

# FAN

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

VOL. 56 NO. 6

MAY 2023

## President's Corner

This has been a difficult semester for several reasons, but made even more so by the devastating loss last week of our beloved friend and colleague, Matt Hachee. It seems somehow wrong and unfair to keep going on with "business as usual" even though the end of the semester continues with relentless expectations. In this edition of FAN we are publishing the candidate statements for our upcoming Faculty Council elections and other end-of-year business that must be communicated out. However, rather than write a typical President's Corner, I've asked friends and colleagues to share their thoughts and memories of Matt as a way to honor him and his service to MCC and to the Faculty Association. I hope you will take a moment to read their tributes and to join us in remembering Matt with love and admiration.

In solidarity,

*Bethany*



## 2022-23 FACULTY COUNCIL OFFICERS



President, Bethany Gizzi; Professional Staff VP, Phil Oettinger; Teaching Faculty VP, Jennifer Hill; Secretary/Treasurer, Jim McKenna; Teaching Director, Gordon Dutter; Teaching Director, Liz Zion-Stratton; Professional Staff Director, Julie Slate; Professional Staff Director, Melissa Santiago; Adjunct Director, Diane Dinkins-Lourette; Adjunct Chair, Jeff Baker; Grievance Officer, Matt Hachee; Communications Chair, Judi Salsburg-Taylor; Legislative Chair, Ellen Mancuso (interim); Equity & Inclusion Officer, April Daniels; Membership Chair, Kevin French; Health & Safety Officer, David Lederhouse; Site Director, Christine Plumeri; Site Director, Bill Horton

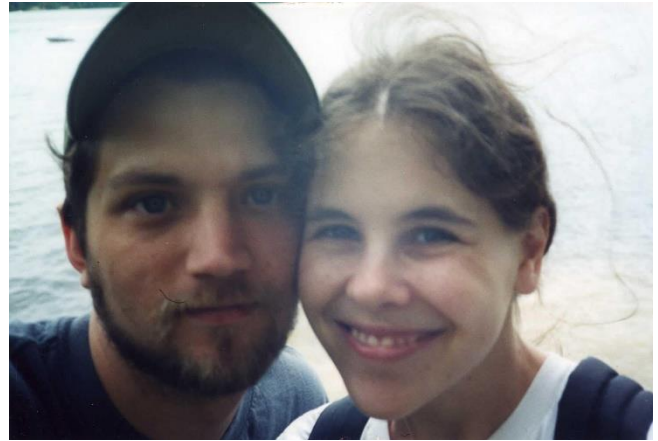
## Goodbye, Matthew Hachee: An Unfinished Conversation

Having known Matt for twenty years, I can say without a doubt that he was a brilliant intellectual, a valued colleague, a gifted teacher, and a dear friend to me. I cannot count the number of times that students told me how much they loved his classes and how he inspired them. As an officer in the FA, he worked tirelessly on the behalf of MCC faculty, and always put the concerns of others first. He was also a profound thinker with a marvelous wit, and I always welcomed his insights and enjoyed our many conversations over the years. And as his friend, I can attest to what a devoted father and husband he was. Anyone who knew him knew that his family was the center of all he did. I find it difficult to put into words how much his loss has impacted me and our entire college community. He was a truly remarkable person, and we are all worse for having lost him.

- **Carl Silvio**



Matt and I were hired together by MCC's English/Philosophy Department twenty years ago but I still remember the physical thrill of his intelligence, his commitment to his students, and his compassionate political views. He met my husband almost immediately, I met Regina, and we got to know Rochester together. We bought our first homes in the same city neighborhood, we took care of each other's cats. We learned about whiskey together. Regina and I talked about *Days of Our Lives*. Matt and Regina talked about *Star Trek*. We all talked about theatre. They bought our son his first cello lesson because they recognized something beautiful in his four-year-old stretch towards music, just like



they both always recognized something beautiful in all the young people they served.

Then, life twisted and turned, as it does. We sold our homes, moved to other parts of the area. Sophie came along, then Evie, then Henry. We didn't see each other as much.... But I never stopped feeling thrilled by Matt's electric presence, and I know MCC is infinitely better for his strong understanding of ethical principles and his unwavering belief in justice. We *all* are better for having been touched by Matt's mind, his wit, his love.

It's impossible to understand—let alone articulate—the depth of his loss in the world.

- **Maria Brandt**





My Dad, a proud labor union leader, used to say, “honey, you will know who loves you if they are willing to loan you money without interest, bail you out of jail and help you move”. Thankfully, I’ve never needed the first two, but Matt stepped up bigtime last summer and helped me pack to move on a scorching hot August day.

He was a dear friend; a brilliant, kind, funny and compassionately *human* man. We connected over our work, at times NSFW senses of humor and a lifelong love of Elton John. We hung out off-campus listening to and playing music – he on keyboards and me on vocals.

Like everyone who will always love Matt, my heart aches for Regina, Sophie, Evie, Henry, and their family, friends and students. Most of us didn’t need a reminder that life is unfair and precious, yet Matt’s passing has slapped us hard. His loss, both professionally and personally, is crushing, and I will remember him always and fondly.

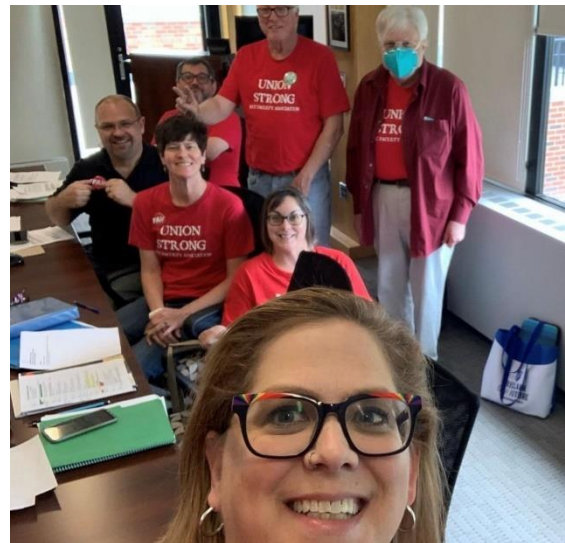
I will close by sharing song lyrics that are very special to Regina and Matt. They are from “Mona Lisas and Madhatters” by Bernie Taupin and Elton John:

*“Until you’ve seen this trash can dream come true  
You’ll stand at the edge while people run you through  
And I thank the lord there’s people out there like you  
I thank the lord there’s people out there like you...”*

- **Christine Plumeri**

We lost Matt Hachee last week. By *we*, I refer to our entire community (whether all members are even aware of it or not), both within MCC and without, extending from former students from more than 15 years ago to students today, and colleagues who served alongside him in various, meaningful ways over the course of their careers. In life, we often say things such as “they changed my life,” but when we say that about Matt Hachee, we mean it—it’s true. Scholarships have been earned. Degrees have been completed. Entire academic paths engineered. Career paths altered and developed for the betterment of individuals and communities. Working conditions improved. Consciousness elevated. And this may sound like an exaggeration, but I trust you will believe me when I say this...lives saved. Matt Hachee was precious. He was the best of us, he will always be precious to us, and he will always be making us better, because (as only a philosopher could express) he was.

- **April Daniels**



Matt was one of the most supportive colleagues at MCC at multiple levels. On the personal level, he made a point of giving me compliments and encouragement, and at the highest policy levels he was a relentless advocate for faculty. What a devastating loss.

- **Gordon Dutter**



Matt Hachee possessed one of the greatest minds and passion for his work and family that I have ever known. I learned so much from my dear friend and colleague through our many years working together on Faculty Council, Labor Management and Contract Negotiations. I remember when Matt introduced me to the NY Times bestseller [On Bullshit](#) by moral philosopher Harry G Frankfurt that provides a theory and analyses of “bullshit” within the art of persuasion and communication. If you have not read this book, you should, in honor and memory of Matt Hachee. He will always be missed and loved by so many.

- **Taine Vinci**

Matt's passion for teaching influenced everything he did in and out of the classroom. Matt's dedication to academic excellence is reflected in Scholars' Day, the Honor's Program, and Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Project. He strived to inspire his students and his colleagues to think critically and live purposefully. I loved working with Matt, and I am grateful for the time I spent with him. A wonderful teacher, friend, and colleague. And his greatest joy, being a father and husband.

*The person who has practiced philosophy as a cure for self becomes great of soul, filled with confidence, invincible - and greater as you draw near. - Seneca*

- **Jodi Oriel**

Matthew Hachee was hired at MCC upon the retirement of philosophy professor, Derek Harrison. At the time, our country was thick in another war. Derek, a close family friend, and I were part of a weekly Saturday morning peace vigil. It wasn't long after Matt and Regina moved to Rochester that Derek dragged Matt along to the vigil, and it was on that line—a public statement for peace and justice—where I spent the majority of my time with my new colleague.

Matt Hachee had a commanding presence. If you ever met him, you know exactly what I mean. He got bigger when he spoke, and whoever was within earshot would instinctually lean into his words. His orbit of energy was expansive, though he was never loud or overbearing. His intellect, his aura, his very spirit took up space. His presence was always generous. To my knowledge, Matt gave everyone the benefit of the doubt. There may have been some philosophical undergirding to this magnanimity he shared with everyone, but I can't say for sure. Matt's presence and words decorated a room to feel regal. I have yet to meet another human being like Matt.

Over the years, the war ended (sort of). He and I were busy with our young families and professional interests that didn't permit much intersection. Until recently. I found my way to Faculty Council, and, shortly thereafter, Matt found his way back to the group. In our Faculty Council meetings, Matt raised our standards of, well, everything. His presence—even when



calling in on zoom—made me want to be a better thinker, a more generous colleague, a reliable union leader. Matt believed in pooling our collective intellect and fierce spirits to do good by MCC, our students, our colleagues, and for the greater society.

Last summer, we both attended a NYSUT leadership conference. We shared a meal, and I remember at the time thinking, *There is no place else I want to be. There's so much I want to talk with him about.*

We talked some that evening and caught up a bit on several years of life and family. For the rest of the conference, Matt was not feeling well and was unable to participate in the goings-on. Like the rest of us, I thought we would have more time to connect, more long conversations about life, love, justice, union solidarity, and so much more. These would be conversations I looked forward to, like a cold drink of water after a long and dusty journey. But now, I, we, must carry on and try to realize the values that mattered to him, even with this lingering thirst for his presence.

- **Judi Salsburg Taylor**

I feel so lucky to have had the honor to work closely with Matt through our work for the FA and to get to know him as a professional, a colleague, and a union leader. Matt was wickedly smart, asked challenging questions, and pushed me to think differently about things I thought I knew. He was committed to the union, to serving and fighting for our colleagues, in a way that few people are. He challenged me and pushed me, but always had my back and lifted me up when I needed it. Matt did more to support the faculty and staff of MCC than most people realized, or saw. We made a good team and we did good work together.

But Matt was also my friend. He always had something witty or sarcastic to say and knew how to lighten the mood when needed. We shared laughs, drinks, stories about our kids, raised eyebrows and smirks across a room, and so many moments that made our friendship such a gift. I am better for knowing him and so grateful I had that chance.

- **Bethany Gizzi**



# Faculty Council Elections

Voting will take place on May 30 & 31, 10-2, at the FA office or via absentee ballot.  
 Absentee ballots and instructions will be included in the email with this FAN.  
 Please see the list of candidates and candidate statements below.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Office Position</b>	<b>Nominee(s)</b>	<b>Term of Office</b>
2 Years	President	Bethany Gizzi	2023 - 2025
2 Years	VP for Professional Staff	Phil Oettinger	2023 - 2025
2 Years	VP for Teaching Faculty	Jennifer Hill	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Baker	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Diversity & Inclusion Chair	April Daniels	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Teaching Director	Jim McKenna	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Professional Staff Director	Melissa Santiago	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Downtown Site Director	Antonia Custodio	2023 - 2025
2 Years	Adjunct Chair	P.J. Ciaccia	2023 - 2025
1 Year	Legislative Chair	Joe Scanlon	2023 - 2024
Spring 2024	Delegates to the **NYSUT RA	April Daniels Jennifer Hill Ellen Mancuso Jim McKenna Phil Oettinger Melissa Santiago	



Connect with us on social media to get the latest news & updates:  
 Facebook: MCC Faculty Association (members only group)  
 Twitter: @MCCFacultyAssoc  
 Instagram: @mccfacultyassoc  
 FA website: [www.mccfacultyassoc.org](http://www.mccfacultyassoc.org)

# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## **Candidate for President, Bethany Gizzi**

This is the seventh time that I have written a candidate statement to run for President of the FA. Given that, you'd think it wouldn't have been so hard for me to figure out what to say. But, this will also be my last candidate statement as President and I haven't quite figured out how to feel about that, or how to communicate how I feel.

I am honored to have served as President for twelve years and to have had your support and confidence in my leadership. This role has been the defining (and most rewarding) one of my career and it's hard to imagine moving on from that even though I know that I am ready to do so.

I believe that I have served the FA, and you, well. I am a devoted unionist at heart and I believe in doing the work necessary to achieve equity, justice, and fairness for all workers. I have tried to be transparent in my leadership and have sought your guidance throughout. I have been lucky to work with some amazing FA leaders, and together I believe that we have strengthened the FA despite facing difficult circumstances.

After this last term as your President, perhaps I will stick around for a few years, serving you and the FA in whatever capacity the next FA President wants or needs. But in the meantime, I will commit myself to serving as your President and working hard to deserve your trust over the next two years.

In solidarity, always,  
Bethany

## **Candidate for VP for Professional Staff, Phil Oettinger**

I started at Monroe Community College in 2008 as a Technical Specialist focusing mainly on the technology side of helping our faculty and staff with their needs. As I continued my career at MCC my work started to expand beyond just instructional technology, and I quickly learned

that many departments go into making the college successful. As Assistant Director of Academic Learning Environments I get to work with so many people across many departments and it is easy to see how we are all interconnected and striving for the same goal: student success. I feel my role at the college allows me to get to know so many people, what they do, and what their concerns and needs are so that I can be the voice of our professional staff on the Faculty Council. Our professional staff is integral for everyday operations, executing MCC's goals, and the continued success of supporting our students, faculty, and Staff.

I would like to continue to bring all concerns and innovative ideas to those who need to hear it. With brand new leadership at every division- it is essential for our Faculty Council be full and have representation from every aspect of our college community and that is why I am asking for your vote. We can continue to move forward and create a respectful environment among all our colleagues and members.

## **Candidate for VP for Teaching Faculty, Jennifer Hill**

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> "Candidate Statement" I have submitted to serve the Faculty Association. I have been involved with the FA for 14 of the 17 years I've been at MCC. I am proud of the work we have done, and I have thoroughly enjoyed (almost) all of it. But I'm tired. I believed a decade ago that I would serve as President of the FA. These last 10 years have been tough at MCC. And I've also learned that, mentally and physically, I cannot serve as President. I'm not being humble. I'm not looking for compliments or for people to convince me I should serve in this role. We have been cajoling and begging our members to increase their participation in the FA for years, but too many of you are satisfied letting others do this work. I am sorry if my honesty is hurtful. I know we all feel that our "initiatives" here at MCC are valuable and super important. I think you would be hard-pressed to find one group or committee on campus that has more of a direct impact on members than the FA and our role in negotiating contracts, filing grievances,

advocating for our members, and fostering an equitable and fair workplace and policies. For too long, this work has fallen on only a few shoulders.

The FA is about to hit a critical tipping point. Our amazing leader, Bethany, has also warned you for years that she too will step down as President soon. It's hard for me to imagine what the FA looks like without Bethany at the helm but imagine it and live it... we will.

A colleague of mine summed up the atmosphere: MCC and our employees are "languishing". I get it. Times have been challenging. We've lost students, faculty, and staff and maybe our interest in "Inspiring Everyday". MCC is not what it used to be but that does not mean that it cannot be something good and pride-invoking again. But that will require US to make that happen. By reengaging, by collaborating, by working to improve the college for US and our students.

Please vote for me for my 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Vice President for Teaching Faculty. More importantly, considering getting involved with the FA and/or encouraging colleagues to get involved. The time to pass the buck is over.

**Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer, Jeff Baker**

Our MCC Faculty Association and its statewide affiliate, NYSUT, have made significant gains during the past year. Locally, we signed a new contract that guarantees pay increases for five years and relieves some of the uncertainty we faced in the recent past. Statewide, NYSUT has achieved increases in funding for higher education, helping to avoid the financial problems faced by public colleges in other parts of the country. As a member of the Faculty Council and FA negotiation team, I played a small role in helping to achieve those milestones. But there are still goals to reach, and I am asking you to allow me to continue working toward them.

This is my 22nd year at MCC, having served as an adjunct faculty member and temporary full-time faculty. I have taught at other community

colleges, four-year colleges, and universities and worked as professional staff at a liberal arts college. This brings a wide range of perspectives on issues that MCC has in common with other institutions, and on concerns unique to us.

While serving on the MCC Faculty Council for 9 years, I attended eight NYSUT Community College Conferences as well as NYSUT trainings, rallies, issues meetings, demonstrations, and legislative activities. Other FA experience includes serving on two negotiating teams, communication, and adjunct sub-teams, and as chair of the adjunct faculty committee. I have produced and conducted FA workshops for faculty. My leadership experience also includes having served as president of the New York State Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) which is both a faculty/staff union and non-disciplinary professional organization, and as president, treasurer, and trustee of the Learning Disabilities Association of New York State. I have completed AAUP leadership and negotiation training, and I have been a member of the AFT Adjunct Faculty Caucus. I would appreciate your vote.

**Candidate for Diversity & Inclusion Chair, April Daniels**

In my candidacy statement two years ago, I wrote that the ESOL/TRS department carries out the very mission of diversity, equity, and inclusion at our institution, in spite of systemic and structural barriers within higher education. I noted that as a faculty member of this ever-evolving department, I am fortunate to be a member of a hard-working team that lives these ideals consciously through its pedagogy, curriculum, and professional development. This is still true, and I am committed to growing this work.

I currently serve DEI initiatives at the college as a senator; as the co-chair of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accountability (IDEA) council; as a member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workgroup: DEI in Teaching and Learning; as a member of the Truth and Racial Healing Toolkit core team; and as an active



member of the TCC. In these various roles, I have had the opportunity, along with other devoted faculty and staff across the college, to identify equity gaps and areas for improvement, and to advocate for equitable policies, procedures, and practices. I have recently been nominated to become a member of the NYSUT Standing Committee on Civil and Human Rights, whose charge it is to “advance the union’s efforts to promote equity and social justice,” and whose recommendations are forwarded to NYSUT’s officers and board.

In my previous candidate statement, I wrote that as a proud alumna of MCC, I had the great fortune of exposure to equity-minded faculty, and that they set me on the difficult path toward equity. I said that their examples are what both sent me forth and brought me back, and that I am duty-bound to continue their work. This is more true today than it was two years ago, in part due to the alarming rise in incidents of hate; discriminatory legislation; and attacks on DEI initiatives and academic freedom. It would be my honor to continue the work of those who have gone before me to advance equity.

### **Candidate for Teaching Director, Jim McKenna**

I have a record of staunch commitment to MCC’s students, faculty, and staff. A past Senator for two and a half terms, I served on the Curriculum Committee and SCAA. While on SCAA, I participated in multiple searches for dean positions and on the search for our first provost. Additionally, I intentionally act in the best interest of our college community. I am Faculty Liaison to the men’s basketball team, acting as a mentor, counselor, and trusted friend to our student athletes. I collaborate with outside agencies to train our students in the use of Narcan and arrange for a retired federal bankruptcy judge to educate MCC students about credit card debt and credit abuse.

My master’s is in Drug and Alcohol Counseling. I have the ability to nurture productive working relationships in small and large groups and communicate effectively with multiple

constituencies. My varied experience with constructive interactions has benefited the Faculty Association and the entire college. My commitment to MCC’s students, faculty, and professional staff has always been unwavering. As many of you know, I have had the privilege of representing you at the bargaining table during the previous negotiations. This was at times challenging and stressful. The team did a fantastic job negotiating with administration. We fought hard for the contract. As you are well aware the team negotiated a five-year contract. I am now completing my third term as Treasurer. I now have decided to step down from that position. Since becoming involved in the Faculty Association the past eight years have been extremely important to me. At this time, I would like to continue my involvement and would ask you to support my running for the open Teaching Director position.

Thanks, and Peace.

Jim

### **Candidate for Professional Staff Director, Melissa Santiago**

Hello Brothers and Sisters! My name is Melissa Santiago, and it has been my honor to serve as Professional Staff Director on Faculty Council and as a delegate for the Faculty Association. As many of you may know, I have a long-standing belief that united we stand—it is with this belief that I hope to continue to represent MCC’s vital professional staff constituents. My goal remains to ensure that our collective voices are seen, heard, and part of the decision-making process. My roles and responsibilities within Monroe Community College span 20+ years. I began as a federal work study employee in the Financial Aid office, while I was a student attending college at this institution. Then, I accepted a permanent, full-time clerical position in the office, after serving in several temporary and grant funded positions. Approximately 11 years ago, I accepted a Financial Specialist position, which I continue to hold. After many years exclusively in the Student Services Division, I made the decision to join the Controller’s operations in Administrative Services three years ago and I continue to work in this capacity today.

During my time at the college, I have taken part in numerous college-wide initiatives and committees. Some of my proudest professional endeavors include serving on the Diversity Council, the Executive Committee of the American Association for Community Colleges', NYSUT's Regional Women's committee, Middle States Shared Governance sub-committee, the Faculty Council Legislative Committee, as well as Faculty Association negotiations and related sub-committees. I share these experiences to illustrate my dedication to our community, our students, and all my fellow FA employees at the college. I would love to continue to engage with and support my MCC colleagues in a positive, productive, and impactful way.

Those that know me know that I have a strong sense of respect for our collective differences and an ethical imperative to accomplish the goal of inclusivity and equality across all areas of the college. I have a friendly, approachable, and collaborative demeanor which I hope has benefited our members now and will continue to in the challenging times ahead. Please consider voting for me for Professional Staff Director in the upcoming elections; if re-elected to Faculty Council, I promise not to let you down!

**Candidate for Downtown Site Director,  
Antonia Custodio**

In my 30 years at MCC, I have worked at the Downtown Campus where I started at Damon when we were in the Sibley Building. Having started as a receptionist in the Student Services Department I learned how to value the work we did and continue to do and that is to serve our students. Students are at the heart of what we do but so are our faculty and staff. I have served as a Representative for CSEA and was on the negotiating team. I've served on Faculty Senate, the MCC Strategic Plan, and the Accreditation Committee. I am currently serving on the Downtown Campus Leadership Team, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council, Chair of the Latino Affinity Group, the Sustainability Committee, and a number of searches and other committees. My passion is MCC but more specifically the Downtown Campus. In my role

as Facilities Director for the Downtown Campus, my goal is to provide a welcoming and clean environment for everyone we serve on a daily basis. My daily walks throughout the campus and the many meetings I attend give me the opportunity to interact with many at the Downtown Campus. Many reach out to me daily for requests, concerns, and suggestions. I am an advocate for our Downtown Community and want to continue to do that in this role. I have not served in any capacity on Faculty Council, but I look forward to serving should I be selected for this position and continue to be an advocate for the Downtown Campus.

**Candidate for Adjunct Chair, P.J. Ciaccia**

As general background, I have worked in a variety of clinical settings and taught at several academic institutions—being part of the adjunct faculty at MCC since 1994. My most extended employment (over 30 years) was working as a psychologist for NY State. My latter years with the state were largely focused on the clinical/forensic needs of a special population—a population having a variety of dealings with law enforcement.

During my entire state employment, I was a proud member of the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Unit (PS&T) of the Public Employees Federation, AFL-CIO. As such, I repeatedly became aware of the need for strong advocacy by the union to ensure that the standards of care always remained high and that those providing such services required both professionally autonomy/flexibility in the administration of their services and to be appropriately compensated for those services. These same general needs are also necessary to ensure the quality of education we provide for our students.

Thanks to the persistent efforts of the FA, we at MCC have a new contract. Although that is formally resolved for the time being, we must ensure that all aspects are maintained at the prescribed levels—remaining vigilant in an ever-evolving academic environment. As Jeff Baker, the current Adjunct Chair, has stated, the “MCC

Faculty Association and its statewide affiliate, NYSUT, have made significant gains during the past year” regarding funding. However, he has also shared how we are still underfunded, especially from the county. Stressing the importance of this is crucial to ensure continued quality for our students and adequate compensation for those providing that education. The latter is especially problematic given the challenges he has identified, “decreasing enrollment” as well as the aforementioned underfunding. I believe this is a highly accurate analysis and, in my role as Adjunct Chair, would provide all possible assistance in addressing the above issues.

I have been a liaison between the adjunct faculty in Psychology and the department for over 10 years. However, the scope of this office goes well beyond those concerns...despite how important those concerns are. Nonetheless, I would be quite happy to embrace the aforementioned challenges if given the opportunity. Thankfully, if allowed to assume the position, Jeff has agreed to act as mentor/guide. The latter should dramatically reduce my time in “coming up to speed” and thus effectively discharging the duties of the office. Finally, I do thank you for your consideration.

**Candidate for Legislative Chair, Joe Scanlon**

I am asking for your vote for the Faculty Association Legislative Chair position for the 2023-2024 year. As Legislative Chair, I aim to identify and work with candidates and officials supportive of MCC’s mission and goals, the role of the FA at the College, and labor unions in general. I have been a member of the FA since my start at the College in 2013, and I wholeheartedly support labor unions in their efforts to organize and bargain. I firmly believe our country’s standard of living and quality of life correlates with empowered labor unions and worker representation.

My academic background complements the Legislative Chair position. I studied political science at Central Michigan University, received a Ph.D. in political science from Northern Illinois University, and currently teach political science at MCC. I now coordinate The Democracy Commitment at MCC, a campus initiative dedicated to civic engagement and education. I previously served on the Faculty Senate, including chair of the Professional Development Committee, which provided me with leadership experience.

Overall, I am well suited for the Legislative Chair position and look forward to the opportunity to support the College’s and FA’s representation in local government.



**Contract Dates for  
10-Month  
FA Employees:**

**2022-23 Academic Year:  
August 29, 2022 – June 27, 2023**

**2023-24 Academic Year:  
August 28, 2023 – June 26, 2024**

## FA Scholarship Committee Celebrate the "Follow Your Dream" Scholarship Recipients

The recipients who received the FA Scholarship were celebrated at a small reception held on May 17. Honoree/retiree, Taine Vinci was present to hand out the certificates to the recipients.

Thank you to all who have donated to the FA scholarship, you helped raise over \$2500. Each scholarship recipient received \$500 to go towards continuing their education at MCC.

Look out for future FA "Follow Your Dream" Scholarship announcements during the fall semester.

Scholarship Recipients: Denaresh Quinones, Paula Barlow, Isolyn Guy (Diana Coppola not pictured) & Honoree Taine Vinci

Committee Members: Sonja Lenhard, Denee Martin, Kathy Baxter, Gabe Armatas, Jessica Barone & Mazie Mizelle



## Primary Endorsements:

It is a pleasure to inform you that the MCC Faculty Association has endorsed candidates for Monroe County Legislators in the 2023 primary for LD 17, LD21, LD22, LD25, LD27, and LD29.

These endorsements recognize the candidate’s commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of Monroe County citizens, K12 and Higher Ed. In addition, they support the labor movement. Candidates completed an online questionnaire and were interviewed by the committee.

Candidate	LD	e-mail
Allan Richards	17	<a href="mailto:University840@aol.com">University840@aol.com</a>
Santos Cruz	21	<a href="mailto:Scruzld21@gmail.com">Scruzld21@gmail.com</a>
Mercedes Vazques-Simmons	22	<a href="mailto:mercedesforld22@gmail.com">mercedesforld22@gmail.com</a>
Carolyn Delvecchio Hoffman	25	<a href="mailto:carolyndhoffman@carolynfortheconomy.com">carolyndhoffman@carolynfortheconomy.com</a>
Rose Bonnick	27	<a href="mailto:Bonnickld27@gmail.com">Bonnickld27@gmail.com</a>
William Burgess	29	<a href="mailto:legislatorburgess@gmail.com">legislatorburgess@gmail.com</a>

We believe informed and energetic Monroe County Legislature make a difference for Monroe County, K12, Higher Education and labor. That is why we are supporting their candidacy.

### FA Legislative Committee

Pat Dano  
Ellen Mancuso, Chair  
Mark Sample  
Melissa Santiago  
Joe Scanlon

## Adjunct Advocate – Jeff Baker, Adjunct Chair

As an adjunct faculty member, you have the right and ability to be found by students and college personnel. The Faculty Association Contract provides:

### Article 32 – Section B

- 3) Listing in College Publications. All adjunct faculty shall have an opportunity to be included and listed as such in the College Directory. After four (4) cumulative semesters of employment, adjunct faculty shall have an opportunity to also be listed in the College Catalog if they request such listing.

Why is this important? Students need to find you if they have questions and college staff may need to find you for many different reasons.

Once a class begins, students will have your Course Information Sheet (syllabus) showing your contact information. But what if a student wants some information before enrolling in your class or someone who is not a student needs to contact you for routine college business or in an emergency? Although a knowledgeable and persistent person

can go through the campus operator, find the department chair or secretary and eventually find you, it is much easier if you are listed in the college directory.

To see if you are listed, go to the [directory](#) and either search the alphabetical listing by the first letter of your last name or check the department listing. If the link does not work, go to the college website and scroll to the bottom of the home page for the Directories link. If your name is not there, ask your department secretary to have you added to the listings.

While listing in the college catalog is less important, it is a matter of recognition and once you meet the requirements, you should request that as well. For both the directory and catalog, it is important to follow up because the college has not been very diligent in implementing such requests.

If you have any questions, contact Jeff Baker, Adjunct Chair of the Faculty Association at [jbaker2@monroecc.edu](mailto:jbaker2@monroecc.edu)



### [Submit a Written Story](#)

For the Record is where NYSUT members tell their own stories, in their own words and voices. Every month, we ask for member submissions on a specific topic or theme. If you are a NYSUT member and have a story to tell, we want to hear it. Share your story [here](#).



#### **Free Calm Subscription for In-Service NYSUT Members**

- 1- Download & open the Calm App
- 2- Create an account with a personal email address & go to Profile – Settings – Link Employer Subscription
- 3- Click on Redeem via Employer ID and enter “nysut-member-benefits” as your organization. Then enter your NYSUT ID#
- 4- If you already have a Calm account, go to Settings – Link Employer Subscription and follow step 3.
- 5- Use the Calm App to help ease stress, anxiety, and insomnia!

## NEW PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT!

# Universal Life Insurance with Convalescent Care Benefit

provided by:

**Trustmark**  
benefits beyond benefits

- Innovative universal life insurance product provided by Trustmark®, combining life insurance coverage with a convalescent care benefit that can be used to pay for long-term care services.
- **Limited time offer!** In-service members ages 18-64 who enroll between May 1 and June 16, 2023 may qualify for guaranteed coverage (no medical questions) up to \$50,000.
- Retiree members up to age 70 may elect coverage up to \$100,000 by answering some medical questions.

### LIVING BENEFITS FOR LONG-TERM CARE

You could require long-term care services at any point in your life, which could cost hundreds of dollars per day. This universal life insurance program includes a convalescent care benefit that can help pay for these services at any age. Policyholders with a qualifying claim can collect up to 4% of their universal life death benefit per month for up to 25 months -- helping to cover the cost of long-term care services such as an in-home health aide, assisted living facility, or nursing home care.

### LIFE INSURANCE

Protecting your loved ones is one of life's greatest responsibilities. Along with the grief that comes with losing a family member, survivors may suddenly be faced with costly expenses, debts, and a loss of income. Your death benefit can be used to help pay these expenses or for other items such as tuition or savings.

### YOURCARE360 ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE

This program includes access to YourCare360, providing an online resource that can help to guide you and your family through the caregiving journey.



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left,  
visiting [memberbenefits.nysut.org](https://memberbenefits.nysut.org)  
or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

May-Jun 2023