

CALL TO ORDER

President Moore called College Council to session at 2:04 p.m. in B204-210.

ATTENDEES

Council Members Present: Mary-Rita Moore, Frank Alvino, Purva DeVol, Shawntrae Douglas, Beth Dunn, Zelda Fredette, Agnes Kozielska, Shekinah Lawrence, Hilary Meyer, Colleen Rockafellow, Mel Seaton, Kurian Tharakunnel, Shelley Tiwari

Council Members Absent: Dmytriy Havrylyak, Jason Lemberg

Others present: Jeanette Bartley, Gregg Beglau, Mary Casey-Incardone, Dominique Dial, Paul Jensen, Denise Jones, Justyna Kohtz, Tina Lilly, Michael Thunberg, Susan Rhode, Felicia Townsend, David Velazquez,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Fredette made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rockafellow to approve the minutes from the regular Council meeting of October 20, 2025. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously.

HOT TOPICS

President Moore announced the college's recognition by the Aspen Institute as one of the top 200 community colleges in the nation. President Moore also highlighted recent external attention, including coverage on the Triton website and outreach from the Chicago Tribune.

OPERATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Dean Meyer shared the following highlights: IT is exploring phishing awareness tests for students during Cybersecurity Awareness Month to strengthen account security. Research is developing a retention tracking dashboard that monitors whether first time fall students re-enroll for the spring, the data collected will assist in identifying students who may need outreach to return for the spring. In Academic Affairs, the automotive department represented Triton College at the ICCB Rev Up showcase, featuring Triton's branded Honda Prolog EV to highlight innovation in electric-vehicle education. In Student Affairs, Dean Willis shared resources for students affected by the SNAP benefit pause, and Triton is participating in the statewide "Feed the Need" food drive to support students facing food insecurity. Business and Facilities continue work on the new college website and the upcoming interactive virtual campus map.

ACADEMIC SENATE

Beth Dunn reported on two meetings since the last college council meeting. In October's meeting Student Development, OETC (Online Education & Teaching Committee), Campus Quality and Academic support have completed revisions to their bylaws and committee memberships. In November's meeting the College Curriculum Committee presented programs for potential withdrawal and updates to course outcomes to the following courses: Criminal Justice, Accounting and Sports Management. They also discussed ways to incorporate notes

within degree and certificate programs to better support students in navigating course sequencing and requirements. Academic and Scholastic Standards Committee reported continued progress on a proposed forgiveness policy, which is expected to be finalized and brought forward for a senate vote in December, the committee is also seeking new members. Student Development shared that their October trivia event drew approximately 25 student teams and announced a November 18 luncheon intended to strengthen engagement and a sense of belonging among students, faculty, staff and administrators.

Academic Support members discussed strategies for managing disability-related absences in courses. The committee shared attendance data from faculty volunteers, noting that a portion of students reported absences due to life challenges, highlighting the need for additional support. The committee also announced a call for faculty volunteers to participate in a grade tracking pilot. Faculty who maintains up-to-date grades on Blackboard and participate in portal-based attendance tracking were encouraged to volunteer for this initiative.

Campus Quality announced several open seats for interested faculty members. The Professional Development Subcommittee reported ongoing planning for the Spring Teaching and Learning Day as well as preparing for the outstanding Faculty award nomination. Assessment provided updated planning information and announced the need for a new chair for Assessment. Professional Development shared updates on their planned components for the Spring 2026 Teaching and Learning Day, and the Peer Review panel discussed the structure of their subcommittee format.

Under New Business, it was announced that the bylaws have been updated to fully align with the information posted on Triton's public website. Senators also raised concerns regarding the course cancellation procedure, specifically the practice of canceling courses one week prior to the start of the semester when enrollment falls below 55 percent capacity. Senators were asked to discuss this issue within their departments and prepare to report back at the December meeting.

STUDENT SUCCESS

None.

COLLEGE COUNCIL FOCUS: Student Success Goal

AVP Paul Jensen provided an overview of the college's work-based learning efforts, highlighting opportunities through both registered and unregistered apprenticeships. He emphasized how valuable real work experience is for students, noting that employers consistently look for candidates with hands-on skills. Mr. Jensen outlined several pathways available to students, including internships, clinical rotations in health programs, pre-apprenticeships, project-based learning, and apprenticeships. He also explained the difference between unregistered apprenticeships currently offered in areas like automotive and engineering technology and federally registered apprenticeships, which require more documentation, employer

collaboration, and alignment with industry standards. Mr. Jensen explained the roles community colleges can have, whether as providers, related technical instruction (RTI) or as full sponsors of registered programs, each involving different levels of responsibility. Jensen talked about the different ways the college could grow its work-based learning options by creating pre-apprenticeship and dual credit pathways, working more closely with employers, and looking for grant opportunities.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of College Council is on December 15, 2025, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in B204/210.

OTHER

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. DeVol made a motion, seconded by Ms. Meyer, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote carried the motion unanimously. College Council was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.