
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE
STUDENT SERVICES & SUCCESS COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Zoom
MINUTES

Attendees

- Members Present: Ernest Cartledge, Jessame Ferguson, Edie Johnson, Fikir Mantegaftot, Brenda Crist, Claudia Salas, Guillermo Laya, Eurae Muhn, Rosa Garcia, Judith Taylor
- Angie Moy, Tonya Mason
- Members Absent: Israel Bayolana, Debbie Van Camp

Call to Order

Chair Cartledge called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Constituent Concerns

Students observing Ramadan are having difficulty finding places to pray. Given the timing of prayer, need for facing a specific direction, and conflict for class times, students will be late if the space is only in one building on a campus. Dr. Mason explained the spaces are called Serenity spaces. There is space in the Science Center. It is small. We have asked for more. There is a conference room on the 4th floor of the Student Services building that is being prepared. But there will not be spaces in every building, space is limited on campuses. Dr. Mason will provide an update on the space in Student Services, it was supposed to be available after Spring Break. Dr. Muhn asked for the issue to be brought to Campus Council and needing to be more equitable and making sure students aren't penalized for missing class because of lack of space for prayer. In response to a question, Dr. Mason shared the Serenity spaces are supposed to be labeled and information available about appropriate use, but that was pre-pandemic.

Response to concern at last meeting regarding ATPA staffing needs – Ernest is going to reach out to HR and ask them to attend one of our next meetings to discuss it with us.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

College Council Meeting Updates:

- Lack of reliable evening hours at the assessment centers continues to be discussed. Guillermo shared the issue is limited space at Germantown during peak times. Examity is used for online testing in the evenings and weekends.
- Reminder to read the Employee Matters and the Monday Minutes. There are updates to Workday. Class & Compensation trainings took place.
- Reminders about nominations and elections. Nominations are complete and elections are coming in April.

- Discussion about students being able to pay a company to take a test for them. Guillermo explained this is not a new trend. There are technologies in Examity to try and prevent this, but it's no technology can prevent all possibilities. In this case the student was online to confirm their presence, but then someone else answered the questions.
- Discussion about email distribution lists being used incorrectly.
- Use of Personal Leave policy was seen as too restrictive and there was a request to allow more reasons for use.
- East County Education Center (ECEC) – Will be opening April 1 and Opening Ceremony on April 20.
- Dr. Price presented, shared her background, impressions after 60 days, and is working with Dr. Brown on Achieving the Dream.

2023-24 Goals Discussion

Meetings to attend if available: April 8 or 22nd

Guillermo will see if he can attend on April 8.

If no one else is available Ernest can attend on April 22.

Fikir made the updates to the document, it will get sent to everyone. Guillermo will look at possibility of translating it.

Announcements

- Summer 2024 schedule became viewable yesterday. Includes credit and non-credit options for ECEC. April 1 registration begins.
- Office of Student Life is doing a Women's History Month event on social media posting influential women.
- Talent Show is this week – please come by and support students
- PTK induction ceremony is April 3 – encourage students that applied to come
- Encourage staff to come out and see ECEC starting April 1. It will be open 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM. It's a lovely space. Classes will be rolled out in stages, starting with non-credit, then credit. There is meeting space and events space. Dr. Mason will be there one day a week until staffing gets worked out.
- Financial Aid: so far students can't make corrections using the online system, staff are hoping to have access by end of April or beginning of May.
- Testing Center hours changing on Tu & Wed to 10:30 AM – 7:00 PM until finals.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Jessame Ferguson

Student Services and Success Council Secretary