

To: Dr. Tracey Smith-Bryant, College Council Chair
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President
Subject: **College Council Recommendation 19-13: Constitutional Amendment**
Date: October 29, 2019

Thank you and all the members of the College's participatory governance system for your leadership in considering issues of importance to the Montgomery College community. I have reviewed the College Council's recommendation 19-13: Constitutional Amendment. The document presented to me by the College Council is attached.

On October 8, 2019, the College Council voted to move recommendation 19-13 forward to the President. This action recommends that the Participatory Governance Constitution is amended to change the membership composition of the Student Council.

Based on my review, I recommend that the Bylaws of Governance Councils are amended to adjust the quorum needed to conduct business for the Student Council only. While I understand the varying needs of diverse student populations, I want to ensure inclusion and equity of all student voices. Reducing the opportunity for broad-based participation does not speak to this, however, changing the quorum requirements allows the council to continue its business with the hope of more WDCE students joining in the future.

Any further questions concerning the recommendation should be directed to Dr. Stephen Cain, chief of staff/chief strategy officer.

Thank you for your dedicated service to Montgomery College's governance system and all of the work you do to support Montgomery College's mission and vision. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have further questions or concerns.

Attachment

cc: Senior Administrative Leadership Team
Governance Director



Governance Recommendation

Council Name submitting the recommendation: **Student Council**

Date: **October 8, 2019**

Recommendation Issue or Concern: *(Provide background reasoning or justification for recommendation)*

The Student Council is comprised of twelve (12) seats; 2 from each campus and 1 from each campus' Student Senate. A minimum of seven (7) members, excluding the Chair, must be present to be able to hold a vote. A minimum of six (6) members, excluding the Chair, must be present to officially hold a meeting. In the past two years, seats from the Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE) campus have gone unfilled leaving the council with no more than nine (9) members. With a recent resignation from the Takoma Park campus, we are down to only eight (8) members. It is imperative that a change in our current membership rules be approved so the Student Council will continue to conduct required business.

An amendment was proposed to add a seat to the Rockville, Takoma Park, and Germantown campuses, reduce the number of seats for WD&CE from three to one, and to allow the seat awarded to each Student Senate to be filled by a "Student Senate Representative."

The proposed amendment resolves the ongoing lack of membership that is hindering Student Council business. WD&CE students usually go on a semester-by-semester basis and none have expressed interest in filling the positions for the last two years. By changing the current membership of the campus Senate position to include a "senate representative" rather than just the President, the Student Council can ensure consistent attendance at all council meetings. The amendment also supplies a greater representation of students at the three main campuses providing for more student voice and involvement.

Student Council approved this amendment proposal by unanimous vote of all filled membership on September 5th, 2019. Submitted by Caleb Schauer, Student Council Chair, on September 9th, 2019 for the College Council meeting on September 24th, 2019.

Resolution:

Original Membership:

- a. Two (2) students from the Germantown Campus and the GT Student Senate President
- b. Two (2) students from the Rockville Campus and the RV Student Senate President
- c. Two (2) students from the TPSS Campus and the TPSS Student Senate President
- d. Up to three (3) students from Workforce Development & Continuing Education.

Proposed Modification Membership:

- a. Three (3) students from the Germantown Campus and a student representative from the Germantown Student Senate.
- b. Three (3) students from the Rockville Campus and a student representative from the Rockville Student Senate.
- c. Three (3) students from the TPSS Campus and a student representative from the TPSS

Student Senate.

d. One (1) student from Workforce Development & Continuing Education. (WD&CE)

Student Impact: *(Explain the impact of this recommendation on MC students.)*

The amendment provides greater student voice and involvement in the Student Council.

Economic Impact: *(Explain cost factor or any economic impact of this recommendation, if known.)*

None

Final Disposition/Recommendation: *(Complete once decision is made by College Council)*

On October 8, 2019, the College Council voted unanimously to move forward to the President for consideration and approval, the recommendation of amending the Participatory Governance Constitution Article I, Section B1 to the proposed stated Student Council membership.