

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY and
BLOOMFIELD COLLEGE OF MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
Montclair, New Jersey

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Public Minutes

April 18, 2024

Present: Mr. Anthony Abrantes, Ms. Rose Cali, Dr. Francis Cuss, Ms. Tracy Higgins, President Jonathan Koppell, Mr. Preston Pinkett, Mr. Kent Sluyter, Mr. Sreeni Kutam, Ms. Mariana Luna Martinez and Mr. Artem Beliaevski

Absent: Ms. Mary Comito Mr. Marc de Grandpre, Mr. Doug Kennedy, Mr. Ralph LaRossa and Mr. William Mullen

Present by invitation: Dr. Joseph Brennan, Ms. Althea Broomfield-Michel, Prof. Saundra Collins, Mr. Shawn Connolly, Dr. Jerry DeSanto, Dr. Marcheta Evans, Dr. Junius Gonzales, Ms. Wendy Lin-Cook, Mr. James Solodar, Dr. Dawn Meza Soufleris, Mr. David Vernon, Ms. Rita Walters and Mr. Keith Barrack

Mr. Sluyter called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

Statement regarding manner of public notice of meeting

Mr. Sluyter read the following statement regarding the public notice of the meeting: “Please be advised that in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting — April 18, 2024 — has been provided by distributing notices as required, properly posting 48-hour notice, and forwarding notices to designated newspapers and to persons requesting such notification.”

Roll call — As reported above.

Minutes from the meeting of February 9, 2024

Trustees approved the minutes from February 9, 2024, as distributed.

No. 3473

ANNUAL TUITION HEARING

President Koppell made a presentation of the underlying information that impacts the University’s decision regarding budgeting and tuition rates.

Student Trustee Mariana Luna Martinez stated that students are not in favor of a potential tuition increase and requested that the University increase in additional scholarship opportunities.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE CHAIR – MR. KENT SLUYTER

Mr. Sluyter reported that in closed session the Trustees reviewed the minutes from February 9, 2024, reviewed legal matters, and discussed contract negotiations.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENT

President Koppell reported that Commencement will be held on May 13th at the Prudential Center, when it is expected that the University will confer over 5,000 degrees. The University will be holding a “Trenton Day” on May 2nd, that will include students, faculty and staff traveling to Trenton to lobby the Legislature for equitable state funding. President Koppell thanked the faculty and staff for their extraordinary efforts over the past semester. President Koppell also acknowledged that this is Professor Wolfson’s last meeting as President of the AFT Local 1904 and thanked him for his partnership over the past 3 years.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE CHAIR – MR. KENT SLUYTER (cont'd)

Mr. Sluyter acknowledged that Professor Richard Wolfson will be retiring at the end of the academic year and this will be his last Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Sluyter congratulated Professor Wolfson on the University's behalf.

Mr. Sluyter then moved as follows:

Whereas, Richard Wolfson has served the University for 42 years as a professor in what is currently designated the Department of Teaching and Learning; and

Whereas, he has been a vocal supporter of students and employees through numerous leadership positions held in the University, including various University Senate positions, President of the University Senate, Department Chair, Director of the University Foundation Board, and advisor to hundreds of students; and

Whereas, Richard Wolfson has served AFT Affiliate Local 1904 with distinction, including serving as President since 2009 and participating in numerous state-wide and local negotiations, and

Whereas, Richard Wolfson has addressed the Board of Trustees at meetings for the past 15 years, strongly advocating on issues important to the University; and

Whereas, Richard Wolfson has partnered with the administration for the betterment of the University by striving for strong, positive labor/management relationships.

Now, I hereby move that the Montclair State University Board of Trustees express their sincere gratitude for Professor Richard Wolfson's significant contributions to the University.

UNION REPORT

Professor Wolfson thanked the Board and President Koppell for acknowledgement of his retirement. He then reflected on his 26 years of addressing the Board of Trustees, first in his capacity as Senate President, and then his current role as President of AFT Local 1904. He thanked President Koppell for increasing the dialogue between the administration and the Union and President Koppell's continued commitment to shared governance. Professor Wolfson expressed his pleasure in seeing the Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees mature and flourish over the years. Professor Wolfson congratulated Dr. Laura Field on her ascendance as the next President of the local union.

UNION REPORT CONTINUED

Mary Wallace, President of AFT Adjunct Local Union 6025 thanked Professor Wolfson for his support over the years and wished him well in his retirement. Ms. Wallace stated that the 1,400 adjunct professors serve the University as a crucial component of the education delivered to the University's students. She thanked President Koppell and Provost Gonzales for being more inclusive in their treatment of adjunct faculty and the issues they face.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Dr. Cuss reported that the Committee reviewed the minutes from its February 9, 2024 meeting, proposed personnel actions and a list of new hires anticipated before the Board's next meeting.

Personnel Actions

Dr. Cuss moved that the Board of Trustees approve the following personnel actions:

- 4 - Faculty Tenure appointments
- 7 - Managerial appointments
- 19 - Professional Staff appointments
- 20 - Faculty reappointments
- 2 - Leave of Absence without Pay

Faculty Appointment: Tenure, Tenure Track (AY25)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	
Jessica Bihuniak	Nutrition/Food Studies	Assistant Professor	9/1/24	BS MS PhD	University of Connecticut University of Connecticut University of Connecticut
Wendy Castillo	Educational Foundations	Assistant Professor	9/1/24	BA MS PhD	Brown University University of Miami University of Pennsylvania
Harvey Peters	Counseling	Associate Professor	9/1/24	BA MS PhD	California State University California State University Syracuse University
Sung Woog Choi	Public Health	Associate Professor	9/1/24	BA MA MA PhD	Handong Global University KDI School of Public Policy and Management University of Southern California George Washington University

Managerial Staff Appointment (AY 2024)

+grant funded, #tenure on appointment

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	
David Chun	Operations and Administration	Chief Information Officer (CIO)	4/29/24	BA	University of Pennsylvania
Richard Grzybek	Finance	Accountant	4/15/24	BA	William Paterson University
Md Liaquat Hossain [#]	College of Science and Mathematics	Director, School of Computing	3/11/24	BBA MSc PhD	University of Bangkok University of Bangkok University of Wollongong
Katrina Liera ⁺	Education Opportunity Fund (EOF)	Associate Director of Educational Opportunity Fund	5/20/24	BS MA	New York University Columbia University
Tamara Massey-Trotz	Bloomfield College - Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Director of Student Success Programs	3/25/24	BS MPA	Rutgers Univ., Newark Rutgers Univ., Newark
Shin Moon	University Development	Associate Vice President for Foundation Administration/ Finance	4/1/24	BS	State University of New York, Buffalo
Carlos Walton ⁺	Bloomfield College -Assistant Provost for Special Programs	PBI-C Grant (CHAMPS Program) Director	3/11/24	BS MS	Hampton University Cambridge College

Professional Staff Appointment (AY 2024)

+grant funded, #50% time

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	
Chelsea Alvarado	Residential Life/ Main Campus	Community Director	2/5/24	BA MA	Rutgers Univ. New Brunswick Teacher College, Columbia University
Amanda Andre	CEEL & CCHL Grants	Post Award Facilitator College for Community Health	3/11/24	BA MSW	Siena College Fordham University
Donia Bayoumy	CCHL/ Administration	Program Associate for Finance, Facilities/ Administration	3/4/24	BA	Montclair State University
Meghan Buckley	Associate Dean of Students	Program Coordinator	3/25/24	BA MA	The College of New Jersey Montclair State University
Denisha Colon	One Stop Service	Student Services Specialist	2/12/24	BS	Rutgers Univ. New Brunswick
Caitlyn Conselyea	Residential Life/ Heights	Community Director	2/5/24	BA MA	St. Elizabeth University Caldwell University
Angel Cruz	CCHL/Career Services	Career/ Internship Advisor	3/25/24	BS MS	New Jersey Institute of Technology New Jersey Institute of Technology
Catherine Devine ⁺	Center for Cooperative Media	Civic Science Fellow	3/11/24	BA	New York University
Ariana Focaraccio	Undergraduate Admissions/ Pre- Enrollment Services	Pre- Enrollment Specialist	3/25/24	BA BS	Ramapo College of New Jersey William Paterson University
Kelly Glowacki [#]	CCHL/Student Success Center	Program Associate, 50% time	3/11/24	BA MA	Montclair State University Montclair State University
Atiya Jackson	Premedical Program	Health Professions Advisor	3/18/24	BA MS MEd	Southern Connecticut State University Southern Connecticut State University University of South Florida
Shermim Lucky	Chemistry/ Biochemistry	Program Associate	4/1/24	BA MBA	St. Clements University, UK University of Wales, UK

Juhra Mannan	One Stop Service	Student Services Specialist	3/4/24	BS MEd	Stockton University Rudgers Univ., New Brunswick
Emma McNamara	Office of Global Engagement	Coordinator for Global Partnership	2/12/24	BA	Ramapo College of New Jersey
Taira Nails	Residential Life	Residence Life Coordinator	4/22/24	BA	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Arianni Pierre	Residential Life/ Main Campus	Community Director	3/25/24	BA MPA	Montclair State University Rutgers University, Newark
Amanda Roldan	One Stop Service	Student Services Specialist	3/4/24	BS MA	Bloomfield College University of Valley Forge
Denise Shannon ⁺	Center for Cooperative Media	Department Administrator	2/12/24	BS	La Salle University
Hanna Siemaszko ⁺	Center for Cooperative Media	Research Coordinator	1/29/24	BA MS	University of Massachusetts London School of Economics (UK)

Faculty reappointment (AY2024-25)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Highest Degree</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Year of Current Appoint.</i>
College for Community Health				
Subong Kim	PhD	Communication Sciences/Disorders	Assistant	2
Thomas Killian	PhD	Counseling	Assistant	2
Gustavo Sandri Heidner	PhD	Exercise Science/Physical Education	Assistant	2
Luis Torres		Exercise Science/Physical Education	Assistant	2
College of Humanities and Social Sciences				
Larissa Goulart	PhD	Linguistics	Assistant	2
Fanny Lauby	PhD	Political Science and Law	Associate	2
Cheryl Gray	PhD	Psychology	Assistant	2
Rick Laguerre	PhD	Psychology	Assistant	2
Sara Matsuzaka	PhD	Social Work and Child Advocacy	Assistant	2
College of Science and Mathematics				
Christos Suriano	PhD	Biology	Assistant	2
Nathanael Hirscher	PhD	Chemistry and Biochemistry	Assistant	2
College of the Arts				
Christina Rodriguez-Unalt	MFA	Art and Design	Assistant	2
Jin-A Choi	PhD	School of Communication/Media	Assistant	2
Nick Kolin	MFA	Theatre and Dance	Assistant	2
Feliciano School of Business				

Maysam Rabbani	PhD	Economics	Assistant	2
Chelsey Hill	PhD	Info. Management/Bus. Analytics	Assistant	2
Gabriel Gonzales	PhD	Marketing	Assistant	2
Iman Paul	PhD	Marketing	Assistant	2

School of Nursing

Jo-Ann Robinson	DNP	School of Nursing	Assistant	2
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Sprague Library

Drew Wallace*	MIS	Research & Reference Services	Librarian II	2
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* reappointment effective July 2024

Leave of Absence Without Pay

Name	Department	Term of Leave
Philip Benjamin	Mathematics	January 22, 2024 - May 31, 2024
Mireya Vilar-Compte	Public Health	September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3474

US Department of Education – Bloomfield College Merger Final Approval

Dr. Cuss moved that the Board of Trustees approve the final phase of the merger of Bloomfield College into Montclair State University.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3475

New Degree Program – Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Dr. Cuss moved that the Board of Trustees approve the development of a new degree program, Bachelors of Arts in Biology.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3476

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Ms. Comito reported the Infrastructure Committee reviewed the minutes from its February 9, 2024 meeting and received a capital project report.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3477

AUDIT, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Pinkett reported that the Audit, Finance and Development Committee reviewed the minutes from its February 9, 2024 meeting, reviewed contract awards, and held discussions with the Student Government Association members and their external auditors in Executive Session.

Contract Awards

Mr. Pinkett moved that the following contract awards be approved.

- Athletics Uniforms, Apparel, Footwear, Equipment and Accessory Products (Sports Time, Inc.) – increase of \$360,000 for a total contract value of \$1,350,000
- Touchnet Payment Center (TouchNet Information Systems, Inc.) 5-year contract - \$2,377,429 for software and implementation
- Elsevier Science Direct Database licenses for 3-years (Elsevier B.V.) - \$579,684
- Ellucian Banner Student Information System (Ellucian, Inc.) - \$1,390,538
- Grant funded Counseling and Psychological Supplemental Services - Grant GR00907 (Various) - \$720,000

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3478

REPORTS

Mariana Luna-Martinez delivered her final report, as Student Trustee, thanking the Board and President Koppell for their support in her role.

Mr. Sluyter moved that Mariana Luna Martinez's colleagues on the Board of Trustees express their heartfelt thanks for her significant contributions and wish her every success in all her future endeavors.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3479

Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees

Professor Sandra Collins thanked the Board of Trustees for their support over the past three years and their commitment to honoring the University's heritage, in particular, the naming of Irvin D. Reid Hall in President Reid's honor.

Mr. Sluyter moved that the members of the Montclair State University Board of Trustees express their sincere appreciation to Professor Sandra Collins for her excellent contributions to the work of the Board and wish her every success in all her future endeavors.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3480

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Sluyter moved that Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 that the Montclair State University Board of Trustees shall enter into Closed Session prior to the next Public Session to discuss the following pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b: 1) pending litigation filed against the University; 2) personnel matters; and 3) other matters which may arise consistent with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3481

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.



Keith D. Barrack