget projects
    - Funded 50/50 from county and state
    - FY27 = $35.4million, FY28 = $34.3 mill, FY29-32 = $335.5 million = $405.2 million for the six-year cycle
    - Capital budget requests come earlier than operational budget
        - October = CB goes to Board of Trustees (BoT)
        - Nov = approved CB goes to county
        - Jan – county and state – releases recommended CB
    - Operating Budget (OB) – working on FY 28 OB
        - Tweak operating funding
        - Must be funded at *maintenance level* (same as previous FY) - generally has been run at this several years now
        - Concluded FY26 budget (audits), currently in FY 27 budget cycle, planning now for FY28 budget
        - Reflect on FY26 and 27 – alignment
        - Use that reflection to think ahead of FY 28 – account for where money was needed, where it wasn't spent
        - FY 26 Operating Budget – spent 100.3% of forecasted and approved OB
            - Went back to council, explained areas that were the main drivers of the overage and received "top up" funding to balance the overage
        - FY 27 OB:
            - County and state funding up, tuition and fees up, grants and other revenue sources down (smaller portion of the budget)
            - Expenses – increases to salary and benefits compensation/outlays
            - Timeline -
                - December – OB to BoT

        - January – adoption of budget
        - Feb – county executive
        - March 15 – deadline of county exec OB
        - Apr-May – deliberations and encouragement to county and state
        - May – state releases budget
        - June – operating budget released
- Middle States Comm on HE Self-Study
    - Reaccreditation Reminders
        - Every 8 years
        - Important for financial aid availability and transfer credits to other institutions
        - Shows meeting quality and standards (7 standards)
        - Allows continuous improvement
        - Fall 2026- listening sessions
        - Host team chair visit on Monday
        - Finalize report
        - **Site Visits in spring**
    - Important Dates:
        - Feedback on self-study report – through 10/16
        - 10/12 - team chair Dr. Alycia Marshall (prelim visit)
        - 11/9 and 12/14 - present to BoT
        - Submit report before winter meeting
        - Early spring – prep for team site visit
        - 3/21-24/2027 – team site visits
    - New version is aligned with MSCHE criteria
        - Sample evidence is primary forms to meet criteria for each standard
        - Align with institutional priorities
        - Longitudinal Evidence – at least 4 cycles! - cannot include as primary evidentiary information without that longitudinal lens
    - Framework:
        - Mission
        - Transformational Aspirations
        - Strategic Plan
            - 4 institution goals (Community, Belonging, Effectiveness, Economic Impact)
    - Strengths:
        - Integrated and aligned planning
        - Student-centered
        - Community connections
    - Improvement:
        - Use of data/evidence
        - Assessment Maturity
        - Documentation of impact
    - Feedback: MSCHE Webpage
        - Content Clarification
        - Evidence Priorities
        - Authentic Representation
    - Other Opportunities to Engage
        - Virtual Listenting Sessions
        - In-Person Listening Sessions

Vice-Chair Swanson introduced constituent concern

- Will share the full concern by email between meetings, will summarize today and discuss if it is

a constituent concern that belongs with college council
    - Clarification about YVYMC survey – changes to survey questions, removal of questions from prior surveys makes it difficult to compare results
    - What outcomes and recommendations from previous survey and how was it conveyed and documented

Angela Nissing made a motion at **2:59PM** that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by **Jason Bruffy** and passed with unanimous support.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Vickie Drake, College Council Secretary