
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Faculty Council
September 8, 2016
12:30–2:30 p.m.
SC 152

Attendees

- Members present: Sharon Anthony, Eric Benjamin, Robin Flanary, Zenobia Garrison, Angela Nissing, Rick Penn, Anthony Solano, Alan Stover, Joe Thompson, Steve Thurston, Page Whittenburg, Tracie Witte, Monica Zhang
- Proxies present: None
- Members absent: Jennifer Ausden, Laura Gardner, Margo Woodward-Barnett
- Guests: Melissa Gregory, Tammy Peery, Tanner Wray, Alex Moyer

Call to Order

Chair Rick Penn called the regular meeting to order at 12:41 p.m. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Constituent Concerns/Open Comments

Monica Zhang brought a concern from several constituents that no part-time faculty members from multiple disciplines were recognized at the end-of-year Takoma Park/Silver Spring part-time faculty appreciation event. Faculty Council department chair representatives will take this concern back to the chairs meeting and respective campuses.

Zenobia Garrison raised faculty concerns about the timing and communication of class cancellations and the impact to students in terms of class choices, enrollment status, financial aid, and textbooks and other course materials not available the first day of class.

Angela Nissing and Eric Benjamin voiced concerns about the bookstore running out of textbooks and in some cases changing textbooks, resulting in significant price increases.

Joe Thompson expressed concern about the lack of discretion granted chairs in decisions regarding early cancellation of classes. He further noted that students who register early may have to redo their entire schedule right before the semester begins, and he suggested a need to revisit on-time registration, giving chairs more authority to sign students into classes. Angela Nissing added that there are inconsistencies in the way Admissions handles 11:59 policy at each campus. After discussion, Monica Zhang made a motion to propose that chairs have the power to grant admission into classes up to three days into class depending on the situation. Page Whittenburg requested that the motion be tabled until the Faculty Council can get more information.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the May 5 meeting was postponed until the September 22 meeting.

New Business

Middle States Update

Melissa Gregory, Tammy Peery, and Eric Benjamin updated the council on the Middle States accreditation self-study process. Listening tour sessions are scheduled throughout the College in September and October. The sessions are the main opportunity for members of the College community to provide input into the work of the specific workgroups focused on each standard. A flier with dates, locations, and registration information was distributed. Council members were asked to encourage faculty to attend.

Libraries/Copyrighted Materials Policy Update

Tanner Wray and Alex Moyer reviewed a proposed revision to the College policy regarding the use of copyrighted materials and a new procedure providing guidance on various copyright issues, including fair use, copying and duplication, and posting materials on the College's learning management system. The policy and procedure are open for public comment through October 5. Council members were asked to encourage constituents to review the policy and procedure and submit comments.

Faculty Council Appointments to Committees

- Joe Thompson made a motion to confirm Anthony Solano as a voting member of the Curriculum Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Joe Thompson made a motion to appoint Anne Schleicher (CAP/Germantown) to the Curriculum Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Rose Aehle (CAP/TPSS) was elected to the Curriculum Committee.
- Steve Thurston made a motion to appoint Kimberly Drain (Counselor/Germantown) to the Academic Regulations Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Chair's Report

- The council will discuss its annual goals at the next meeting. Last year's council goals, which will be used as a starting point for discussion, will be e-mailed to council members.
- The issue regarding how faculty are notified about their eligibility for advancement in rank has not been resolved. Rick Penn will be meeting with Carolyn Terry for further discussion.

Committee Reports

Academic Regulations

Tracie Witte announced that a new structure for the Academic Regulations document is forthcoming.

Curriculum Committee

Anthony Solano provided updates pertaining to the busy year ahead to include: review of degree programs designed with tracks needing to be changed to concentrations, approval of newly certified general education courses confirmed by the general education committee, and processing all associate degree proposals that need to change to conform to the new general education program.

General Education Committee

Sharon Anthony noted that the committee voted to include the six HLTH courses (not already aligned with a Distribution Area) in the Institutional Requirement in addition to the five HLTH courses already certified in the BSSD area. The committee is also asking deans and chairs to verify the transferability of Gen Ed courses before faculty begin to draft the Gen Ed Course Certification packet for each course. A complete report was distributed to council members.

Campus Faculty Senates

- Rockville – The first meeting was scheduled for September 8.
- Germantown – No report.
- Takoma Park/Silver Spring – No report.

Announcements/Adjournment

Tracie Witte made a motion to adjourn at 2:33 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Zenobia Garrison
Faculty Council Secretary