



College Council

Minutes

September 17, 2024, 3:30 p.m. via Webex

Voting Members

Present: Dr. Deborah Coates (VP of Instruction); Dr. Gary Dukes (VP of Student Services); Holly Haman-Marcum (Centers); Ewan Magie (SFAC Representative); Troy McKie (APT Instructional Staff); Connie Mitchell (Faculty Division Chair – Gen Ed); Tracy Schneider (VP of Administration and Finance); Sally Shawcroft (APT Student Services Staff); Dr. Jennifer Thistle (Faculty Division Chair – Health Occupations); Su Wright (Gen Ed Instructor)

Voting Members Absent: Lynne Collins (Faculty Senate); Marsha Jesse (Classified Staff); Bill Miller (Faculty Division Chair – CTE)

Non-Voting Members

Present: Dr. Curt Freed (President); Amanda Dunn (Director of Human Resources); Jane Fries (Assistant to the President); Becky Geltz (Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Planning)

Non-Voting Members Absent: Susan Clough (Director of Development); Ariella Gonzales-Vondy (Director of Communications, Marketing, & Recruitment)

- 1) **Call to Order/Welcome:** Curt Freed called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.
- 2) **Standing Reports:**
 - a) **Faculty Senate:** Lynne Collins shared that the Faculty Senate will meet September 26. Several faculty subgroups have been established to address topics of interest throughout the academic year and will report at the next full faculty meeting.
 - b) **State Faculty Advisory Council (SFAC):** Ewan Magie reported that SFAC met September 6. Highlights from the meeting include:
 - i) A draft of the CCCS Strategic plan was shared at the meeting. Input from listening sessions held at System colleges was factored into the plan. SFAC will review the plan draft in detail and provide feedback. CCCS plans to finalize the plan by December.
 - ii) Colorado Online is fully launched and is receiving overall positive reviews.
 - iii) The State Board of Community Colleges and Occupation (SBCCOE) passed a resolution opposing Ballot Initiatives 50 and 108, which if enacted could reduce CCCS general funding from the state 20-50%. The legislature reached a compromise during a special General Session which means the funding reduction for CCCS will not be as severe as feared. As part of the agreement, the groups who brought forth the ballot initiatives will retract them and not introduce new ones targeting property tax reduction for at least six years.
 - iv) Dr. Sarah Heath from CCCS is working to improve the communication flow across the System. Dr. Heath is aware that information is not always trickling down from Vice Presidents as desired.
 - v) CCCS General Council Angie Gramse announced upcoming revisions to Board Policies and System Procedures.

Curt Freed noted that the CCCS Presidents participated in a strategic planning session with the SBCCOE in September. MCC will align its new Strategic Plan with the CCCS plan. It will likely be a three-year plan instead of a five-year plan, which would be more operational in nature.

- c) **Student Government Association (SGA):** This position is vacant. Gary Dukes reported that Jessica Diehl has been hired as the new Student Life Coordinator. They hope to have SGA operating by the second week in October.
 - d) **State Student Advisory Council (SSAC):** This position is vacant.
 - e) **Colorado Online:** Deborah Coates shared that Colorado Online courses are running smoother than in the past. MCC is evaluating which classes it can offer for Spring Semester.
 - f) **Rural College Consortium:** Vice Presidents of Instruction from the CCCS rural colleges are meeting regularly to communicate what classes are needed and what they can offer through the Consortium. Several MCC staff will be attending the Rural College Consortium Symposium at Otero College on September 25.
 - g) **ACCESS:** Gabe Tolan shared that the ACCESS team met September 3. Within the team, subgroups are developing initiatives focusing on students, faculty/staff, and the wider community. The subgroups will meet individually and give updates at the next full group ACCESS meeting.
- 3) **CSU Collaboration:** Curt Freed shared that Ingrid Johnson from CSU joined a President's Staff meeting to discuss collaboration opportunities. He noted that CSU is interested in "2+2" type of partnerships. Curt asked the College Council for additional ideas.
- a) Holly Haman-Marcum shared that CSU engagement staff have been excellent partners in the Wray area. She would like to see CSU serve additional regions.
 - b) Ewan Magie stated that he supports connections with CSU, which broadens awareness of higher education opportunities.
 - c) Connie Mitchell shared that CSU's collaboration with MCC's STEM initiatives has been positive.
 - d) Lyndsey Michaelis noted that she and Deborah Coates met with a CSU Extension representative over the summer regarding creating a 1+3 or 2+2 partnership where MCC's behavioral health micro credential and health coaching certificate could serve as a pathway to a social work degree. Deb noted that she will follow up on the opportunity.
- 4) **Other:**
- a) Curt Freed shared that the SBCCOE approved having MCC offer two additional Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) programs, one in Technical Education and the other in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education. Additional approvals are needed before the programs can be offered.
 - b) The college is currently awaiting Higher Learning Commission (HLC) approval for MCC's new BAS program in Business Administration, which was previously approved by the SBCCOE.
- 5) **College Council Member Comments:** None
- 6) **Audience Comments (non-College Council member participants):** None
- 7) **Adjournment/Next Meeting:** The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2024.

Minutes by Jane Fries, College Council Recorder/Assistant to the President