

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE
Faculty Council
March 6, 2025

Attendees

- **Members present:** Amanda Darr, Megan Van Wagoner, Miriam Zemen (after 12:45 pm proxy Linda Robinson), Alla Webb, Anestine Theophile-LaFond, Diego Hernandez, Linda Robinson, Brenda Knopp (Proxy Alla Webb), Brandon Wallace, Harry Singleton, Antonio Del Castillo-Olivares, Marianne Wysong, Kimberly Driver
- **Proxies present:** Stephanie Landon (Proxy Diego Hernandez), Pierre Harges (alternating member Marianne Wysong), Joseph Stumpf (Kimberly Driver proxy), Tamesha Robinson (proxy Amanda Darr), Miriam Zemen (after 12:45 pm Linda Robinson), Brenda Knopp (Proxy Alla Webb)
- **Members absent:** Angela Ingram, Mohammad Ghaedi
- **Guests:** Carolyn Terry, Anna Hamilton (presenter), Chris Cusic (presenter), Antonette Jones (guest- Counseling and Advising Rockville Campus), Faculty: Jona Colson, Sally McClean, Lisa Burl , Maurice Shihadi
- **Council Liaison:** Dr. Price (Proxy Sarah Campbell)
- **Governance Director:** Clevette Ridguard

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Amanda Darr, co-chair. There was a quorum to conduct governance business.

Approval of the Agenda / Minutes

The agenda for today's March 6 meeting was approved. Motion by Diego Hernandez, seconded by Brandon Wallace.

The Minutes for February 6 were approved with edits. Motion by Megan Van Wagoner, seconded by Alla Webb. This meeting was recorded for internal use only.

Constituent Concerns

At this time, guests were invited to speak by Amanda Darr

- **#1 Concern: "Need to clarify procedure for department chair nomination":
Presenter Diego Hernandez on behalf of Stephanie Landon:**

The need for revision of existing P&P for nomination process of Chair position. The wording of the recruitment process in its current form is confusing.

D. A standard search to recruit a qualified external candidate will be used if no internal candidate is identified.

“What is confusing is that here 'campus department' versus 'collegewide full-time faculty' is very easily misinterpreted. At first glance, it seems that A refers to the individual campus, not just the department. If understood that way, no one from any other campus could apply until B is in effect. However, B could also be interpreted as going beyond the department's faculty collegewide rather than simply to the collegewide faculty from the same department. C further supports this interpretation because it goes to staff and part-time faculty rather than faculty from other departments.

What seems to be confusing is A and B. Should the 'campus department faculty' actually read simply 'department faculty collegewide'? Then B would be collegewide full-time faculty that are not a part of the department?

In our RV search, an added component complicated matters: after two candidates had been nominated within the campus designated nomination period, someone from another campus made a nomination even though there was already a pool of candidates from RV. However, the person nominated is actually an RV faculty member, so the nomination was permitted.

The constituent concern as presented to me is that anyone from our department on any campus should be able to be nominated for any open chair position on any campus in our department. If A and B were clarified, that could help resolve this confusion.”

Concern #2: “Department Chair Nomination Process” emailed to Faculty Council and also presented Diego Hernandez on behalf of Heather Satrom. This concern was signed by the following faculty members: (Heather Satrom, Sadi Ahmad, Tracie Babb, Jona Colson, Aayushi Hingle, Amanda LeBleu, David Lott, Lauralyn McWilliams, Dijana Manuaga Trajkovic)

“There are currently two openings for department chair of ELAP, Communication Studies, and Linguistics: one opening on the Rockville campus and one opening on the Takoma Park / Silver Spring campus. While on the Rockville Campus there are three candidates for the department chair position, at TPSS there is one candidate running unopposed. Our concern does not reflect our opinion about the TPSS candidate, who is highly qualified, but demonstrates our concern about the nomination process. We at TPSS are proud that we collaborate frequently with our colleagues in Rockville and Germantown. In the spirit of the “one college approach” and in light of our positive interactions with colleagues in both disciplines in our department, we would like to request that nominees from all campuses be allowed to toss their hat in the ring for the position of department chair. We believe that having a larger pool of applicants is beneficial to the process. The lack of competition for the chair position on any campus does a disservice to all. We therefore request a change in this policy and the permission to allow any candidate, regardless of home campus, to be considered for the chair position.”

Additional Clarification:

We are not requesting an exception to the P&P. We are requesting that the college change the P&P. We are aware that the process involves time and public comment.

- **Concern #3 Miriam Zemen presented on behalf of faculty (anonymous)**

~~This concern was identical to concern #2: Concern about the nomination process for department chair position in ELAP, Communications and Linguistics department.~~

The constituent brought up that there is only one candidate running for the ELAP Chair position at TP/SS and mentioned a precedent for candidates from different campuses being eligible for similar positions at Rockville and Germantown.

Co-Chair's Report: Co-Chair's report presented by Co-Chair Amanda Darr.

Highlighted general announcement from the college community. The full report is attached to the minutes.

Guest Speaker: Anna Hamilton **and Chris Cusic, Title:** Policy and Procedures - Technology changes for teaching and learning. Co-chair Anestine Theophile-LaFond explained that the presentation is connected to Faculty Council 2025 Goal and introduced the speaker VP Anna Hamilton, who in turn introduced her team member, Chris Cusic. The expectation is to have have an established communication plan on how faculty are engaged in discussions to influence the technological needs for teaching and learning. The FC will provide representatives to work with the IT to realize the goal.

Campus Reports

- TPSS Faculty Senate– Presented by Marianne Wysong

We are still working on logistics; nothing to report

- Rockville Faculty Senate – Antonio Del Castillo

Meeting once a month; no meeting in March; most likely next meeting in April; looking for a chair for 2025-2026 academic year

- Germantown Faculty Senate – Presented by Alla Webb

Working on recruiting faculty. 4 people responded to the interest call.

Committee Reports * See Supporting Documents for full reports

- **College-wide Curriculum Committee (CCC): Harry Singleton**

- 2/21 Meeting; 11 proposals

- 6 proposals were from accounting program which is going through revision and update.

- March meeting will be held 3/7; 13 proposals are up for consideration;
- Catalog 25-26 will go live April 7
- CCC is working on an initiative to include the names of accrediting bodies in the catalog for each of the 27 programs with external accreditations.
- (delete) including initiative to include accredited bodies in the catalog for each program; 27 programs have external accreditations
- **General Education Standing Committee (GEC): Presented by Kimberly Driver**
 - 5 new ART courses certified as General Education (202, 204, 275, 278, 280);
 - Two committee members to replace Co-chair Kimberly Driver and a Counselor; internal search is being conducted and if needed will be extended to the respective department, through the chairs at the beginning of April.
- **Academic Regulations Committee (Regs): Diego Hernandez**
 - We are moving the academic regulations and standards from the P&P to the course catalog. Both regulations that were approved this year by Dr. Price were sent to the catalog coordinator, they are the removal of academic dishonesty that was recently just voted on a couple meetings ago and the final version of academic forgiveness that Dr. Price also approved.
 - Academic Regs Report 02.28.2024
 - Diego updated the committee on the final SVP approval of AR 5.4 (Academic Dishonesty) and AR 9.3 (Academic Forgiveness)
 - Diego reviewed proposed changes to the P&P that govern Academic Regs
 - The committee began working on revising AR 3 (Evaluation and Acceptance of Credit)

Faculty Council Business:

- Other Business
 - Anestine Theophile-LaFond:
Follow up Anna Hamilton Discussion Faculty Council needs to create a group to work with IT, any volunteers?
Working group: Antonio Del Castillo, Harry Singleton, Alla Webb
We will send the names of the workgroup members to Anna Hamilton
 - Opportunity provided for faculty to share their feelings and concerns. Many expressed the need for clear talking points from MC leadership to help with the current climate in America and its impact on students and faculty alike.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion by Harry Singleton, seconded by Alla Webb. Motion to adjourn at 1:41 pm.

**Any presentations or supporting documents shared at this meeting will be available on the Faculty Council AY 2024-2025 Teams site.*

Meeting adjourned at 1:41 pm

Respectfully submitted by

Alla Webb, Faculty Council Secretary