
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Student Council

Friday April 4,
2025

Rockville Campus, SC 152

4:00 PM-5:00 PM

Attendees:

- Members present: Chair: Mhambi Musonda, Vice-Chair: Aniket Belur, Secretary: Denisia Jocktane Akagah; Members: Misty Kaletnyk, Sofia Perez, Kirithiga Anandvel; Visitors: Meklit Abebe, Isaiah Smith, Mr. Ernest Cartledge; Supervisors: Ms. Yvette Taylor, Ms. Shakenna Adams-Gormley, Dr. Clevette Ridguard; Council Liaison: Dr. Ed Cabellon
- Proxies present: NONE
- Members excused: Alex Jaemin Kim, Jasjeet Kaur Upal, Alan C. Lee, Alan Chin, Cristian Jose Ramos, Fatou Sow, Fenet Shertaga

Call to Order

- The regular meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by Chair, Mhambi Musonda

Approval of Minutes: 4:06 PM

- Approved as read.

Constituent Concerns: 4:07 PM

- Misty: Water fountains are dysfunctional on campus. The RV secretary is investigating to find out which fountains are dysfunctional.
- Sofia: Shuttle bus stops need printed schedules. Some food items in the cafeteria are expired and still being sold.

Guest Speaker (4:08 PM): Dr. Ed Cabellon (Interim SVP for Student Affairs)

- Dr. Cabellon is leaving his position to Dr. Ray-Patterson in June. He shared an overview of what he's learned from student concerns at SGA and Student Council meetings. He'll share this information with Dr. Ray-Patterson as she starts.
- His focus during the year was to learn more about each campus and how to unify them all. Common themes that have risen from constituents are improved spaces, access to clear shuttle bus routes and signage, better class schedules and options, creating a safe space for all students, increasing access to mental health services on all campuses, better advising options for first-year students especially, better onboarding and registration processes, improved faculty and staff communication with students, improvement in financial aid services.
- Dr. Cabellon's hope is for the SGA and Student Council to keep a strong relationship with the SVP for Student Affairs.
- Q&A Session:

Denisia: A student heard that Raptor Central will now require official high school transcripts for admission to MC. Mr. Cartledge clarified that it might be true, as they will need such documents from the school districts to facilitate financial aid disbursement. International students will have to take some evaluation to assess their levels. If they cannot provide any kind of documentation, there will be alternatives for them.

Mhambi: Asked about the Spiffy Closet. Dr. Cabellon shared that under Student Affairs, student assistant positions have been open for students to help with Spiffy. The Closet is open from Wednesday to Friday now.

Meklit: Students have complained about not having enough language professors at RV.

Misty: It seems that non-credit students will now be able to create clubs and join SGA on TPSS. It has not spread to the other campuses yet.

Aniket: Students would like prolonged hours for the gym at GT. Dr. Cabellon suggests we do some data collection to get a consensus and strengthen the request.

Denisia: Contact Dean Anthony and Dean Peanort to check if we can have feminine hygiene products on GT. We can also check for ECEC.

Celebrate Students (4:32 PM): Mhambi Musonda

- Students are all sharing where they are transferring and what they are planning to study.

Plans for Next Year (4:36 PM): Mhambi Musonda

- Elections are still going on for governance. They are closing on April 11.

Chair's Report (4:38 PM): Mhambi Musonda

- Equity Week: April 7-11
Equity Awards Ceremony at TPSS on Wednesday 04/10
- Health Event on the RV Campus on 04/08. Information about applying for medical insurance and healthcare in general.
- Next Student Council Meeting on 05/02 via Zoom.
- Governance elections close soon. Voting will open in a week.

Why is it Important to Be a Part of Governance? (4:42 PM): Mhambi Musonda

- There are 13 councils at MC. All council chairs meet at the College Council meetings on Tuesdays this school year. They elevate concerns from their different constituents to the College President, who makes decisions on next steps about how to implement change. Each council has a liaison who advises the board and members along the way.
- The Student Council did their best to share a lot of information with MC students and make themselves more accessible to all.

Directory Updates (4:47 PM): Dr. Clevette Ridguard

- Student Council is different from SGA because Student Council represents students College wide. They meet once a month via Zoom. Administrators cannot do their job unless they hear from us.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:51 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Denisia Jocktane Akagah, Student Council Secretary