

## MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

### Faculty Council

April 21, 2022

#### Attendees

- **Members present:** Ahmad, Kay; Baker, Dana; Bontems, Susan; Karpakakunjaram, Vedham; Jones, Shelley; Lunn, Asia; Maradei, Terri; Pointer, Jon; Prendergast, Michelle; Richards, Soyini; Thomas, Rebecca; Sprague, Melissa; Theophile-LaFond, Anestine; Thomas Desjardins, Ketely; Webb, Alla; Winffel, Norma
- **Proxies present:** n/a
- **Constituents present:** Amanda Darr, Linda Robinson, Samantha Veneruso, Karen King, Antonette Jones, Hilda Smith, Barbara LaPilusa, Denise Dewhurst, Jose Medrano, Teri Hurst, Abudlai Barrie, Zenobia Garrison, Nawal Benmouna, Margaret Tseng, Tonya Harris, Valerie Lantz, Ever R. C. Grier, Benjamin Nicolson, Richard Penn, Katie Mount, Harry Zarin, Jennifer Capparella, Jeri Gresham, Kelly Kleine, Brenda Crist, Dorrell Engel
- **Members excused:**
- **Invited guests:** Dr. Jermaine Williams
- **Council Liaison:** Terry, Carolyn
- **Governance Director:** Ridguard, Clevette

#### Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Dana Baker, co-chair. Robert's Rules were suspended so the Council could welcome Dr. Jermaine Williams.

#### Invited Guest: Dr. Jermaine Williams, MC President

Dr. Williams shared a few remarks about his experience with the presidential transition and outcomes from the recent Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Williams invited constituents to engage in a Q and A session. Jon Pointer shared questions previously submitted by constituents. Dr. Williams responded to those questions and additional questions asked by attendees. Some of the topics included: institutional priorities, experiences learned from his leadership positions at other community colleges, presidential longevity, leadership style, mask and vaccine mandate.

At 1:00 pm, the Council reinstated Robert's Rules to continue with the council meeting. There was a quorum to conduct governance business.

#### Approval of the Agenda / Minutes

The agenda for today's meeting was approved. Minutes from April 7, 2022 were accepted with corrections. This meeting was recorded for internal use only.

#### Constituent Concerns

At this time, guests were invited to speak.

Dorelle Engel shared a concern about a recent incident involving a student in a class taught by PT faculty. The coordinator and chair encouraged the faculty to submit a BIT report. The faculty did not submit a BIT. Dorelle called public safety to request they come to the classroom at the beginning of the class. Public Safety told her they can't come to the class. The first thing the officer said to her request was "we can't do that, it's racial profiling." Dorelle said she never mentioned the race of the student. Dorelle came to class on 4/12 and witnessed the student refusing to wear a mask. Discussion ensued about the student not wearing the mask. The student's behavior escalated. Dorelle contacted Public Safety to ask them to come to the class for a student for this unfolding, escalating incident. Public Safety responded by asking if she filed a BIT report. Dorelle told them the incident is occurring now and she needs their assistance.

Public Safety told her that they will not come, she must file a BIT report. Dean Coliton was notified, and the Dean shared the mask rules and classroom guidelines with the students. Dorelle reached out to Adam Reid. Adam responded back to her and told her the officers reported that Dorelle requested their presence in the classroom for the remainder of the semester and that she did not call for an emerging situation on 4/12. Rebecca replied to this concern by reinforcing that the COVID Classroom Guidelines do support the process she followed. The Council will reach out to Adam Reid for additional guidance and clarification.

Anestine Lafond shared the following constituent concerns:

1. Campus drinking and bottle refill stations - some of them are not operational, some remain taped off "not in use."
2. Cafeteria Hours - The cafeteria areas are often closed while the College is open. The hours do not provide student access to refreshments while on campus.
3. Fall goal of 75% F2F classes - Faculty want to know what data was used by the College to set a goal to have 75% of the classes returning back to F2F while the DL and SRT classes are thriving.
4. Windows 7 - Faculty are concerned about computers still using Windows 7 being vulnerable to cyber threats. Rebecca encouraged Anestine to instruct the faculty to request a hardware request through IT for upgrading and work with the Chair if the faculty require specific software installation.

### **Chair's Report**

The council co-chairs, Rebecca Thomas and Dana Baker, shared a PowerPoint\* for their report. The report included College updates, reminders about upcoming events, and initiatives.

### **Committee Reports –**

- College-wide Curriculum Committee (CCC): Vedham reported they are working on proposals for the next AY. The CCC is currently open to nominations for 2 faculty and 1 chair to serve on the committee. Once we received nominations for these positions, we will bring to the 5/5/22 Faculty Council meeting for approval.
  - ◊ Anthony Solano and Vedham have completed their term limits on the committee as co-chairs. The CCC proposes an extension of Vedham's term for another 3 years. Melissa made the motion to allow Vedham to serve another 3-year term with the CCC. Anestine seconded the motion. The Council unanimously voted to accept this motion.
- General Education Standing Committee: Michelle reported that the 22-23 Course list has been submitted including several to be shelved.
- Academic Regulations (AR) Committee: Norma reported that they are formalizing the AR committee membership and terms of service. Once finalized, the language will be presented to Faculty Council for approval.

### **Campus Reports**

- Germantown Faculty Senate – Terri Maradei not present at the time of this report.
- Rockville Faculty Senate – Per Anestine, nothing new to report.
- TPSS – tabled; the TPSS faculty senate has not been reconvened.

### **Unfinished Business**

Outstanding Faculty Awards

Self-Nomination – currently there are no guidelines nor mention if self-nomination is allowed.

- ◊ Norma made a motion to indicate that self-nomination is an option and the self-nominator is required to write their own nomination letter. Susan seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to accept this motion.

*\*Any presentations or supporting documents shared at this meeting will be available on the Faculty Council AY 2021-2022 Teams site.*

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm  
Respectfully submitted by  
Melissa Sprague, Faculty Council Secretary