

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 1, 2005
MTA Regional Office in Auburn**

Present: Ambacher, Art, Coppola, George, Hetzel, Hogan, Markunas, McGee, Minasian, O'Donnell, Paolillo, Price, Schlosberg, Seider, Shartin, Stonehouse, Tetrault

Guests: Jack McKeon, Donna Sirutis (MTA), Robert Whalen (MTA)

Approval of the Orders of the Day and the Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved and seconded to approve the orders of the day. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2005, meeting. The motion passed.

Visiting Speaker:

Retired MSCA member, Jack McKeon, spoke for a few minutes on the benefits of MTA membership after retirement. Jack McKeon currently serves as the MSCA liaison to MTA/NEA Retired. He requested that Board members alert retiring members of the benefits of belonging to MTA/NEA Retired. Membership costs \$35 per year. Note: those members who retire, but continue to teach part time are active, not retired, members of the MTA/NEA.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Patricia Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments

It was moved and seconded to appoint Deborah Foss (MCLA) to the MSCA Database Committee. The motion passed.

Ben Jacques (MCLA) has agreed to serve as Director of MSCA Communications for the upcoming year.

Deb Foss, Chairperson of the MSCA Elections Committee, and President Markunas have a meeting set with MTA General Counsel Ann Clarke to discuss exploring options for other vendors to administer the 2006 MSCA officers elections. Committee members and MSCA Treasurer Gail Price will be invited to attend as well.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Maynard Seider (MCLA), Peter Hogan (Fitchburg), and C.J. O'Donnell (MMA) to the MSCA Credentials Committee in preparation for the 2005 MSCA Delegate Assembly. The motion passed.

2005 MSCA Delegate Assembly: April 30th Worcester State College

The deadline for the reporting of delegates to the MSCA Presidents office is April 12th at noon.

Board members need to contact Jane Fiste in President Markunas' office if a hotel room is needed for Friday, April 29th.

President Markunas recommended to the Board that Senator Robert O'Leary (MMA) is invited to the 2005 MSCA Delegate Assembly. Senator O'Leary is the chairperson on the newly formed Joint Committee on Higher Education. The Board agreed.

President Markunas distributed the newly released Senate Task Force Report on Higher Education to the Board. All delegates to the 2005 MSCA Delegate Assembly will receive a copy of this report.

2005 MTA Annual Meeting: May 13th and 14th, Boston

President Markunas distributed the deadlines for requesting hotel rooms, reporting delegates and assigning hotel rooms for this year's MTA Annual Meeting.

It was moved and seconded to accept the April 1, 2005, Procedure to Elect Alternate Delegates for the MTA Annual Meeting (attached). The motion passed.

Consolidated Grievance Findings

Copies of COP Chairperson Dana Mohler-Faria's findings in the year's first two consolidated grievances were distributed to the Board.

Report on the March 11th HELC Meeting

On March 11th, the Higher Education Leadership Council voted to endorse the Federation's bill to amend Chapter 150E and to request the MTA Board of Directors to endorse the bill as well. The MTA Board will consider this request at its meeting this weekend. Distributed to the Board was the letter sent by HELC Chair Donna Johnson to the MTA Governmental Relations Council.

State House Activities/Legislative Items

On Monday, March 28, President Markunas attended the press conference held in relation to the release of the report and recommendations of the Senate Task Force on Higher Education. Legislation based on this report will be drafted and considered by the Joint Committee on Higher Education. Copies of the Task Force Report, plus the press release and press reactions, were distributed.

Also distributed was a press release about a "jobs listening tour" to be sponsored around the state by Speaker Salvatore DiMasi and Representative Daniel Bosley. Arline Isaacson recommends that higher education members attend these sessions if possible.

Board of Higher Education Meeting: March 31st and April 21st

Donna Sirutis and President Markunas attended the special BHE meeting to the petition by UMass-Dartmouth to offer a Juris doctorate degree. The BHE voted eight to three to deny the request of the University.

President Markunas will request to address the BHE at its April 21st meeting to be held at UMass-Amherst.

U-Mass Bridgewater?

President Dana Mohler-Faria is holding a college-wide meeting on Monday, April 4th, to discuss, among other items, university status for Bridgewater State College.

Thanks to the Board!

In March, President Markunas received a message from Ron Colbert (Fitchburg) that Robert Lee, former chapter president at Fitchburg State College, had passed away last summer. President Markunas sent a certificate of appreciation and a note of sympathy to his widow, Patricia Lee, in New Mexico. She sent a lovely note of thanks in response.

Both Billie Lawrence and Ed Sullivan sent notes of appreciation for the thank you letter President Markunas sent at the Board's direction last month.

Vice President - Frank Minasian

Vice President Minasian thanked President Markunas for pressing forward in the legislative process of getting Chapter 150E amended.

MSCA Day Bargaining Committee Report: Brad Art

Chairperson Art reported the tabulation of the March 1, 2005, Tentative Agreement for a collective bargaining agreement for the period July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2007: 775 ballots in favor, 85 ballots opposed, and 18 challenged ballots. An email communication will be sent the membership about the results and the process for funding the contract.

Treasurer - Gail Price

Treasurer Price presented her monthly report.

It was moved and seconded that the Board recommend to the membership the Fiscal Year 2006 MSCA Budget as proposed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the original motion as follows: Reduce budget line 9010 to \$42,500; reduce budget line 9040 to \$20,500; reduce budget line 9050 to \$24,000; reduce budget line 9080 to \$20,500; reduce budget line 9110 to \$15,000; and MSCA dues shall stay the same as Fiscal Year 2005. The motion passed.

The original motion passed as amended.

It was moved and seconded to expend \$250 to present Donna Sirutis with a restaurant gift certificate. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to accept the Chapter Delegate Count for the 2005 MTA Annual Meeting. The motion passed.

Delegate Count for MTA Delegate Entitlement 2005

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Delegates</i>
Bridgewater	9
Fitchburg	5
Framingham	5
Mass Art	3
Mass Maritime	1
MCLA	2
Salem	9
Westfield	5
Worcester	5
Total	44

It was moved and seconded to pay MTA Annual Meeting Delegates who attend Friday's session \$75. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to pay MTA Annual Meeting Delegates who attend Saturday's session \$100. Hotel, mileage, and parking expenses will be paid. The motion passed.

Note: these are the same stipends as were paid last year.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA order and purchase 400 T-shirts (*Massachusetts 47 National per Capita Support for Public Higher Education*). MSCA members, as a part of the MSCA's lobbying efforts to gain funding for the newly ratified agreement, shall distribute 200 of these T-shirts directly to legislators. The remaining shirts will be available for purchase by MSCA members and supporters. Funding for this purchase will come out of the negotiations line item of the MSCA budget. The motion passed.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George distributed the minutes from the Ad Hoc Committee on E-Mail Security. In the interest of time, she requested that the issue of E-Mail Security be discussed at the next meeting.

MTA Report

MSCA Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

A review of the current 150E language was made with special attention placed on the timing of signatures and documentation needed before submission to the Governor's office.

A brief review of the 2004-2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement implementation issues was made. Consultant Sirutis described in detail the Section O Performance Reviews, Appendix M, and Post-Tenure Review, and gave a clarification of the tenure probation for current and future faculty and librarians.

Local Chapter President's Reports

Bridgewater

There is a new dean of the School of Management of Aviation Science. She would like to change the school name to the School of Business. The ratification meeting at Bridgewater was challenging.

Fitchburg

There has been a high turnover of administrators. Facilities is cleaning the college at times when classes are in session and thereby disrupting them.

Framingham

The faculty wants the contract funded.

MCLA

Thanks were extended to Brad Art, Donna Sirutis and Pat Markunas for attending the ratification meeting. Minimum salaries are a concern on campus.

MMA

A search for a new college president is underway. The college hopes to have a new president by September 2005. MMA is putting up a 200-foot windmill to generate electricity for the college.

Salem

The 15% rule comes up all of the time; many departments are in violation of this rule. A potential lawsuit is brewing between a donor and the college. There is a rumor on campus regarding changing from BlackBoard to WebCT course management software. Another search has been opened for a Dean of the School of Business. Thanks were extended to Brad Art, Donna Sirutis and Pat Markunas for attending the ratification meeting.

Westfield

Thanks were extended to Brad Art, Donna Sirutis and Pat Markunas for attending the ratification meeting. The president of Westfield is awarding sabbaticals to non-tenured faculty members in a program named STARS.

Worcester

The ratification meeting went well. IT Department has been hiring individuals to teach online courses to pre-college students. Once the students become Worcester State College students these courses are accepted as college credit, even though the academic departments had not approved the instructors/courses.

It was requested by Chapter President Seider (MCLA) that each chapter report on ownership of books, journals, software, and hardware purchased with professional development money.

Bridgewater: all purchases belong to the faculty/librarians.

Fitchburg: all purchases belong to the school, but there's no policing of this policy.

Framingham: hardware belongs to the school, but all other items belong to the faculty/librarians.

Mass Art: all purchases belong to the faculty/librarians.

MCLA: all purchases belong to the school.

MMA: Books and journals belong to the faculty/librarians. Software and hardware belong to the college.

Salem: hardware belongs to the school, but all other items belong to the faculty/librarians.

Westfield: hardware belongs to the school, but all other items belong to the faculty/librarians.

Worcester: hardware belongs to the school (no cataloging of items), but all other items belong to the faculty/librarians.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary