

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Public Minutes

November 8, 2024

Present: Mr. Anthony Abrantes, Ms. Mary Comito, Dr. Francis Cuss, Ms. Tracy Higgins, Mr. Sreeni Kutam, President Jonathan Koppell, Mr. Preston Pinkett, Ms. Sheila Rostiac and Mr. Kent Sluyter

Absent: Mr. Marc de Grandpre

Present by invitation: Dr. Joseph Brennan, Ms. Althea Broomfield-Michel, Mr. David Michael Chun Mr. Shawn Connolly, Prof. Mary English, Ms. Meredith Gatzke, Dr. Junius Gonzales, Ms. Wendy Lin-Cook, Dr. Dawn Meza Soufleris, Mr. James Solodar, Ms. Rita Walters, Mr. Keith Barrack and Ms. Katie Comanto

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 — November 8, 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.”

Swearing in of Trustee Rostiac

University Counsel Althea Broomfield-Michel swore in Trustee Sheila Rostiac.

Roll call — As reported above.

Minutes from the meeting of September 11, 2024

Trustees approved the minutes from September 11, 2024, as distributed.

No. 3503

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE CHAIR – MR. KENT SLUYTER

Mr. Sluyter reported that in closed session the Trustees reviewed the minutes from its September 11, 2024 meeting, reviewed the legal matters report, and discussed the draft revision to the University’s Mission Statement. Mr. Sluyter welcomed new Trustee member, Ms. Sheila Rostiac.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENT

President Koppell welcomed new Trustee member, Sheila Rostiac. President Koppell acknowledged the end of semester approaching and highlighted events which occurred during the Fall semester that included engagement with the University and external community. The President provided an update on the Workday Student Project. President Koppell commented on the 2024 presidential election and the continued need to promote civic engagement on campus.

UNION REPORT

Professor Laura Field, AFT President, commented on the November election and its impact on higher education and organized labor. Professor Field commented on the AFT’s continued focus on students, faculty and staff, and partnership with the administration.

Mary Wallace, President of Adjunct Local, congratulated the professors receiving emeriti status and highlighted the first adjunct regarding emeriti status.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Dr. Cuss reported that the Committee reviewed the minutes from its September 11, 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:

- 3 – Assistant/Associate Teaching Professor Appointments
- 6 – Managerial Appointments
- 20 – Professional Staff Appointments
- 1 – Leave of Absence without Pay
- 11 – Professor Emeriti

Assistant/Associate Teaching Professor (AY2025)
***10 month, ^12 month**
2 two-year, non-tenure-track appointment

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Degrees</i>
Joaly Garcia*2	Spanish and Latino Studies	Lecturer	9/1/24	BS MA University of Puerto Rico Interamerican University of Puerto Rico
Adriana Picoral*	School of Computing	Assistant Teaching Professor	1/17/25	BS PhD Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil University of Arizona
Prince Waqas Khan*	School of Computing	Assistant Teaching Professor	1/17/25	BS MS MPhil Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan University of Agriculture, Pakistan University of Agriculture, Pakistan Jeju National University, South Korea

Managerial Staff Appointment (AY 2025)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Degrees</i>
Andrea Betro	Office of the President	Administrative Assistant - Office of the President	11/18/24	BS Fairfield University
Kristin Calvert	Library Administration	Associate Dean for Administration	1/6/2025	BA MLS PhD University of California, Berkeley University of Rhode Island North Carolina State University

Emily Harris	Information Technology	Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)	11/18/24	BA	Barnard College
Tieka Harris	Assistant Provost for Special Programs	Senior Director for Access and Retention Initiatives	9/30/24	BA MEd EdD	Rutgers University Rutgers Graduate School of Education Rutgers Graduate School of Education
Trisha Silvasy	Treasury and Finance	Director of Internal Audit	10/7/24	BS MBA	West Chester University Saint Joseph's University
Angie Valerio-Fernandez	Human Resources	Recruiting Business Partner	11/4/24	BA	William Paterson University

Professional Staff Appointment (AY 2025)
+gift funded. *Workday Student Project

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Effective</i>		<i>Degrees</i>
Estefany Caceres	HR Business Systems	Human Resources HCM Coordinator	10/5/24	BA	CUNY Baruch College
Kyle Carter	CSAM Budget Office	Grants and Contracts Specialist	10/7/24	BA	Montclair State University
Gianella Castillo	Assistant Provost for Finance and Administration	Coordinator for Office Operations	9/30/24	BA MS	Saint Peter's University Saint Peter's University
Lauren Davis	Advancement Services	Prospect Researcher	11/4/24	BA BS MA	Pennsylvania State University Pennsylvania State University Montclair State University
Richard Gomulka	Foundation Administration and Finance	Foundation Staff Assistant	10/28/24	BS MBA	Rowan University St. Peter's University
Swe Swe Htay	Institutional Research and Effectiveness	Assistant Director of Institutional Effectiveness	10/28/24	BA MS EdD	Lakeland University St. John's University Fairleigh Dickinson University
Daniela Jara	Academic Affairs	Collegiate Transition Specialist	10/7/24	BA MS	New Jersey City University Seton Hall University

Liany Jimenez	Academic Affairs	Program Associate, TRIO SSS	10/21/24	BA MS	Montclair State University Montclair State University
Christine Key*	Academic Affairs /Academic Programs and Assessment	Workday Implementation Specialist- Curriculum, Workday Student Project	10/21/24	BA	William Paterson University
Cristina Latino	Coccia Institute	Program Coordinator	11/4/24	BA MBA	Montclair State University Montclair State University
Matthew Lerman	Center for Student Involvement	Assistant Director of Greek	10/21/24	BS MA	Slippery Rock University Montclair state University
Daniel Loughrey	University Career Services	Director of Career Outcomes	10/7/24	BA MA	Ramapo College SIT Graduate Institute
Saniya Myers	Special Events	Special Events Coordinator	9/23/24	BS MBA	Montclair State University Montclair State University
Jill Reed Siroty	School of Communication and Media	Academic Advisor	9/23/24	BA MA	Penn State University Fairleigh Dickinson University
Tracy Varites	CHSS / Curriculum and Enrollment Management	Director of Data and Academic Planning	10/7/24	BA MA	Rutgers University The New School
Carolina Velis	Office of Student Belonging	Program Associate	10/21/24	BA	Montclair State University
Deanna Venezio	Undergraduate Education / Honors Program	Program Coordinator, Honors EDGE	9/23/24	BA MA	Ramapo College of New Jersey Monmouth University
Michael Weisberg	Facilities	Fire Safety Coordinator	9/23/24	BA	Montclair State University
Steffani Thomas	Global Programs and Partnerships	Coordinator of Global Programs	10/21/24	BS	Montclair State University
Mark Zuppichini	Psychology	Postdoctoral Research Scientist	1/6/24	BS MA PhD	The University of Texas, Dallas Montclair State University University of Delaware

Leave of Absence Without Pay

Name	Department	Term of Leave
Samantha Coyle-Eastwick	Psychology	October 16, 2024 – December 15, 2024

Professor Emeriti

Bette DaGiau
Pamela Delaney
Anthony D'Urso
Roberta Friedman
Naomi Liebler
Lucy McDiarmid

Helen Roberts
Jennifer Robinson
Marc Rosenweig
Elizabeth Wishnick
Richard Wolfson

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3504

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Mr. Abrantes reported that the Infrastructure Committee reviewed the minutes from its September 11, 2024 meeting and received a capital project report.

AUDIT, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Pinkett reported that the Audit, Finance and Development Committee reviewed the minutes from its September 11, 2024 meeting, met with the University's external auditors in executive session, and reviewed contract awards.

Contract Awards

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

- 3-year contract for Travel Services for International Academic Initiatives & General University Usage (FOS Tours & Travel Inc.) - \$1,000,000

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3505

FY 2024 Audit

Mr. Pinkett moved that the Board of Trustees hereby adopt the draft 2023-24 financial statements and audit report, as presented to the Audit, Finance and Development Committee, and subject to further revisions to be made by the Vice President for Finance & Treasurer in consultation with Grant Thornton LLP, to reflect GASB No. 75.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3506

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE CHAIR – MR. KENT SLUYTER (CONT'D)

Mr. Sluyter praised President Koppell's for his leadership and initiatives that has increased the University's reputation and trajectory as a leader in higher education. Mr. Sluyter moved for the University to pay President Koppell a retention payment of \$200,000 at the end of his contract, as long he remains as University president on such date.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

No. 3507

REPORTS


Professor Mary English, Faculty Representative for the Board, expressed excitement in participating in the Professor Emeriti presentation. Professor English highlighted various faculty projects.

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. 3508

The meeting adjourned at 12:36 pm.



Keith D. Barrack