

FAN

Faculty Association Newsletter

Volume 41 • No. 6

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

May 9, 2008

<http://www.monroecc.edu/go/FA>

Faculty Council Elections

Faculty Council Elections will culminate with balloting on both the Brighton and Damon Campuses May 14. Candidates statements appear on pages 3-5.

Brighton Balloting

Faculty Council Elections
May 14
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
FA Office, 7-205

Damon Balloting

Faculty Council Elections
May 14
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Entrance to the 4th Floor at the Damon Campus

Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballots are available by phone if you will not be on campus the day of balloting. Contact Sonja Lenhard at x2516 for a ballot. Mail ballots will be sent to Applied Technology and the Public Safety Training Center. **All absentee ballots must reach the FA mailbox by 4:00 p.m. on May 14.**

MCC Board of Trustees to Meet May 17

Marlene Goho, Adm. Director, FA

John Wadach, Professor, Engineering Science/Physics

The MCC Board of Trustees announced at their last meeting on April 28 the need to spend more time reviewing the presidential selection recommendations submitted by MCC faculty. We're anticipating an announcement of the next president of MCC and we're hopeful the Board of Trustees will Do The Right Thing by selecting either Dr. Spraggs or Mr. Kessler. It is critical that FA members attend this very important meeting to either congratulate the Board or to voice an immediate protest. Please plan to attend on:

Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Monroe A and B

MCC's Warshof Conference Center

**Charlie Clarke, President; Taine Vinci, Vice President; Patricia Kress, Secretary;
Christopher Otero-Piersante, Treasurer; Mike Goho, Teaching Director; Tim Tatakis, Teaching Director;
Randy Rezabek, Professional Staff Director; Paul Wheeler, Prof. Staff Director; Patricia Dano, Adjunct Director;
Bethany Gizzi, Grievance Chair; Joseph McCauley, Contract Chair; Ellen Mancuso, Legislative Chair;
Cheryl Mahoney, Benefits Chair; Christine Casalnuovo-Adams, Institutional Chair;
Regina Fabbro, Membership Chair; Kathy Baxter, Damon/Site Director**

VOTE-COPE Drive Continuing Until May 15

Marlene Goho

Please check your interoffice mail! All members were sent a VOTE/COPE membership enrollment packet last week. The FA VOTE/COPE drive will run through May 15. VOTE/COPE is the "Voice of Teachers in Education/Committee on Political Education." Funded entirely by voluntary contributions from members, VOTE/COPE is used to help political candidates that support education, labor and social justice. Your participation is crucial. Faculty Council supports the decision that non-partisan political action in support of adequate funding and legislative support of MCC is now necessary! If you haven't already done so, please complete your enrollment form today. One dollar a paycheck can have a significant impact.

Nominations for Faculty Council

<i>Term</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Academic Years</i>
2 Years	Secretary	<i>Patricia Kress (Psychology)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Treasurer	<i>Renee Rigoni (Business Administration)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Teaching Director	<i>John Wadach (Engineering Science & Physics)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Professional Staff Director	<i>Anne Perry (Academic Services)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Legislative Chair	<i>Ellen Mancuso (Library)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Contract Chair	<i>Jeffrey Kiggins (Biology)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Grievance Chair	<i>Bethany Gizzi (AHPS*)</i>	2008-2010
2 Years	Membership Chair	<i>Regina Fabbro (English & Philosophy)</i>	2008-2010
Spring, 2009	Candidates for Delegates to the NYSUT RA Conference	<i>Ellen Mancuso, Bethany Gizzi, Paul Wheeler, Taine Vinci, John Wadach</i>	

*Anthropology, History, Political Science, Sociology

Candidate's Statements

Candidate for Professional Staff Director

Anne Perry

I joined the FA shortly after being hired in March 2004 as Budget Coordinator for Academic Services. My earliest union activity involved a get out the vote drive for the unions in Portland, Oregon when I was in college. I was a member of SEIU which represented the employees of a non-profit I worked for in the late 1970s. I worked for the Communications Workers of America for a short time in the early 1980s, as part of an organizing drive for Psych Techs in California. This experience underscores my interest in and commitment to union work.

When the Mediation project was announced, I saw that as a way to participate in the work of the FA. I went through the training two years ago and have since served as a mediator. I believe this process can be very helpful to our membership in resolving interpersonal issues before they become serious problems that affect one's work and perhaps even one's career.

In my first three years at MCC, I became increasingly conversant with the FA contract in the course of my duties as Budget Coordinator. A year ago, I was selected to be a member of the Negotiation Team, representing non-ranked professional staff. Reviewing the results of the various surveys gave me an understanding of the priorities of the membership. Working with the Team to develop the issues that would be presented during negotiations further increased my knowledge and understanding of the contract. Now that we are in the process of putting language into the contract, I'm learning even more.

I hope that you will agree that these experiences prepare me to serve as Professional Staff Director of the Faculty Council of the FA. I look forward to serving our membership in that capacity.

Candidate for Secretary

Pat Kress

I am writing to ask for your support for my re-election to the position of Secretary to the Faculty Council, a position I have filled since the fall of 2007. It has been a privilege to serve the Faculty Association in this capacity, and I would welcome the opportunity to continue to do so. Being Council Secretary has been an invaluable experience, giving me the chance

to learn a great deal about the FA, MCC, and the issues we face as a community. Just one example of the way this position has afforded me with tremendous learning opportunities is with attendance at the annual NYSUT conference: I have attended these as a member of the Faculty Council, and most recently, I co-presented on our FA Mediation Project. It is a pleasure representing MCC, along with my fellow Council members, at these assemblies. Therefore I respectfully ask for your vote to renew my service as Council Secretary. Thank you for considering my candidacy on election day.

Candidate for Membership Chair

Regina Fabbro

It has been both my pleasure and pride to serve as your Membership Chair for the past year, and I would consider it a privilege to again function in this capacity. The last academic year afforded the FA's members with many opportunities – including the ratification of a new contract and an often-heated presidential search – to wield our collective power and share our individual voices. To increase the distribution of information to members regarding these issues and to better respond to your needs, a major task that I undertook this year was the reformation of a formal Membership Committee. This group, made up of six faculty members from various disciplines and campuses, has been a major contributing force to the dissemination of accurate facts regarding the FA and its current involvements on campus. Additionally, we experienced our most successful Holiday Party this year, with nearly 150 MCC faculty, staff, and their guests attending. Engaging our members and responding to your concerns will remain priorities for me should I be reelected. I will also continue to diligently, mindfully, and enthusiastically serve as a Faculty Council representative. I look forward to the opportunity to continue as your Membership Chair, and I thank you for your support.

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Candidate for Treasurer

Renee Rigoni

I am currently a professor in the Business Administration and Economics Department where I've taught accounting for nearly two decades. As the candidate for FA Treasurer, I have an opportunity to use my business and analytical skills for the benefit of the FA membership.

Prior to teaching at MCC, I was the Budgets and Financial Planning Department supervisor and a senior financial planning analyst at The Gleason Works, a global corporation located in Rochester. My duties included multi-plant, multi-currency accounting consolidations. So if MCC ever opens a campus in a foreign country, I'll be ready!

I have a strong background in both financial and managerial accounting and look forward to serving the Faculty Association as its treasurer. I thank my predecessor, Chris Otero-Piersante, for the work he's done to organize and simplify the reporting. I am honored to be nominated for this position and request your support in the upcoming election.

Candidate for Legislative Chair

Ellen Mancuso

As an active member of FA and Legislative Chair, I lobby with NYSUT to inform our legislators on higher education issues. I support public education and am proud to work for our union to improve educational funding in NYS. Annually, I have organized lobby trips for MCC faculty representatives for NYSUT's SUNY Day, Monroe County Federation of Teacher's Local Legislative Breakfast and for NYSUT's Committee of 100. As a local activist, I work with the Rochester Teacher's Association, area UUP members and the Rochester Labor Council Cope Committee to organize and work on phone banks, literature drops, and letter writing campaigns for representatives across our region. I am running for re-election because I find the work challenging, interesting, and worthwhile.

I consider it a privilege to represent the Faculty Association and am now asking you to continue to support me in this role as Legislative Chair. I will continue to promote the higher education agenda and lobby on behalf of the college. I am also committed to representing the interests of the faculty and the professional staff on Faculty Council. I hope

you will support my candidacy for Legislative Chair and for Representative Assembly Delegate.

With sincere thanks,

Ellen

Candidate for Teaching Director

John Wadach

The MCC Presidential Search has motivated me to become a member of the Faculty Council. The events of the past few months have demonstrated that simply teaching my classes isn't enough to ensure the success of my students. I feel obligated to do more. The position of FA Teaching Director will allow me to assist the efforts of the Faculty Council to maintain and enhance working conditions.

In the mid 1980s I was the Legislative Chair of the Faculty Council. My interest in political affairs continued when I was elected as a Trustee of the Village of Lima from 1988-92. More recently I helped to lead in effort in Lima that deterred Wal-Mart from destroying prime farmland to construct a superstore in Lima. In addition to this victory our grassroots group successfully campaigned to elect progressive town officials who have since adopted a comprehensive plan and are currently working to update Lima's outdated zoning code.

Over the past few months I have stepped forward to keep the MCC community informed by establishing and maintaining the DoTheRightThingMCC.org website. The site has had approximately 30,000 site visits since its creation in March. In addition to the website I have also manually created email distribution lists totaling over 1,000 MCC employees and retirees. I have enjoyed the opportunity to interact with the many MCC faculty and staff members who have supported our efforts.

As a member of the Faculty Council I pledge that I will continue to work very hard to promote the interests of the faculty and professional staff which intern promotes student success.

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Candidate for Grievance Chair

Bethany Gizzi

I am proud to have served as a member of the Faculty Council for the past seven years; first as Adjunct Director, then Membership Chair and for this past year as Grievance Chair. I am asking for your support for re-election to the position of Grievance Chair.

During my years of service on the Faculty Council, as well as my participation in the Negotiating Team, By-Laws Committee and Research Committee of the FA, I have shown my commitment to being an advocate for the faculty of MCC. I have appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the Faculty Association, our contract, and the interests and concerns of the faculty. I am prepared to take on the challenge of this role within the union and I welcome the additional responsibilities and commitment that it requires. I believe the Faculty Association has an important role in the ongoing success of MCC. I will continue to dedicate myself to serving as your advocate and working towards the goals of our union.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve you as Grievance Chair and as a committed, enthusiastic and effective member of the Faculty Council. Thank you for your support.

Candidate for Contract Chair

Jeffrey Kiggins

There once were 2 goals and 2 tentative plans. Now there is one.

I stated in my October AFDR/Retention packet that I would seek to decrease the quantity of my committee, club and organizational involvement and increase the scope of my committee, club and organizational involvement. My definition of increasing the scope is shifting a percentage of my involvement from entirely intradepartmental to some College wide involvement.

The two plans were positions within either the Senate or the Faculty Association in order to meet the aforementioned goals. I initially began to study the Senate and had every intention of pursuing

Senate involvement, but as Ancaus' slave once said: "there is many a slip 'twixt a cup and a lip".

The 'slip' came in the form of the FA contract meeting. Following that meeting I had an impromptu meeting, a hallway discussion, with Charlie Clarke. I made some statements that impelled me to send an email to Charlie Clarke, Mike Goho and Marlene Goho. That email stated that I would vote to ratify the contract but I was displeased for a few listed reasons and I listed those reasons.

I strongly believe a few things. One of which is that a complainer shouldn't complain unless they have a potential solution or are willing to work towards a solution. The second is that a person should be sincere and act consistently with their statements or within their life philosophy, "walk the walk", if you will. I was the complainer and now I necessarily must be a worker towards potential solutions.

I look forward to learning, interpreting and applying the contract as your representative. I pledge that I will work hard, take questions and follow up with well researched answers.

FA to Sponsor "After Graduation Party"

The FA will sponsor a party on Thursday, May 29 immediately following graduation at the Stock Exchange Restaurant. There will be complimentary appetizers and a cash bar. The Stock Exchange Restaurant is located at 120 First Federal Plaza. We look forward to seeing you on May 29.

MCC Faculty Association

After Graduation Party!

Thursday, May 29, 2008
9:30 - midnight

The College Community is welcomed
to attend the FA After Graduation Party
(No students, please)

Live Music • Appetizers • Cash Bar

Stock Exchange Restaurant
120 First Federal Plaza

Live Blues
featuring the

Mud Kings!!