

Student Senate Minutes -Wednesday, October 23rd, Fall 2019

Call to Order

A meeting of the Student Senate was held in ST 301 on October 23rd, 2019 at 4:10p.m.

Attendees included:

Advisor: Ms. Kimberly Herrera

Executive Officers: President, Richelle Adu, Vice – President, Ashalee Brown, Treasurer, Shakoora Kassie, Secretary, Fenet Shertaga

Senators-at-Large: Abdisha Musa, Davicheanin Meas, Joann Hegbe, Jonathan Spires, Joseph Newell, Khayel Francois, Lauren Favre, Lucrece Kengne Tadem, Nahom Demise, Nasser Katende Katamba, Natnael Fantahun, Sarah Haj Hamad, Semira D. Lesperance, Wendy Rodriguez, Yamini Lal

I. Welcome - Call to Order: President Adu

- a. Student Senate meeting was called to order by President Adu at 4: 10p.m.

II. Constituent Concerns

- i. Students came and share Constituent Concerns that they would like to pass on.

III. Committee Report: Vice President Brown

- a. Vice President Brown spoke about Breakfast with Santa Waivers and distributed the waiver form for senators who are not in Senate Activities Board. All volunteers are required to complete the form which agrees for a background check since the work requires to work with young children.
- b. Vice President Brown mentioned that there was a committee update from Multicultural and Diversity Committee by Senator Hegbe and marketing update by Soulafo Vice Chair of Senate Activities Board.
- c. SWOT Analysis for Stress Relief week event, Mental Health Fair, Self – Defense Workshop, Meditation Workshop, and Mugs Bag and Chill and most recent event Breast Cancer Awareness Event with Make it Monday's.
- d. Vice President Brown talked about upcoming events like Tech Rally which is on Monday October 28th and we will be tabling along with Dell which will showcase their products from 12pm – 2pm talking about SAB and upcoming events. There will be also Caribbean Dance Workshop on Friday November 1st from 2pm – 4pm in Cultural Arts Building. MCCADA Conference will be on Friday November 8th which is a student leadership conference in Fredrick Community College. And discussed about Paint Nite which will be on Wednesday, November 13 from 7pm – 9pm it is also the same day as Popcorn with Dr. Pollard.
- e. Vice President Brown said we got an event manager for World's Kindest Day.
- f. Vice President Brown will discuss about microwave in the next meeting.

IV. Committee Report: Multicultural and Diversity by Senator Hegbe

- a. Senator Hegbe mentioned that Multicultural and Diversity Committee decided to move the meeting times to Wednesday's 3pm – 4pm so it is no longer on Monday's from 1pm – 2pm. Due to the fact that many students were not able to join the committee because of the meeting days and times.
- b. Senator Hegbe shared an update about the Multicultural Fair event will not be held on Spring this year. It will be on Fall semester and the event will take place on Monday November 18th from 12pm – 3pm in ST Atrium.
- c. Senator Hegbe said there will no be a Middle Ground event since the Multicultural Fair Event takes place this semester. And for MC Pride day which will be on November 20th there will be stations which includes - inspiration, secret wall station, Facts and Fiction , Photo Box, Hidden Figures, and also there will be prizes in addition to the pins that will be given, students can get a chance to win goodie bags, t-shirts, and four \$25 gift cards as a giveaway.
- d. Senator Hegbe informed everyone that Senator Francois will no longer be the secretary for Multicultural and Diversity Committee. The new elected Secretary is Senator Katamba.

V. Secretary Shertaga

- a. Senator Shertaga informed everyone that election is coming up and the dates to look out for are on November 4 the packets will be out to distribute, November 25th packets will be due. On the calendar it says on November 22nd but change the date because we want to give more time for our candidates. December 4th will be our Senate interviews from 4pm – 6pm.

VI. Senator Fantahun

- a. Senator Fantahun attended College Council meeting with Ms. Kimberly Herrera and shared some issues that were raised in the meeting. One of the issues that was brought up was about food drive, pantries around campuses. So, the community service committee can help by donating food pantries that will help a lot for students.
- b. Senator Fantahun mentioned that there is an event on November 11th Student Council and Student Senate to meet in Rockville Campus from 4pm – 6pm it is in Community Center building.
- c. Senator Fantahun also mention Statistic for Retention rates and difference between part-time and full-time students were discussed.

VII. Title IX Presentation – by Maria Adams Davidson and Christopher Moy

- i. Maria Adams said that they are from the compliance risk and ethics office from the Administration area in Central Services and are here for the whole College. They have been visiting Student Senates meetings from all three Campuses.
- ii. Maria Adams mention that Student Success is very essential, and they take it seriously at work. And from the presentation senators will gain a knowledge about Title XI and be aware from day to day Academic lives of student and they want to make a best experience for students.
- iii. Senators shared their own point of views for the scenario presented.
- iv. Maira Adams informed senators that the office sends a disclosure emails to students from an email called “ Need to Know” important information at the beginning of the year out of the series of emails one of the emails was about title XI , another one was Drug and Alcohol prevention resources, FERPA Privacy.

- v. Maria Adams Emphasized throughout the presentation more on the idea of speaking up. They want to build a cultural value where students feel empowered and safe to speak up and sometimes a student might want to speak up but may not know where to go. Having the information and feeling safe is very important.
- vi. Christopher Moy mentioned about Athletic Concerns this is a new area for the office - Maryland just passed a new legislation last year. What the goal for this legislation is to have a mechanism for a student Athlete to report concerns during the Athletic events.
- vii. Christopher Moy defined what Title XI is, it is "Gender Equity" it prohibits gender-based discrimination. No one should be discriminated based on sex be denied of the benefit of participation of discriminating against any educational circumstances.
 - a. Maria Adams asked senators what some ways are to let other students know about this:
 - b. Senator Hegbe said collaborating with marketing team and create poster or flyers. Also offered to table for Title XI along with MC Pride Day.
 - c. Senator Haj Hamad said that the departments are active on social media platform such as twitter, Instagram or Facebook page posting to the accounts with promotional videos and use flyers as well to promote.
 - d. Vice President Brown mentioned that previous senator took initiative to advocate for climate survey, she had laptops placed at ST Atrium and recruited students and there was food so, it had a good turnout.
 - e. Senator Davin suggested that to send more disclosure emails instead of only at the beginning of each semester.

VIII. Advisor's Report – Ms. Kimberly Herrera

- a. Ms. Kimberly Herrera reminded senators who signed up for November 11th and the volunteers include President Adu, Treasurer Kassie, Secretary Shertaga, and Senator D. Lesperance will be representing the Student Senate on this day.
- b. Ms. Kimberly Herrera reminded everyone that she will be on a leave and will be back on November 1st.

IX. Who am I - Presentation

- a. Our Advisor Ms. Kimberly Herrera and few senators gave 2 -3 mins of presentation for Who am I. And the presentation will continue for next week as well.

X. Senator Katamba - Presentation on Human Trafficking Peer2Peer Program

- a. Senator Katamba briefly discussed about Human Trafficking including definitions, examples, and prevention methods.

XI. BOT Conference Report – Senator Haj Hamad

- a. Senator Haj Hamad sits on two committee on Board of Trustees one of the committees is the Alumni Student Association that serves for scholarships funding coming up with initiatives to help Alumni and make sure that once they graduate from Montgomery College there is a network there. And sits on Academic Success and Cultural

Communication Committee currently working on two goals, one of the goals is to empower students to start smart and succeed and second goal is to act transformational teaching practices in a learning environment.

- b. Senator Haj Hamad said if there are any questions or concerns, they would like to convey to the Board of Trustees she is the person to contact.
- c. If there are any senators who would like to apply for Board of Trustee, Senator Haj Hamad will help with the process.

XII. Open – Discussion – ALL

- a. Senator Spires will volunteer to ask students what they like about Montgomery College and collect surveys.

XIII. Adjourn – President Adu

President Adu adjourn the student senate meeting on October 23rd at 5:59 p.m.