

---

## MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Rockville Campus Council

November 7, 2022

via Zoom

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### Attendees

- Members present: Katherine M. Goldstein (Chair), Elizabeth Melanson (Vice Chair), Anne Briggs (Secretary), Tendai Johnson, Amal Alsufyani, Samuel Dina, Lisa Hackley, David Burkart, Rebecca Fuchs, Ivonne Bruneau-Botello
- Proxies present: None
- Members Absent: Raquel Bunai, Hayatullah Khan
- Guests: Eric Benjamin, Frank Trezza

### Call to Order

- The regular meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Vice Chair Elizabeth Melanson. The meeting was recorded for internal use only.
- The meeting began with roll call.

### Constituent Concerns

- Elizabeth Melanson presented a constituent concern that was submitted via the Rockville Campus Council email address: not all parking lots on the Rockville Campus have security cameras. Request for information to be made available to students and staff about which parking lots do and do not have security cameras.
  - Council will request Adam Reid attend the next meeting to provide information on this concern.
- Updates on past constituent concerns:
  - Dr. Benjamin: water fountains were turned off during the COVID-19 pandemic. Facilities will re-assess and determine whether to restore them.
  - Dr. Benjamin: Ackerman Science Learning Center should be getting their new Raptor Charging stations on Friday.

### Approval of Minutes

- The October 2022 minutes were approved as written. Ivonne Bruneau-Botello motioned to approve. Tendai Johnson seconded.

### Provost's Report (Dr. Eric Benjamin)

- Thank you for your focus, energy, and effort to fulfill the College's mission and serve the county.
- Thank you for the success of the pre-inauguration events on the Rockville Campus.

- Distributed nine tons of food, held an anti-racism training, listened to great music from a live band, collected art supplies and other donations, and much more.
- Rockville Campus had a successful Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Rockville Campus recently hosted a South Asian Arts Alliance moderated interview. Dean Trezza thanks the VPP office for support of this event.
- MC is partnering with the MCPD and county executive to offer community-informed policing training to address police violence.
- Last Sunday, Rockville Campus hosted a financial aid event to help support students paying for college.
- Cell service will be expanded in the Student Services building.
- Preparing to move classes and offices for spring HVAC renovations taking place on the Rockville Campus. Art, Music, and other buildings will close.
  - Priority is to avoid disrupting academics with noise, sidewalk closures, etc.
- Sidewalk between MT and HU is complete and should be open by 11/14/22.
- 12/1/22, 8:30am, a plaque will be unveiled near the elevators in the SS building lobby to thank funding providers.
  - Students are making great use of new green space.

#### **Chair's Report (presented by Elizabeth Melanson)**

- Election Day is tomorrow.
- WRLC is offering tutoring, a computer lab, and studio space in the HU building.
- Winter/Spring registration is open.
- Mobile Market is taking place November 9, 10am – 2pm, outside the North Garage. Volunteers are needed.
- Volleyball and Men's Soccer teams are district champions and are advancing to NJCAA national tournaments.
- If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, please call, text, or chat 24 hours a day:
  - Montgomery County Crisis Hotline: 240-777-4000
  - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255, Press 1 for Veterans Crisis Line
  - Online chat support at [imalive.org](http://imalive.org)
  - Text chat support: text "start" to 741741
  - National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233
  - Students:
    - <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/counseling-and-advising/personal-counseling.html>
    - <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/can>
    - <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/shaw-center>
  - Faculty/Staff:
    - <https://info.montgomerycollege.edu/offices/human-resources/faculty-staff-assistance-program.html>



---

### **Presentation: Frank Trezza, Dean of the Visual, Performing, and Media Arts**

- The Visual, Performing, and Media Arts instructional area includes five departments on all three campuses: art (RV), performing arts (RV), media arts and technologies (RV), arts cohort (GT), visual and performing arts (TP/SS).
- There is an Arts distribution credit so students at MC must take an art class.
- They serve 6,000 students each academic year and have around 1,600 majors.
- Some of the most popular classes are Introduction to Drawing and Art History.
- They also offer co-curricular events: theater productions, exhibit spaces, and concert halls.
  - Each year, they offer: 25 music concerts, 20 art exhibits, 2 dance recitals, 3 theater productions, and countless lectures.
  - This year, *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* production is traveling to all three campuses.
  - They try to promote student and community access to arts events because arts enrich everyone's life. This includes administrators incorporating arts into College events.
- Information about events and news is shared on the [Arts Institute website](#). In particular:
  - The Arts Calendar is released each semester and lists all events for the semester.
  - MC Art Beat is the arts newsletter.
- Council can help by promoting events, donating to scholarships.
- Faculty can collaborate with the instructional area if an event connects to their discipline: faculty are invited to reach out and see how they can partner.
- They have three gallery spaces: Cafritz, Media Arts, and Silberman galleries.
- They are nationally accredited in music, art, and design. This is uncommon for a community college and makes the education they offer more valuable.
- Upcoming events:
  - Silberman Gallery opening on Wednesday (Hayoon Jay Lee: Between the Lines of Food and Art)
  - Contemporary Music of Native America workshop/lecture tomorrow (live stream available)
  - New week: participating in a celebration for Priscilla Walker's retirement.

### **Presentation: Lisa Hackley, Director of Student Life**

- Election Day is tomorrow.
- Office of Student Life has been partnering with the League of Women Voters and other non-partisan groups to encourage voter registration. They are also available to answer student questions on elections/voting. Students are lacking basic information about voting.

- 
- Other resources: [library's guide to the 2022 election](#) and a panel on the midterm election post-mortem on 11/15 at 7:30 p.m. in Globe Hall.
  - Rockville Campus Council can support by asking faculty to add voter information to their Blackboard course sites.

### Finalizing Goals

- Council members split into two Zoom breakout rooms to discuss our two broad goal ideas: communications and voting support. Groups reported out their ideas on how to create SMART goals.
- Communications group:
  - Faculty promoting events or initiatives during class time is the most effective way to get information to students (per Stephanie Krasnoff at Rockville Campus Council October 2022 meeting).
  - This group came up with two different strategies:
    - 1. The Rockville Campus Council could directly promote events:
      - Share information about activities with department chairs who could distribute it to relevant faculty.
      - Encourage faculty to offer extra credit for event participation.
      - Find ways to connect activities to experiential learning.
      - Council members could attend departmental meetings as guests to spread the word.
    - 2. Create a Communications Kit to empower the people hosting the events and activities to promote their activities themselves:
      - Include advice, strategies, and templates for how to promote
  - Further discussion with the larger group revealed a need for a central location for all events and activities information so that faculty can self-select what would be of interest to them and their students. Sometimes activities connect to disciplines in ways we wouldn't expect.
    - The [MC Events Calendar](#) is intended as a central location, and it can be filtered, searched, and browsed. However, it doesn't seem to be used consistently at the College. More consistent use of the Events Calendar should be promoted so it is a reliable place for faculty to find information of interest.
- MC Votes group:
  - Since Election Day is tomorrow, we should think ahead to 2024.
  - We could use submit social media content to the College to help spread the word on voting and provide bite sized information.
    - Create short videos for TikTok and Instagram.
  - Content could also be shared on the MC Votes website.
- The Rockville Campus Council officers will meet separately to discuss and draft SMART goal language.

---

Meeting Adjourned at 3:48 p.m. Tendai Johnson motioned, Amal Alsufyani seconded.

Respectfully submitted by  
Anne Briggs, Rockville Campus Council Secretary