
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Student Council
Friday October 4,
2024
Zoom Meeting
5:00 PM-6:00 PM

Attendees:

- Members present: Chair, Mhambi Musonda; Vice-Chair: Aniket Belur; Secretary: Denisia Jocktane Akagah; Members: Fenet Shertaga; Makeya Segu Bekele; Fatou Sow; Visitors: Matthew Alfelor; Jana Farahat; Giang Anh Vu; Faith; Zhenqiu Chen; Supervisors: Ms. Shakenna Adams-Gormley; Dr. Clevette Ridguard; Ms. Yvette Taylor
- Proxies present: NONE
- Members excused: Alex Jaemin Kim, Jasjeet Kaur Upal, Alan C. Lee, Alan Chin, Cristian Jose Ramos; Hanif Ali
- Invited Guests: Dr. Edmund Cabellon, Interim Senior Vice President of Student Affairs

Call to Order

- The regular meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm by the Chair, Mhambi Musonda.

Approval of Minutes: 5:07 pm

- Approved as read.

Constituent Concerns 5:10 pm

- Makeya: print stations are no longer present on campus. It seems that the printing system has been discontinued for lack of usage. Asks if we can have them back in different buildings on each campus. At TPSS, they were in the ST and Student Services building. There are no printers apart from the ones in the library and in the DLC. Noticed the same on the Rockville campus. Will follow-up with the location of the printers and who will help with bringing them back.
- Denisia: A student in GT signaled that lights in the parking lot next to the BE building are flickering at night. The lighting is being fixed, but we need to circle back and check if it will be completely fixed.
- Makeya: Next to the P1 and P2 building, the treasurer of the TPSS SGA has been victim of vandalism. Someone broke into her car and stole her personal effects, but a ranger from the TPSS campus intervened and helped her. Other robberies happened around the area. Asks the Student Council to help reinforce security with CCTV cameras.

Chair's Report: 5:21 PM

Announcements:

- Free flu shots offered to students, employees, retirees and spouses from 10 am to 2 pm.

CT: 10/07 in CT S101

RV: 10/21 in Kaiser Permanente truck behind the SC building

GT:10/31 in Kaiser Permanente truck behind the HT building

TPSS: 11/11

- Fall semester joint SGA and Student Council meetings:

GT:10/15 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm

RV:10/21 from 4 to 5 pm

TPSS: 10/23 from 4 to 6 pm

- October Equity and Wellness Events:

MC Wellness Mini Monday Meditation on 10/07

Fall Equity Dialogue at RV on 10/16 from 12 to 3 pm

Dance against Cancer 10/16 from 12:30 to 1:30 om in PE137A

- Empowerment Week on RV campus on October 7-11:

Panel discussion on US-Africa relations

Early Voting on 10/27

Virtual Workshop from ENGL department

Guest Speaker: 5:31 pm - Dr. Edmund Cabellon, Interim SVP for Student Affairs

Presentation: Elevating the Student Experience

Reflections on Dr. Cabellon's journey so far with MC Student Affairs

The College cares deeply about students. For Dr. Cabellon, student success means that MC helps students reach their educational goals.

SVPSA Expectations:

- Culture of Care
- Sense of Belonging
- Student Experience
- Faculty and Staff Experience
- Equity Lens

Student Affairs wants to exceed the expectations of the students. Their work needs to match what the students need. Think about the Student Enrollment Plan, the systems (technology, programs, counseling/advising services, etc.). Overall, how can SA honor their mission.

Key Strategic Plan Outcomes:

- More student advising, for students to get the support they need from day 1 (better use of Starfish)
- More students enroll in MC
- Students are more aware of the mental health support they have at MC.

Dr. Cabellon wants to attend the Student Council meetings to hear more about the student concerns and ways to improve the student experience in general. He is also interested in athletics.

Adding housing for international students will depend on the incoming number of international students at MC. Dr. Cabellon will continue advocating for housing, nevertheless.

2024-2025 Council goals: 5:45 pm

Brainstorming

Work with SGA to get more student concerns solved (the three SGAs have a group chat to stay on the same page with concerns and projects)

Help early college students have a say in choosing their professors.

Housing? It is a good idea, but we cannot solve it in one year. Will stay a concern. Will start the project and pass on the rest of the process to the next cohort. Two of the student council members (Makeya and Mhambi) can sit at the SEP committee meeting to reinforce this concern.

Using SMARTIE goals as a framework for discussion, here is the goal for the 2024-2025 academic year:

- Create a social media handle for the student council to better collect constituent concerns, share information, and connect with our population.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Denisia Jocktane Akagah, Student Council Secretary