

Montgomery College Governance
Student Council
Thursday, September 5th, 2019
4:00 - 6:00 PM Rockville Campus
Science Center 400

Attendees

Members present: Caleb Schauer, Rachel Walfish, Kymani Brown, Jennifer James, Maeva Kepgang, Devin Meas, Richelle Adu, Conrad Smith

Administrative Liaison: Clevette Ridguard

Members excused: N/A

Guests: N/A

Call to Order (4:04)

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:04pm by Caleb Schauer, Student Council Chair

Approval of Minutes (4:05)

The agenda has been approved as read.

Constituent Concerns (4:06)

Rockville student expresses inquiry of opportunities to join the fall 2019 student council to student council member, Maeva Kepgang.

Goal Plan (4:08)

Parking permit revisions.

- Concerns of student awareness in how to obtain a permit
- Revising the current system of how payment periods and plans are enforced on students regarding paying parking fines

Mental health assistance.

- Programs
- Workshops
- Wellness spaces

Increase student awareness of student council's presence.

Council discussion (4:15)

Goal Plan discussion: Parking Permits

- How will the new initiative differ from current appeal system?
 - Price changes, Payment period changes, Changes in penalization of not paying on time
 - What will incentivize students to actually pay a fine?
- New students may struggle with college adaptation enough that parking concerns (which may seem minimal) need to be emphasized.
- Increase department to student communication about outlying fine (alert system proposal such as SMS or Notification on MyMC)
- Proposal by Clevette Ridguard to invite parking department faculty for further discussion.

Constitutional Amendment: Membership Reorganization (4:28)

- Prior problem of last council, due to sparse attendance, voting complications occurred.
- WDCE attendance in specific was sparse, with them having 3 seats - this posed problems.
- Recommendation - Redistribute a portion of WDCE's seats to +1 seat per campus (R,G,TKP) and allowing one seat to remain open for WDCE representation.
 - Discourse as to whether this is constitutional or not . . . to be discussed further
- Extra representation (by increasing each campuses seats by 1) would assist in the goal of increasing awareness of student council
- Take campus population into account for seat redistribution to have equal representation

Constitutional Amendment: Motion (4:55)

-----Extra Material-----

"I move to amend the Constitution of the Montgomery College Governance System to allow 2 of the 3 WDCE Seats, of the Student Council, to become available for students from the Germantown and Rockville Campuses. Additionally, to grant one additional seat for the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus, to allow for 3 seats total for each campus, not counting the Student Senate representatives or WDCE. Finally, and in addition to the past, I move to strike "Student Senate President" and have each occurrence replaced with "Student Senate Representative."

-----Extra Material-----

Conrad Smith of Student Council made a motion at 5:00 in regards to the Constitutional Amendment. It was seconded and passed with unanimous support.

Student Council Committees (5:02)

- Discourse of potential committees to be made:
 - Student Council Awareness committee
 - Run propaganda related to increasing awareness of Student Council
 - Student council support committee (Pre student council - committee)
 - Non elected committee consisting of students which allows further student representation. Support Student council ties with college related activities and committees
 - Student Council Committee on Student Employment Advertising (Ad hoc)
 - Dedicated to attacking predatory student work scams which have surfaced across Montgomery College campuses, specifically MLM's (multi level marketing).
- Discussion to be continued

Announcements / Goal Plan Revisitation (5:23)

-----Extra Material-----

Awareness Initiative:

- Create an Awareness Committee to handle the following:
 - Create promotional materials: flyers, posters, informational packets/brochures/paper.
 - Plan and execute the events and activities of the Student Council.
- Open lines of communication between the Students within the Governance Council. Student Representatives, not only on the Student Council but, on the Campus and Functional as well.
- Coffee with Your Councilmember (Student Council) / *Chat with your Council(member)*
 - 1 hour per week requirement.
 - 15 Minute Slots.

Wellness & Mental Health Initiative:

- Wellness Space on Each Campus
 - Longue. A place for Meditation, Relaxation, and Self-Preservation.
 - Once a week, have Professors of Health to present on an aspect of Mental Health.
 - Once a week, separate from the Mental Health presentations, have a lesson on Meditation Techniques.
- Promoting Mental Health Forums
- Promote Mental Health Resources that are Available by Montgomery College
- Make Mental Health 101 required for all Professors and Staff.

- Currently, Professors have the choice to take the optional training, Mental Health 101. We would like to make it mandatory in an effort to keep Mental Health at the top of everyone's minds. Most importantly in the minds of the Students and those who interact with them on a daily basis.

-----Extra Material-----

Chair's Report (4:48)

The next meeting we will have a Title IX representative and the Rockville campus Provost speaking to and with us.

Next Meeting (5:52)

The next student council meeting is planned to occur on Thursday, September 19th during 4:00-6:00pm in the Rockville Science Center, Room 400.

Hearing no objections, Caleb Schauer adjourned the meeting at 5:53.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:53pm

Respectfully submitted by
Kymani Brown, Student Council Secretary