

## MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

### TPSS Campus Council Meeting Minutes

Friday, Feb. 14, 2025

Zoom

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

#### **Attendees**

*Members Present:* Marie-Thérèse Baderhakuguma, Demetra Crawford, Norberto Gomez, Emma Grace, Jeri Gresham, Socrates Purification, Heather Bruce Satrom, Karel Tabi, Matthew Wilson

*Members Absent:* Deborah Taylor, Christopher Campanella, Lesley Brown, Monique Davis

*Invited guests:* Sokol Mato, Carlo Sanchez, Yvette Taylor

*Liaison:* Dean Fiona Glade, Acting Campus Dean, TPSS

*Proxy:* Norberto Gomez for Deborah Taylor

#### **Call to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Chair Matt Wilson.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Agenda proved. Minutes from last meeting approved.

Council Chair Matthew Wilson welcomed three new members: Demetra Crawford, Acting Director of Student Life, and students Karel Tabi and Marie-Thérèse Baderhakuguma.

Norberto suggested that the council create and send out a questionnaire to stakeholders to ask them about their campus experience. The council agreed that this would be a good plan.

#### **Constituent Concerns and Updates:**

Students expressed concerns that the Fitness Center on campus has very limited hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 5. The equipment is outdated. Students would like the Fitness Center to extend its hours and to have updated equipment.

Students have expressed constituent concerns to faculty about the lack of a student center, the lack of places to socialize on campus, the lack of coffee shops, the lack of non-vending machine food, and the limited hours of the cafeteria. Compared to the Rockville campus, the TPSS campus has far fewer resources and less of a college campus feeling. Why is this?

Demetra Crawford mentioned that coffee is available to students from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm in the Office of Student Life in ST.

Concerns were expressed about the campus bookstore. It was reported that some textbooks were out of stock or not ordered, that faculty were not notified when books were not available, that students were confused about where to find art supplies, and about limited items in the bookstore. Students who receive financial aid need to purchase their books through the bookstore but have faced difficulties finding and getting books that they ordered. The markup on textbooks is high. Some faculty members report not being notified when books were out of stock. Concerns were expressed about ceramics students having to carry heavy bags of clay from one side of the campus to another.

### **Dean's Report**

Acting Campus Dean Dr. Fiona Glade shared the good news that Dr. Brad Stewart will be returning as the Campus Dean after taking medical leave. He will begin with a part-time schedule in March and will resume his full-time position in April. Dr. Glade will return to her position as Dean of ELAP, Linguistics, and Communication Studies. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Acting Campus Dean.

There will be some changes made to the areas where students participating in ride shares can be dropped off on the East side of the campus.

Dr. Glade said the deadline for faculty to submit a proposal to present during the Montgomery College Experience, which will take place on March 17, 18, and 20, has been extended by ten days. This program is for 8<sup>th</sup> graders at MCPS and is intended to give them a learning opportunity and a welcoming message about belonging at the college. The Call for Proposals was sent by Elena Saenz, the Associate Senior VP for Academic Partnerships and Programs. The MC Experience event will take place at TPSS and at Germantown. The World of Work events will take place in Rockville. For more details, check the email from Elena Saenz at [MCExperience@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:MCExperience@montgomerycollege.edu).

Staff Enrichment Day will take place on March 19 from 8 am to 4 pm on the Germantown campus. Staff will have the opportunity to attend workshops and presentations. This is a day of engagement, learning, and connection. Registration is required to earn PD credit. To learn more, visit the SED page.

April 24 is Take Your Child to Work Day. Any MC employee is welcome to bring their child/children, who are between the ages of 8 and 13, to the college. Registration is required and volunteers are needed to offer activities for young people.

The TP/SS Campus Honors Awards Ceremony will take place on May 8. Dr. Glade encouraged departments to nominate students for awards and to create awards related to excellence in process (not just product), such as excellence in project leadership. The Dean's budget will cover "bags of swag" to be given to awardees.

Commencement will take place on the Rockville campus on May 23. Volunteers are needed.

The grand re-opening of the Resource Center was delayed to allow for the installation of bookshelves and for books to be shelved. The new date has not yet been determined.

Dr. Glade and Demetra Crawford attended the SGA Executive Board meeting yesterday in Annapolis. Students had the opportunity to visit delegates and to express concerns about funding. Students represented MC well.

Dr. Glade encouraged faculty and staff to learn how to use Microsoft Lists. This application will be used to report data for Middle States accreditation.

**Update from invited guest Carlo Sanchez, Assistant Director of Public Safety for the TPSS Campus:**

As stated by Dean Glade, there will be some changes made to the areas where students participating in ride shares can be dropped off on the East side of the campus. The new drop-off point will be redesignated to where the old shuttle stop used to be. There are problems because Google Maps and other apps (Uber, Lyft, meal delivery apps) indicate an incorrect drop-off point on the corner of Fenton Street and New York Avenue. This is a busy intersection. Public Safety is exploring ways to make drop-off points safer and to make changes known to the College community.

Carlo Sanchez reported that there have been staff increases in Public Safety. There were seven vacancies during the pandemic, and about half of these positions have been filled. He gave a shoutout to public safety officers who worked extra shifts when they were short-staffed. They expect to be fully staffed in about a month.

Carlo Sanchez reported that concerns have been expressed related to the safety of undocumented students. He reiterated that the College is inclusive to all, regardless of status. Faculty and staff have expressed concerns about the possibility of ICE coming to campus or to the registrar's office. Carlo Sanchez said if anyone is approached by immigration with questions related to status, one should direct them to Public Safety (240 567 1600). FERPA protects the privacy of students. No information should be given. It is important to minimize disruption, risks to public safety, and the feelings of threat. Public Safety will never ask anyone about their status, nor will they give out information related to status. We need to remember the importance of the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Immigration officers cannot enter a classroom. If a stranger or immigration officer in uniform arrives at a classroom, they should not be allowed to enter. Faculty should say, "Let me call someone who can help you," and ask them to wait outside. Public Safety should then be called. If someone feels the need to call 911 for a serious emergency or dangerous situation, Public Safety should also be called. Public Safety officers have received additional and specialized training. Carlo Sanchez said he has been asked to speak to some departments, and he is happy to give information sessions and updates about this topic.

### **Update from invited guest Sokol Mato, Director of Auxiliary Enterprises:**

Sokol Mato reported that Follett Books will no longer be operating the bookstore. The “bookstore landscape” has changed as a result of changes in publishing and in online purchasing of materials. A new contract has been signed with Slingshot, which was described as a family-owned bookstore established in 1997. They were early advocates of textbook rental programs. There will be a new platform for textbook adoption by faculty and for ordering by students. Training will be offered to faculty and staff to learn how to use the new platform. From Feb. 17 to March 2, the bookstores will close for a transition period. The Rockville campus will be the “flagship store” and will re-open on March 3. The TPSS and Germantown campuses will be “distribution hubs.” Listening sessions will be held as well.

Students, staff, and faculty expressed concerns to Sokol Mato about the implications of having a “distribution hub” instead of an actual bookstore at TPSS. Questions were raised about convenience and availability of texts and materials for TPSS students. Questions were raised about how the space will be used. Could this space be used by the Office of Student Life? Will lockers be provided for students to pick up their books and materials? What about the former MC Munchies café area, which is located next to the bookstore? (This was closed during the pandemic.) Which vendor operated MC Munchies? Will another coffee shop open in this space? How will the former bookstore space be used to serve students and to create a sense of belonging?

Sokol Mato encouraged faculty, staff, and students to attend listening sessions to ask these questions and to contact him at [Sokol.Mato@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Sokol.Mato@montgomerycollege.edu).

### **Chair’s Update**

Report from the College Council, Memos and Notifications, and Announcements:

The College Council meeting was canceled due to the snow day, but announcements were shared via a PowerPoint presentation.

#### **1. Policy & Procedure Review:**

Please be aware of the following:

58002: Assessment Testing and Appropriate Course Placement

Feedback Deadline: Thursday, February 20, 2025

61003: Bank Services Feedback

Deadline: Wednesday, February 26, 2025

53001 CP: Academic Regulations and Standards

Feedback Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2025

More details are available from Dr. Van Camp, Director of Planning and Policy

#### **2. Finalists for SVP of Student Affairs:**

Finalists will be invited to visit the College on:

**Tuesday, Feb. 25 - Dr. Justin Owens**

**Wednesday, Feb. 26 - Dr. Tiffany Ray-Patterson**

**Thursday, Feb. 27 - Dr. Jason Rivera**

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to meet the finalists in these open forums.

The schedule for all three days is the same:

Germantown Campus, **12:00-12:45 p.m.**

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, CAC Main Stage, **1:30-2:15 p.m.**

Rockville Campus, **3:45-4:30 p.m.**

If you cannot attend in person, the **1:30 forum will be a hybrid event with a Zoom option.**

Watch for more specific information and Zoom links to be shared soon. If you have any questions about the search process or finalists' visits, please contact Chief of Staff Stephen Cain at [Stephen.Cain@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Stephen.Cain@montgomerycollege.edu).

See College Memo dated 02/10/25

3. Governance Awareness Day will take place on Feb. 19 between 12 pm and 1 pm in Rockville, Germantown, TPSS, Centra Services, and WDCE in the Mannakee Building. According to the PowerPoint, the event will take place at TPSS in the "Nunley Building Café," but council members expressed confusion because there is no café. Do they mean the ST Atrium? The purpose of the event is to engage and promote the governance process to others and to promote "a sense of belonging." Questions? Contact Yvette Taylor.
4. MC Governance Nominations will take place Feb. 24 to March 7. Elections will take place March 31 to April 11.
5. Governance Information Sessions will be held from noon to 1 pm on Feb. 21, Feb. 28, and March 14.
6. The MC Foundation Innovation Grant Theme is "achieving student success through bold, innovative, and transformational opportunities." The amount is \$40,000. Faculty, staff, administrators, and students are eligible to apply. The deadline is March 21, 2025. Questions? Email [innovationworks@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:innovationworks@montgomerycollege.edu).
7. Housing Clinics take place on the first Wednesday of every month by appointment between 2-5pm –Held virtually.<https://bit.ly/housingclinic24>.
8. Antiracism Badge Spring 2025 Cohort –four-part micro credential (Feb 20, Mar 6, 27, Apr 24). Open to all MC faculty, staff, and students. Register in Workday.

9. Book Circle: *Hidden Potential* by Adam Grant. Register through Workday and complete application form (Inside MC) by Monday, February 10. Free book and lunch. MK122 with Zoom option: Feb 26, Mar 12, 26, Apr 9, 23, May 7.
10. Awards Nomination Season:
  - a. Outstanding FT Faculty, PT Faculty, and Staff nominations due March 1
  - b. Excellence in Equity Awards (students, faculty, staff, administrators) due March 3
  - c. Presidential Academic Excellence Awards (by campus)(students) March 3
11. February is Black History Month. Visit any of the campus libraries to explore special displays and borrow books, films, and other materials highlighting Black heritage. Or, check out the library's online Black History Month guide with book recommendations, streaming films, research resources, local organizations focused on Black culture and issues, and an interactive map of nearby Black historical sites to visit. Check out information on the library's website.
12. Black History Month Event: Healing Multigenerational Trauma: A Conversation with Dr. Joy DeGruy. A special Black History Month event hosted by the Institute for Mastery and Integration (IMI), an affiliate of the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF). The event will take place on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, from 9 a.m. -2 p.m. at the University of Maryland Shady Grove Conference Center. Dr. DeGruy, renowned for the book *Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing*, will deliver a keynote presentation exploring the enduring impacts of slavery on African American communities and strategies for healing and empowerment. Following the keynote, Dr. DeGruy will host a luncheon dialogue with Black church leaders to discuss the role of faith leaders in fostering healing and resilience within communities. The event is free and open to the public, with over 300 attendees expected, including elected officials, community activists, and human services professionals. For more information or to register, visit [www.instituteformastery.org](http://www.instituteformastery.org).
13. The AAWCC-MC Chapter Spring Conference will take place on April 4, 2025 on the Germantown Campus. The theme is "Cultivating Relationships: The Heart of Leadership." EAP can be used for conference fees. For more information, use the QR code in the PowerPoint that was sent out.
14. MC Wellness is offering an event related to healthy heart cooking to reduce blood sugar on Feb. 18, free biometric screenings at Cetnral Services and in Rockville, and free personal training in Rockville. Contact [Megan.Cooperman@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Megan.Cooperman@montgomerycollege.edu) for more information.

15. There will be a blood drive with Inova on Feb. 18 from 12 to 4 in Germantown. Visit <https://bit.ly/MC0218> to book an appointment.
16. There is free rapid HIV testing at MC. AT TPSS, it will take place on the second Tuesday of each month from 10 am to 1 pm in ST 302.
17. Transfer Fairs will be held from Feb. 24 to Feb. 26 from 10 am to 1 pm. At TPSS, these will be held on Feb. 26 from 10 am to 1 pm in ST.
18. Mobile Markets with fresh produce and other foods will be offered at TPSS on March 12, April 9, May 7, June 25, July 23, Aug. 8 in the ST Atrium from 2 to 4 pm.

### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on March 14. Dr. Williams will be attending this meeting.

### **Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Norberto Gomez made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Heather Bruce Satrom seconded it.

Respectfully submitted by  
Heather Bruce Satrom  
TPSS Campus Council Secretary