

MC GOVERNANCE

GERMANTOWN CAMPUS COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021; 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Attendees

Present: Tonya Baker, Amanda Darr, Marcus Peanort, Patricia Robinson, Charlie Jackson, Sharon Anthony, Paul Jenkins, Lori Kelman, Naadir Bakari, Chris Cusic

Proxy: Binta Njie for Brandon Mollock

Absent: Belynda Akantoo, Joanna Kilby

Guests: Clevette Ridguard, Rebecca Adegeye

Liaison: Margaret Latimer

Call to Order

There is a quorum to conduct business. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by the chair.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The agenda and minutes were approved as written. The meeting was recorded for internal use only.

Constituent Concerns

- Amanda Darr brought a concern about water from bottle filling station on second floor of SA near the Counseling and Advising office. Water was cloudy. Will forward picture.
- Lori Kelman brought a concern about the language used in the memos about a positive COVID case on a campus. The language says that the area has been thoroughly disinfected. Does not believe that is the case. The area has been cleaned but hasn't seen any disinfecting taking place.
- Marcus Peanort brought a concern about the "sitting stairs" in the SA building. He has noticed several people "tripping up" the side of the stairwell that is supposed to be for seating. Wonders if we can brand the area in some way to let people know that part of the area is for sitting. Not a problem from the top because of the design, but several have stumbled going up.

Provost's Report

The provost provided the following information and updates

- Cookies and Cocoa campus holiday get-together – December 14th – 9:30-11:00 am – SA, second floor, outside MAPEL Center – lots of giveaways
- Enrollment is down for spring, though there is a robust winter enrollment
- Alternate Finals Schedule in case of inclement weather memo – should be coming out shortly
- HT Elevator requires one last inspection – should be ready for spring semester.
- Serenity Space has been created in HT326. Available for employees and students. Have asked the GT Student Senate to come up with some guidelines for use. Will be getting a chair or two in there. Signage is forthcoming. Open now for use. Space is unlocked.

- Presidential Search is proceeding on the timeline initially outlined by the BOT. Still planning to announce a new president before the winter break.
- PIC MC has hired a new Executive Director – Mike Smith

Chair’s Report

The chair provided the following information and updates:

- Presentations at College Council – heard from student panel, Dr. Rai about the AMP Culmination Report, Liz Greaney about the budget, Arlene Blaylock about Enrollment, and Adam Reid about the annual security report. All PowerPoint presentations are available for review. If interested, let Tonya know.
- College Council Goals and Initiatives Updates
 - College Council striving to support E&I efforts – if you didn’t get a chance to attend the Critical Race Theory forum, check out the recording. Please complete the LGBTQA+ needs assessment survey, consider being a part of the First Fridays’ book club. 400 Souls is the book for the fall and Caste is the book for the spring.
 - Mental Health First Aid Training – being offered virtually in January and two other times in the spring. 2 hours preparation and 6 hours training. Small fee, can use EAP funds.
 - Communication & Elections – educational campaign – watch for info about governance and nominations/elections in the spring. Interested in being on the committee, let Tonya know.
 - Badging – piloting a governance badging program. Modules 1 and 2 are available through Workday already. Three and four to be available in the spring. Next year will need to complete badge in order to be chair of one of the councils. Very informative.
- College Council Updates
 - Operational Services Council’s recommendation to add a member to their council was approved by President. Constitution and By-laws will be updated.
 - Constituent Concern was raised – asked if the important memos from the President’s Office could be translated into Amharic. Learned that the college has a language advisory group that uses student data and other information to determine when translation should be completed. Can always request that something be translated through the Community Engagement Office. College has hired Amharic speaking producer at MCTV – may be able to do more videos in Amharic now.
- Important Dates and Reminders;
 - Workday Training needs to be completed. Will be live in WD on January 3rd.
 - Food lockers have arrived – part of SHaW Initiative – Need to be set up – should be operational for spring semester.
 - Mobile Market – December 8th – in PK lobby. Volunteers needed.
 - Blood drives on GT Campus – Jan 12, 13, & 28. 10a-3p in HT216. Schedule appointment.
 - Refueling Station – December 2nd in SA
 - Planned Power Outage in BE – January 6th

Campus Updates

- IT Update – Chris Cusic – working on getting the remaining classroom computers upgraded to windows 10. Working on HT229 & HT 320 – new cybersecurity/networking classrooms. Also, setting up HT104 – Information Technology Institute (WDCE) space. Computers & A/V equipment delivery delayed by supply chain issues. Going to start wiring in these rooms next week so when technology arrives can set things up more quickly. Likely to be ready by mid-February. Wiring in Cafeteria will be done by December 23rd.

- Counseling & Advising – Amanda Darr – students seem to be choosing more virtual meetings. Have set up a few in-person meetings, but have had several no-shows.
- Dean of Student Affairs – Marcus Peanort - office has HEERF funding to spend on students who have a need for books, supplies, technology, headphones, etc. Can be used for winter term. Contact Nichole Land in Dean’s office.
- Library – Binta Nije – Will not be having extended hours leading up to and including finals week this semester. Will close at regular time.

Student Thoughts

Rebecca Adegeye – international studies student, second year at MC, student council chair, first year experience student ambassador

- Likes the flexibility of remote classes because she is involved in other activities – helps to balance schedule even outside classes.
- Likes accelerated classes too – took 5 classes, instead of 4. Nice to have a little break between classes. Like to have choice of different lengths of classes. Have heard from other students that science classes are difficult to complete in shorter time frame. Too much to learn in such a short time period.
- Used learning center for one of Spanish class – met a professor to review before the exam and it was great.
- During remote time, found one counselor that works for me and maintained contact with that one person – sent emails to her only – comfortable with her and built a relationship with her. She responds quickly. Also reached out to my program advisor who is helpful. When send emails to financial aid, it takes a long time for them to reply – takes days - that’s the only issue I have. When I want to get a fast reply, I call.
- Took a while to adjust from in-person to remote and think it will take a while to adjust from remote to in-person. Hard to get back on a strict schedule to get to school.
- In spring, only need two courses to graduate – registered for one in-person because I have missed in-person classes and my friends, looking forward to seeing them in person.
- Question: Anything we can do to help students get used to being in the classroom? Response: making use of the student life office – they have so many activities for students every semester – I always looked forward to their events – it was a nice break from class work and gave students a chance to interact with each other. In my classes, my professors have paired students up and then had them introduce each other to the class.
- Question: When you graduate, what’s next for you? Response: Transfer to Stanford University. Was introduced to leadership and advocacy at MC – hope to continue those kinds of activities. I plan to make use of every opportunity I get. Want to network and make new connections.

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.