
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Student Council

Sept. 1, 2016

3:30–5:00 p.m.

MKE 318

Attendees:

- Members present: Tom Anderson, Christian Gbewordo, Christopher Majano, Jonell Malone, Mona Motamedi, Charles Myers, Emily Samuels, Aranje Sripanjalingam, Anton Stalchenko
- Members absent: Amy Brookhart, Jennifer Di Pietro, Esther Hernandez
- Leader Liaison: Monica Brown
- Guests: Ed Riggs, Tacy Holliday

Call to Order

Chair Christian Gbewordo called the regular meeting to order at 3:42 p.m. He reviewed the meeting agenda.

Constituent Comments

College Council Chair Ed Riggs challenged council members to realize the importance of the job they are entrusted with and encouraged them to attend every meeting, noting that the Student Council has become one of the strongest councils within governance.

Governance Conversation/Team Session

Tacy Holliday conducted a warm-up activity with council members.

Remarks From Monica Brown

Monica Brown welcomed council members to a new semester. She reminded council members that they are advocates not for themselves but for their peers. She encouraged them to make sure the voices of students are heard, and to use their voice responsibly.

Chair's Report

In his chair's report, Christian Gbewordo:

- thanked council members for attending the governance training session last Thursday;
- encouraged online conversations on issues that are topical, and
- discussed an initiative of the Student Success and Wellness Center in partnership with the National Food Bank which will make food available to any students at the College. Campus food pantries are also requesting donations.

New Business

Adoption of Ground Rules

Tom Anderson made a motion to adopt the ground rules as presented for 2016–2017. The motion was seconded, discussed and passed unanimously.

Carryover Goals From 2015–2016 Student Council

Christian Gbewordo reviewed the status of several recommendations from last year's Student Council.

1. A request that the College compile a single list of resources and services available to students, including location and brief description, is in the works.
2. A new request for an assurance of civility and respect for students and student leaders in governance has been drafted for council review. Jonell Malone made a motion to discuss this request. The motion was seconded and council members discussed the need for and wording of the proposed statement.

Jonell Malone made a motion to approve the following statement: *The Student Council respectfully requests that an official, declarative statement regarding the College's commitment to providing an environment in which College students and student leaders (student leaders and representatives participating in governance, clubs, and other official College programs) can participate freely in governance and any other College public forums or meetings without being subject to undue influence or fear of retaliation.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Anton Stalchenko made a motion to discuss active shooter and emergency preparedness training for students. The motion was seconded and council members discussed how such training could be most effective. The council voted to table further discussion on this issue until it can obtain more information from the Public Safety and Emergency Management Steering Group. A representative from the group will be invited to the next meeting.

Annual Goals for 2016–2017 Student Council

Council members brainstormed additional goals they would like to consider working on this year.

Christopher Majano made a motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes to 5:15 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote of 7 in favor (Majano, Malone, Motamedi, Myers, Samuels, Sripanjalingam, Stalchenko), 1 opposed (Anderson).

Christian Gbewardo will add the ideas to others discussed at the governance training event and present them to the council for further consideration at the next meeting.

The chair will invite the senior vice president of Academic Affairs to an upcoming meeting to discuss concerns council members raised about a number of issues, including uniformity of course content across campuses, maintaining small classes, and the cost of ancillary fees, prior to formalizing a goal to address these issues.

Club Fairs on All Three Campuses

Christian Gbewardo will send details to council members about the club fairs. Council members are encouraged to attend if possible.

Announcements/Adjournment

Anton Stalchenko made a motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Mona Motamedi
Student Council Secretary