

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 4, 2005
MTA - Auburn**

Present: Art, Concannon, Falke, George, Hetzel, Hogan, Markunas, McGee, Minasian, O'Donnell, Price, Seider, Shartin, Stonehouse, Tetrault

Guests: Peter Cross (candidate for MTA Vice President), Deb Foss (MCLA), Ben Jacques (MCLA), Richard Shea (candidate for MTA Vice President), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Bob 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 October 7, 2005, meeting. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2005, meeting. The motion passed.

Elections Committee - Deborah Foss

Chair Foss has received certified mail requests from three MSCA members for nomination papers: Patricia V. Markunas requested nomination papers for the position of MSCA President; C.J. O'Donnell requested nomination papers for the position of MSCA Vice President; and Nancy George requested nomination papers for the position of MSCA Secretary. All three individuals were provided with the nomination papers as requested. Chair Foss also reported that she received a request for nomination papers for the position of MSCA Treasurer from Glenn Pavlicek (Bridgewater) by email and so has instructed him to request the papers by certified mail as required in the MSCA Constitution.

It was moved and seconded to go into a committee of the whole. The motion passed.

Chair Foss presented the Spring 2006 MSCA Election Calendar.

It was moved and seconded to come out of the committee of the whole. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Spring 2006 Election Calendar as presented. The motion passed.

Visiting Speakers:

Richard Shea

Richard Shea, candidate for MTA Vice President, gave the Board a brief overview of his education, background, and experience and why he wishes to serve as MTA Vice President.

Peter Cross

Peter Cross, candidate for MTA Vice President, gave the Board a brief overview of his education, background, and experience and why he wishes to serve as MTA Vice President.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Patricia Markunas

Status of the Contract Funding Request

It was moved and seconded to go into executive session. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to come out of executive session. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to report out of executive session the following motions. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board of Directors affirm our long-standing position that state college faculty and librarians deserve to be paid salaries at least comparable to faculty and librarians at peer institutions; and further, that the Board urges the state college presidents and the academic vice presidents to use this principle to maximize post-tenure review moneys and distribute 6% pay raises to all eligible post-tenure review candidates. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to establish the dates of the governance referendum for December 12 and December 13, 2005, with January 25 and January 26, 2006, as second choice or backup dates, contingent on the contract funding being enacted by November 16, 2005. The motion passed.

Legislative Items

Joint Committee on Higher Education. President Markunas thanked Donna Sirutis and C.J. O'Donnell for their assistance in reviewing her testimony for the October 31st hearing and Len Paolillo and Jean Stonehouse for representing the MSCA at the hearing, which was moved at the last minute to Boston. Copies of the testimony presented were distributed to Board members.

On October 24th, President Markunas attended a meeting with Rick Doud (MCCC), David Morwick (APA) and Chris Olsen (AFSCME) in Senator Rob O'Leary's office to talk about S 780. They held firm to the position that local control of enrollments, finances, and other key campus decisions is best for the state and community colleges, and were united in opposition to any legislation that increases the authority of the Board of Higher Education over the campuses. S 780 is still in several draft forms with additional changes in process.

On October 14th, the Higher Education Leadership Council supported the MSCA's proposal that the MTA Governmental Services Division work with the Committee on Higher Education to hold an informational hearing on faculty and staff issues. The initial response by the Committee's staff has been favorable. HELC voted to oppose H 1234, the so-called Academic Bill of Rights, and to table a proposal to oppose H 1262, on textbook policies and restrictions.

Additional information about H 3912, sponsored by Representative Kaprielian, to prohibit colleges from accepting gifts that restrict academic freedom was distributed.

It was moved and seconded to support H 3912.

It was moved and seconded to table this motion until the December 2005 MSCA Board of Directors meeting. The motion passed.

On October 20th, President Markunas attended a meeting with higher education affiliate presidents, Priscilla Lyons, Cathy Boudreau and Anne Wass to talk about the establishment of a higher education advocacy council, as endorsed by the MSCA Board in September. A conference call was held on October 27th to discuss the draft of S 780 that was circulating at the time. Dan Clawson and Max Page (UM-A) have developed a more concrete proposal for the advocacy council.

House Committee on Ways & Means. H 1230, the bill to provide in-state tuition for undocumented residents who graduate from Massachusetts high schools, has received a favorable report and is now before the House. President Markunas has been working on this bill with an impromptu coalition of people at Salem State on this bill and on the admissions policies of the state colleges concerning these students. Distributed with President Markunas' report was a letter about the MSCA's support for this bill that was sent to the Legislature this week.

Consolidated Grievances/Legal Issues

Donna Sirutis, Maggie Vaughan and President Markunas have a hearing scheduled on grievance #03/01-02/C/A (the 15% cap on part-time sections) with COP Chair Janelle Ashley on November 15th.

The MSCA still does not have a ruling from President Mohler-Faria about the consolidated grievance involving excess workload credits.

MTA attorney Matt Jones has been assigned to our request for legal services concerning the BHE's possible violation of the Open Meeting Law.

Vice President - Frank Minasian

Vice President Minasian was not available to present his report.

Treasurer - Gail Price

Karl Lindfors (MSCA Treasurer's Office) was delighted to have been able to attend last month's Board of Director's meeting. Treasurer Price thanked the Board for inviting Mr. Lindfors to the meeting.

Treasurer Price requested that an ad hoc committee be formed to discuss the possibility of support from MTA Benefits for the MSCA Delegate Assembly. President Markunas and Treasurer Price will serve on this committee, with the assistance of Consultant Whalen.

Treasurer Price reviewed a withholding/reimbursement problem involving a MSCA member who was formerly with the APA. The APA is unresponsive to MSCA requests for the APA to refund the MSCA for MTA/NEA dues paid on behalf of the former APA member.

Treasurer Price presented and reviewed the monthly expense account.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George thanked MCLA Chapter President Maynard Seider for taking minutes at the October 14, 2005 Special Board of Directors Meeting.

Article IV on the CD-ROM of contract files distributed to the Board of Directors is incomplete. The complete contract, including Article IV, is available, however, on the CD. Secretary George will notify those board members not present of the error and make the Article IV file available to Board members.

MTA Reports:

MSCA DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Bargaining for the DGCE 2006-2009 contract will begin soon. The current contract expires August 31, 2006. A DGCE Bargaining survey will be sent to all DGCE members in preparation for bargaining. Members of the DGCE Bargaining Committee will review survey questions and the possibility of doing the survey online is being investigated. It was requested that each state college campus have a regular member and alternate member on the DGCE Bargaining Committee. It is imperative, for maximum state college representation, that a DGCE Bargaining Committee member from each state college attend DGCE Bargaining Committee meetings.

MSCA Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

MTA has been studying organizing models. A result of this work is the MTA Strategic Direction Pilot Project. A brief discussion of this project followed.

It was moved and seconded to go into executive session. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to come out of executive session. The motion passed.

MTA Director's Report - Len Paolillo

Director Paolillo was in Washington, DC chairing the NEA Legislation Committee and thus was unable to present his report.

Local Chapter President's Reports

Bridgewater - Librarians have raised concerns regarding faculty status and chairing committees.

Fitchburg - The chapter office has a new administrative assistant, Joann O'Sullivan.

Framingham - Not available.

Mass Art - Not available.

MCLA - Former governor Dukakis came on campus. In a local newspaper article commenting on the former governor's visit, Len Paolillo was referred to as, "*an esteemed instructor at the college.*"

MMA - The new president of MMA has granted two sabbaticals for next semester. This is the first time sabbaticals have been granted for several years, as they had been denied for financial reasons.

Salem - The Salem Chapter President has been quite busy with tenure and reappointment problems. He reported on several conversations that he has had with the Salem State president and academic vice president about the post-tenure review program.

Westfield - Not available.

Worcester - The Worcester Chapter President asked each chapter presidents if governance committees received secretarial help. At Worcester, the academic vice president said the departmental secretaries of the committee chairs are to do the secretarial work. Results of the poll:

MMA - There's no secretarial help at all for faculty or department chairs.

Fitchburg - A departmental secretary volunteered, but there is no policy.

MCLA - Help is given from the academic vice president's office.

Bridgewater - Help is given from the academic vice president's office.

Salem - Help is given from the academic vice president's office.

The Worcester Chapter President also asked other chapter presidents if, in MSCA Executive Board elections, part-time MSCA members received a partial vote. The chapter presidents present reported that part-time MSCA members receive a full vote, as they do in MSCA elections.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary