

Montgomery College
Germantown Campus Council
Meeting #7 Minutes
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
2:00 – 4:00 PM
PK 105

Attendees

Members Present: Margaret Latimer, David Bollinger, Barb LaPilusa, Sharon Anthony, Gaganpreet Kaur, Amanda Darr, John Billos, and David Sowards

Guests: Tonya Baker, Brad Pabian, Nadine Porter, Kelly Rudin, Sharon Bland

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was reviewed and approved, and the minutes of the March 7th meeting were approved.

Constituent Concerns/Comments

1. CONSTITUENT CONCERN #1: Professor Kelly Rudin expressed concern about the purple “Lock Down” posters which have been a subject of controversy for months. Provost Margaret Latimer explained that the new “Run, Hide, Fight” posters are being produced and will be posted soon. Care will be taken regarding poster locations. Provost Latimer also noted the new “Run, Hide, Fight” video is available online. Professor Rudin observed that some LED signs around the campus are not working which could hinder response time during an emergency. Additionally, some phones in the HT building’s classrooms do not currently work. Provost Latimer announced there will be a Collegewide “Lock Down” drill in late April, and more information and announcements will follow.
2. CONSTITUENT CONCERN #2: Several members of the council and the campus community asked for a status report on the SA construction. Provost Latimer explained the SA building construction will hopefully be complete in late June or early July, and the elevator should be repaired by the end of April.

Germantown Campus Council Election

Governance elections are active and will continue until April 9th. Council members were encouraged to vote and to encourage colleagues to vote, as well. Contact Brad Pabian or Clevette Ridguard if any problems occur.

GT Campus Council FY 19 Goal Plan Progress

1. The March 20th Germantown Campus Community Day was a huge success with approximately 2,500 visitors in attendance.
2. The food pantry was filled as of the previous Friday, and response has been strong for the Food Drive. Council member Barb LaPilusa noted that between Friday nights and Tuesday mornings, the contents of the Food Pantry have been almost completely wiped out. Provost Margaret Latimer suggested posting a note to say, "Please take only what you need."

Nadine Porter, Assistant Senior Vice President for Administrative and Fiscal Services, Presentation

Nadine Porter provided an update on MC's initiative to re-image the campus food services and to improve the dining experience overall. The current food services contract is up soon, and there is declining dining revenue. Food services does not make a profit, and it is considered a student support service. Students voice strong dissatisfaction with the available dining services. Seventy-three percent of surveyed students wanted major changes to campus dining services. Student focus groups advocated for more dining options and increased food quality. MC has done a great deal of outreach to vendors and researched the vendors used by other colleges which have received high marks for their food management. MC then contacted a list of vendors who specialize in higher education as well as women- and minority-owned businesses. An MC team conducted benchmarking visits to Howard Community College, Prince George's Community College, and Alleghany Community College. The team aimed to thoroughly understand the industry before contract negotiations begin.

Ms. Porter explained that each campus's food service needs will have to be determined individually. Food service vendors will need to continue to use MC's food equipment, which needs some upgrading. MC invited five vendors to visit the campuses and to attend individualized round table discussions. The vendors got to know each campus and toured the existing dining facilities.

A public RFP process will happen in the future and will be an interactive process with vendors coming to campuses to address questions and conduct food tastings. Input and feedback will be sought from students and MC employees.

The Germantown Campus Council members suggested a food cart be placed in the PK building and that vendors study student traffic patterns to find a more accessible location for dining services on the Germantown campus. Ms. Porter explained that the re-imaging of dining services will be an on-going process and that future dining spaces will be comfortable and attractive environments with a more robust dining services website.

Provost's Report

Provost Margaret Latimer reported the following:

1. Germantown Day was a success on many levels. While attendance is difficult to estimate, one table, with 250 prizes to give away, ran out at 2:30. There were lines for face painting, balloons, the inflatables, food, and the petting zoo. Tonya Baker led the team that brainstormed, planned, and organized this event. To her, the team, and the 100 faculty, staff, and student volunteers and to the facilities and public safety staff – thank you and congratulations on a phenomenal job. Feedback from many visitors, some of whom were on campus for the first time, was full of compliments and praise for Germantown Day. Councilmember Evan Glass presented a certificate/proclamation. He was truly amazed. It was his first visit to the campus, and he admitted that he did not expect to see all that he saw, including a group of MCPS students in a computer science training in the cyber lab. The campus - the College – was on display on Saturday, and it – we – shined. The most frequently asked question was: You're going to do this every year, right?

2. We are in budget advocacy season. Dr. Pollard provided an update on March 15 – the Ides of March – after County Executive Marc Elrich announced his funding recommendations. His FY20 operating budget includes no additional county funds over last year's for the College. Dr. Pollard expressed her disappointment and frustration, noting that the College had worked to propose an exceptionally lean FY20 budget. She noted that the announcement by the county executive is just the start of the process. Her memo included, "In the weeks ahead, we can all work together to urge the Montgomery County Council to develop a final FY20 budget that advances our priorities of educational excellence and compensation adjustments for our employees." The College submitted the operating budget adopted by the Board of Trustees with a total appropriation request of \$313.4 million for FY20, which includes an additional \$3.1 million to advance compensation adjustments. From Dr. Pollard's memo: **The county council will hold public hearings on April 8, 9, and 10 on the county executive's recommended budget. Your robust participation in our budget advocacy is essential to secure the funding we need.**
 - ✚ **Attend a County Council hearing. Third Floor Hearing Room, 100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850 at any of the following times and day:**
 - i. Monday, April 8 at 1:30 pm or at 7:00 pm
 - ii. Tuesday, April 9 at 7 pm (Dr. Pollard will testify this evening)
 - iii. Wednesday, April 10 at 1:30 pm or 7:00 pm
 - ✚ **Wear purple to show council members that you are supporting MC**
 - ✚ **Write a letter to Council President Nancy Navarro. Highlight that we need to be fully funded in order to provide fair compensations and to support and maintain affordability for our students. Share the stories that you know about our students and the impact that the College has on their lives.**

-  **Encourage your colleagues and students to attend a hearing or write a letter.**
3. The final and rescheduled Education Budget Forum is Thursday evening, 6:30 – 8:30. We have eight committed students attending. I hope the campus community will join them. Neelsville Middle School, 11700 Neelsville Church Road, Germantown, MD 20876
 4. Progress on the SA building continues, more slowly than we would like, but we are on track for occupancy this summer. Just as a reminder, computer science, engineering, landscape technology, and physics will move into new space in the renovated and added space. The MAPEL Center will move, as well, into beautiful new space. Vacated offices on the 4th floor will transition to the BEACAMP (Business, Economics, Accounting, Computer Applications, Management, and Paralegal). Cybersecurity is partnering with Hughes Networking to establish a test lab and other expanded opportunities for our growing cyber program. When final backfill assignments are determined, the details will be shared.
 5. In the renovated space in SA, Student Life will have space for a food and clothing pantry. This will assist students for whom food insecurity is an issue and for whom access to a winter coat or appropriate clothing for a job interview is limited. Proximity to Student Life will help with oversight – knowing what is needed.
 6. PIC MC – The Pinkney Innovation Complex for Science and Technology (aka the Germantown Campus) is in final negotiations with a developer to build the next building on campus, in PIC MC. The building will include wet labs, helping to meet a critical need in the County. The companies that occupy the building will collaborate with the campus in ways to be determined, but may include internships, access to part-time faculty, shadowing opportunities for students, or guest speakers from businesses linked to campus programs.
 7. Anna Perez is retiring after almost 30 years at Germantown. As the former course scheduler and current event scheduler, she has provided outstanding service and had an impact on much of what happens on the campus. Please wish her well before her final day on April 19.
 8. April and May are also the months that we celebrate the successes of an academic year and share our gratitude for all who make success happen. The Part-Time Faculty Appreciation Reception is April 15, and the Student Life Banquet is April 23. Our Honors Convocation is May 3.
 9. Don't forget-
 -  The Athenaeum Lecture – on April 3
 -  Social Sciences Expo - Friday, April 5th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (BE 151/152)
 -  Dan Marbury's book reading next Tuesday, April 9

- ✚ Our third, annual STEM Student Research Conference is April 12
- ✚ The final Athenaeum, April 22

10. Remember to sign up for 2FA by the deadline, April 7th.

Sharon Bland, Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer, Presentation

Sharon Bland announced the MC Equity Summit will be held on Tuesday, April 30, from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on the Germantown campus, with an expected attendance of 300 people.

Ms. Bland described her role as Chief Equity as advancing MC’s goals and mission on inclusion, equity, diversity, and social justice; as overseeing the development of an Equity and Inclusion training program; as conducting research; and as monitoring and supporting programs for underrepresented student groups through peer mentoring and college resources. She explained that she has overseen listening tours, two surveys, “Pizza for your Thoughts” student focus groups, and the “Let’s Talk” Facebook Live Series in order to promote inclusion and civility throughout the MC community. Ms. Bland’s program made 40 recommendations after the listening tour concluded, and all of the recommendations were approved.

The President’s Advisory Committee on Equity and Inclusion was formed and is currently designing a Masterplan on Equity and Inclusion. The MC Civility Norms have been created and are being promoted throughout the college.

Ms. Bland expressed her willingness to have a dialogue about the results of the recent MC Equity and Inclusion Survey. The Council members voiced strong support for such a dialogue and recommended that it be added to the Professional Week meeting schedule.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.