MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Student Services and Success Council

Thursday, September 10, 2026
Via Zoom
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Attendees:

- **Members present:** Dr. Surayya Johnson (Chair), Ana Matta (Vice Chair), Sepydeh Yousefi (Secretary), Craig Garrison-Mogren, Valerie Tanner, Elysse Meredith, Ernest Cartridge, Judy Taylor, Nadine Hayles,
- **Proxies present:** None
- **Members absent:** Ali Mohammed, Elizabeth Kirby, Zacharia Hakky, Viktoriia Lyon
- **Liaison:** Dr. Tiffany Ray-Patterson, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs
- **Guests:** Dr. Angela Dawson, Food Security and Basic Needs Program Coordinator; Dr. Alice Santoro, Interim Governance and Policy Manager

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 10:34 by Chair Johnson.

Constituent Concerns:

- No constituent concerns were submitted.

Approval of Minutes:

- Chair Johnson requested a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2026 meeting, which were approved as written.

Dr. Angela Dawson, Food Security and Basic Needs Program Coordinator*, Basic Support Needs Update*:

- The role of the Student Wellness Center is to reduce nonacademic barriers by connecting students with practical support, wellness resources, and the right next steps by being a referral resource.
- Available resources include: basic needs support, sexual health support, food and personal essentials, prevention, health, and personal safety support, resource navigation and referrals, as well as wellness connections.
- In addition to monthly Mobile Markets, the RV campus has food support through the McGuire Food Pantry, Nourish Now, and Food Lockers. The Center also maintains community partnerships through the Capital Area Foodbank.
- The Student Wellness Center also supports students' sexual health and well-being. Contraception and sexual health support options are available across campuses. In addition to wellness programming through Mobile Health Center visits, HIV/STI testing, and other nutrition/physical wellness programming.
- Prevention and personal safety education is provided through DVSAS prevention, bystander intervention, healthy relationships and consent, and sexual harassment prevention.
- Student wellness leaders bring information to students through peer outreach.
- Dr. Dawson encouraged faculty and staff to tell students of the services available through the Center, refer students early, and emphasized that their job at the Center is to help the students navigate resources available to them.

Review of FY27 Council Goals:

- Chair Johnson reviewed the goals that were discussed during the annual governance training. The council discussed ways to continue supporting students through the creation of a resource guide/awareness campaign highlighting existing academic, enrollment, wellness, and basic needs resources.
- Another option discussed was a Start Here student services initiative to helps students understand where to begin when they need assistance, including a resource guide supporting effective referrals and connections to the appropriate offices.
- Creating a guide, pamphlet, or QR code that outlines resources for students that faculty can easily link on syllabi in order to have a wider reach to students was brought up.
- Council decided to move forward with the goal of developing and implementing a student success resource awareness campaign highlighting existing academic, enrollment, wellness, and basic needs resources at key points through the academic year, using the holistic advising model that is being implemented throughout the College.

Chair's Report:

- Dr. Johnson reminded council of available sources of important college news, such as The Monday Minute with Dr. Williams, Inside MC, and HRSTM's Employee Matters newsletter.
- Key highlights of the President's Report for the College Council were presented, including continued funding of MC TRIO EOC, the creation of family-friendly study spaces to support student parents, the launch of the Holistic Advising Network and the Collective Impact Institute, a new student orientation pilot program, as well as MC receiving recognition for being a regional leader and earning first-place honors in Washington Family Magazine's 2026 Best for Families Award.
- Additional highlights from the President's Report showcased the advancement of our Strategic Plan and Transformational Aspirations of Access, Completion, and Post-Completion Success, including the 2026 commencement ceremonies which celebrated approximately 3100 graduates, with over 1500 participants including students from 111 countries and more than 400 dual enrollment students.

***Dr. Tiffany Ray-Paterson, Vice President for Student Affairs*, Student Affairs Update:**

- Recruitment underway for two new leadership roles in student affairs: Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Financial Assistance as well as Strategic Student Success Initiatives Director.
- Year one priorities for the Student Enrollment Plan focused on enrollment growth, academic and career advising, retention and completion, as well as recruitment and support services.
- Efforts to influence enrollment growth included the standardization of financial aid processes and improving functionality to increase efficiency, establishing an Athletics Recruitment Taskforce to leverage intercollegiate athletic programs from an enrollment management lens, and launching a new CRM application.
- Currently we are at 99% of enrollment goals for fall 2026.
- Continuing the important work to meet students where they are and addressing basic needs support through communication and outreach, as well as strategic realignment.
- Establishing a more seamless advising experience: further advancing the advising redesign through cross-functional collaboration, career integration, and advising day.
- Leveraging data to advance informed decision-making through the use of the CAS framework, revamping the student affairs assessment cycle to 3-year cycle with annual reporting and concentrated training, launching the Assessment 101 training to establish baseline assessment knowledge, establishing the Data Rocks Framework to leverage data strategically and actionably, strategic and collaborative resource allocation amongst senior student affairs leadership, and the expansion of Starfish across both Academic and Student

Affairs.

- FY27 priorities of the Student Enrollment Plan include: exploring new service delivery models, revamping new student orientation, career milestone integration in counseling and advising as well as in new student orientation, full adoption of point of service satisfaction survey across enrollment management units, establishing Student Affairs Continuous Improvement Steering Committee, pilot new assessment framework structure, and fully implementing CRM recruit.

Announcement: Ernest Cartridge announced the deadline to submit a graduation application for December graduation is October 1, 2026 and asked that we inform students we are working with of this important deadline.

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 11:57am following a motion to adjourn by Craig Garrison-Mogren and seconded by Nadine Hyles.

Respectfully submitted by
Sepydeh Yousefi, *Student Services and Success Council Secretary*