Germantown Campus Council

Tuesday, October 13th, 2026
2:30-4:00pm
Zoom link is available on the Governance Website

Attendees:

- Members present – Joel Acosta, Tonya Addleman, Howard Bernstein, Luc Desir, Lemuel Espinosa, Mark Levine, Teresa Lew, Fatima Mahmoudi, Katie Mount, Paul Thompson, Page Whittenburg, and John Wysong
- Proxies present – Stephanie Walker (proxy for Heidi Russell-Kalkofen)
- Members absent – Heidi Russell-Kalkofen
- Invited Guests – Leslie Jones and Charmaine Weston
- Guests – none

Call to Order

- The regular meeting was called to order at 2:36pm by Chair, Mark Levine.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from the last meeting were approved as written.

Constituent Concerns

New Concerns

- Fatima shared the concern about the lack of student participation and interest in college governance.
- Charmaine shared a concern about finding a permanent location for the MC Wellness team.
- Charmaine shared some constituent concerns about the accessibility and timing of events like the Mobile Market and Wellness events for various employee schedules. Employees have shared their interest in these events but are disappointed when the time conflicts with work and teaching schedules. The council discussed various time-off from work policies that would allow employees to attend events during the workday.
- Teresa brought up a student concern about the lack of a coordinator for veteran students on the Germantown campus. The current veteran's coordinator for the Germantown campus is on extended leave. The student who raised the concern has needed to commute back and forth to and from the Rockville campus on multiple occasions to receive help and support since no one is currently available in Germantown.

Updates on Prior Concerns

- In terms of food options for evening students, Mark Levine received a response from Sokol Mato about campus food and beverage options. There are 15 vending machines around campus to offer food and beverages. There are also several

microwaves around campus to heat up food. Sokol has also updated the college website to include this information along with the most current cafeteria operation hours. Mark Levine will follow up and ask whether dining staff are able to offer hours after 4pm since students have expressed the desire to have hot food options versus vending machine options after this time.

- For the concern about the cloudy water from some of the water dispensers in SA, Tim Milstead and Mai Toyofuku have conducted checks and provided some information about the factors that may impact the speed of the water dispenser and extra sediment. This email has been shared with the community member who has shared this constituent concern.

Your Voice Your MC Survey—Leslie Jones

- The confidential employee survey ends Friday, October 16th.
- ModernThink is handling the survey and will share the results. All surveys are confidential and preserve the anonymity of participants.
- The issues and concerns shared by participants will be addressed by college leadership, and the information collected will inform a process of development and actionable change that will be implemented over the next fiscal year.

Chair's Report

- Mark led a discussion on ideas for the Germantown Campus Council goal of showing appreciation for various campus offices, departments, and individual staff and faculty members.
- The council brainstormed various options for methods for faculty and staff recognition such as sending food, letters, cards, small souvenirs, and/or campus-wide announcements.
- Councilmembers also emphasized the importance of making appreciation and recognition a common routine and central principle of the campus council's mission.
- The council also discussed various staff members and offices within the campus community that are often overlooked but are essential to the campus community.

Campus Dean Updates—Dr. Charmaine Weston

- Campus space is limited due to shifts in personnel moving in and out of office spaces, so community members should reach out to Dr. Weston about any requests or concerns regarding office space.
- The Data Center Panel was originally scheduled for October 21st at 9:00am in Globe Hall, but the event has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 19th at 8:30am in Globe Hall.
- Take-Back Prescription Drugs Day is on October 22nd with a drop-off box in front of the main entrance of the BE building.
- The One Maryland, One Book author, Lawrence Burney, will be speaking about his new book on Monday, October 26th at 12:30pm in Globe Hall as the keynote event for MC Humanities Days
- MC Live Art is scheduling performances for the upcoming year. One upcoming event is on December 1st with a jazz musician recreating and performing Charlie Brown Christmas songs. Another event will take place on January 27th with David Lawson, featuring Jewish storytelling performance. On March 8th, Lyra, an acapella group will be on campus for an all-women vocal performance.

Dean of Student Affairs Update—Katie Mount

- Faculty and staff should register for Advising Day training in Workday for the October 20th professional development activities.
- Learning Centers, Financial Aid, Student Life, Records and Registration, and Raptor Central will be open on Advising Day. However, Counseling and Program Advising will be closed on Advising Day.

General Announcements

- MC Humanities Days is October 26th through 30th and the schedule of over thirty workshops and events is available on the college website.
- October is Cybersecurity Month, and the college will host several events that include guest speakers on topics such as deep fakes and penetration testing for AI.
- Tonya made an announcement requesting community feedback for the Middle States report. All feedback should be submitted by Friday, October 16th.

Page Whittenburg made a motion at 4:02pm that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Tonya Addleman and passed with unanimous support.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Teresa Lew
Germantown Campus Council
Council Secretary