

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Student Council

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Zoom Minutes

5:00-6:15 pm

Attendees:

- Members Present: Chair Mahnoor Z. Asif, Vice-chair Krithi AnandVel, Edelawit Tamerat, and Supervisor Dr. Clevette Ridguard
- Proxies present:
 - Poojita Jannu— attending as proxy for Sophia Kalinyak
 - Mishell Rea — attending as proxy for Dani Castro
- Members excused: none
- Invited Guests: Dr. Tiffany Ray Patterson Senior Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Elysse. Meredith Learning Commons Director, and Amy Prichard Tutt Governance Relations Operations Director

Call to Order: 5:00 PM

- The regular meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Chair, Mahnoor.
- Attendance was recorded

Approval of Minutes: 5:05 PM: Krithiga Anandval

- There were no minutes to approve because this was the first meeting of the semester.

Constituent Concerns: 5:10 PM: Krithiga Anandval

- Mahnoor relayed a constituent concern regarding the Rockville cafeteria's closing time changing from 4:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Chair's Report 5:20 PM: Mahnoor Z. Asif

- The Rockville Library is currently under construction, and its resources and services have been temporarily relocated to the Academic Annex.
- Dates for Transfer Fairs and Club Rush across all three campuses were shared.
- Information was shared on how to access course materials through Slingshot, as well as the full refund date for course materials, which was February 9.

Guest Speaker 5:25 PM: Dr. Tiffany Ray Patterson

- Dr. Patterson shared information about the work of Student Affairs, specifically their goals of equity, student wellbeing, and operational improvements.
- Efforts to increase access and equity were discussed, including initiatives extended office hours within Admissions and Enrollment and for the Financial Aid Office.
- Operational improvement efforts were also highlighted, including analyzing student feedback and implementing improvement strategies, as well as a redesign of the advising model.
- Several questions were raised about student closets and food pantries, including available resources and hours of operation. Additionally, questions were asked regarding the AI verification within the application process and financial aid.

Guest Speaker 5:45 PM: Dr. Elysse. Meredith

- Dr. Meredith shared details about the Learning Centers available across all three campuses, as well as how to make appointments through the new scheduling system, Starfish. She also discussed the availability of personal academic coaches.
- Questions were asked about system updates, hours of availability, and tutor availability.

Guest Speaker 6:00 PM: Amy Prichard Tutt

- Amy Prichard Tutt shared information about the funding needs for the Theater Arts Building. The current funding need is \$6.3 million in new funds.
 - A progress timeline and deadline were shared.
 - Students were encouraged to reach out to council members to advocate for this funding, and contact emails were shared.

Governance Updates and Announcements 6:10 PM: Dr. Clevette Ridguard

- Information was provided regarding the nomination and election process for the Student Council and Governance Councils.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by

Sophia Kalinyak, Student Council Secretary