

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 2, 2006
Salem State College**

Present: Concannon, Everitt, Falke, George, Hetzel, Markunas, Mrvica, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Price, Seider, Shartin, Stonehouse

Guests: Ken Haar (Westfield), Peter Hogan (Fitchburg), Jack Shea (Westfield), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Margaret Vaughan (Salem), 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 April 28, 2006, meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Patricia Markunas

Personal Thanks

President Markunas thanked everyone for coming to Salem for this meeting and for all of the support and encouragement that everyone gave her over the past five weeks. The cards, emails and notes were especially appreciated by President Markunas and her husband Tim.

Proposed MSCA Board Meeting Schedule for AY 2006-2007

It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed meeting schedule for AY 2006-2007. It was noted that the dates were firm but that the locations were tentative.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposed meeting schedule for AY 2006-2007 to change the locations of the October 6, 2006, meeting to Framingham and the November 3, 2006, meeting to MCLA. The motion to amend passed.

The motion passed as amended.

Post-tenure Review: Results for Year One and Mailing to Year Two Candidates

Distributed were the latest results of Year One PTR ratings and the appeal process, as of June 1, 2006. Donna Sirutis, Maggie Vaughan and President Markunas discussed comprehensive grievances to be filed concerning procedural violations and other issues of concern. Discussion followed. Appeals are still pending at BRI and MCLA, and there have been no changes in PTR ratings since May 24, 2006.

Distributed was the comprehensive mailing to be sent to all PTR Year Two candidates.

Legislative Items

S.2364/S.2380. Portions of S.2380 that MTA and MSCA oppose have been attached to the senate budget as outside sections. That budget is currently in conference. MTA and the university and college presidents are opposed to these outside sections and are working to modify or delete them.

Rollover Costs Amendment to the FY 07 Budget. The state college presidents are seeking a meeting with Secretary of A&F Thomas Trimarco to discuss this item, which is still in Senate Ways & Means.

"03" Creditable Service and Health Insurance for Part-time Faculty. These bills are slowing but surely making their way through the legislative process. Thanks to all for lobbying efforts so far, but President Markunas is sure another big push will be needed on both bills before adjournment.

MCCC President Joseph LeBlanc and MCCC were commended for assisting with the bills to provide "03" creditable service and health insurance for part-time faculty .

Constitutional Amendment on Same-sex Marriage. Distributed was a communication from Mass Equality. President Markunas will send a letter to all reps and senators at the end of June, reiterating the MSCA's opposition to this amendment.

Joint Committee for the Study of Salaries

Because of President Markunas' injury, the meetings of the JSSC for May were canceled and the parties agreed to set July 31, 2006, as the new deadline for the final report and recommendations of this committee. Four meetings have been scheduled between now and then. JBL Associates is working on an updated salary study, comparing state college faculty salaries to those at our BHE-defined peer institutions. That report should be ready in time for the June 7th meeting of the JSSC. Peter Martel, HR director at Bridgewater, is working on an updated CUPA salary study for state college faculty as well.

Transitions

Priscilla Lyons has requested a transfer back to the FSO unit, in anticipation of her retirement next year. This request was granted by the MTA Executive Committee, pending the appointment of a new director for the division of higher education.

It was moved and seconded to commend Priscilla Lyons on her service as the Director of Higher Education of the MTA. The motion passed.

MCLA President Mary Grant will assume the chairpersonship of the Council of Presidents, effective July 1, 2006. In keeping with her practice, President Markunas will request a meeting with President Grant sometime this summer.

Timothy Flanagan, provost at SUNY-Brockport, has been recommended by the Framingham State College Board of Trustees to become the next president there. His appointment will be finalized at the June 15th meeting of the Board of Higher Education at Middlesex Community College in Bedford. President Markunas also intends to request a meeting with President-elect Flanagan after his appointment takes effect on August 1, 2006.

Robert Martin, AAVP at Framingham State College, will begin a two-year term as a representative of management to the Employee Relations Committee, effective in September 2006. He will replace Nancy Kleniewski, AAVP at Bridgewater State College.

Ethelyn Callahan, our long-time stenographer, passed away on May 25th. She was 80 years old. A floral arrangement on behalf of MSCA was sent to the funeral home, and President Markunas sent condolences to her husband and family.

Kay Bacon, mother of former MTA president Rosanne Bacon, passed away recently as well. President Markunas sent a card on behalf of MSCA to Rosanne and Peter Meade.

NEA Member Polls

Distributed was a mailing about two polls that NEA Government Relations will conduct among our membership this month. Chapter presidents should advise their members accordingly.

Vice-President - C.J. O'Donnell

Vice President O'Donnell reported that he attended the Higher Education Leadership Council meeting in Auburn on May 19th. Unfortunately due to traffic difficulties on the Mass Pike there was no quorum at that meeting. Priscilla Lyons presented those individuals present with an update on legislative activities.

Secretary - Nancy George

Passed.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek presented his report. The transition from former Treasurer Price to current Treasurer Pavlicek has begun.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Election Committee - Charles Hetzel

Charles Hetzel presented the Election Committee Report by Chair Deb Foss to the Board.

Five MSCA members requested nomination papers after November 1st. All five returned their papers by the January 2006 deadline and were subsequently certified by the MSCA Treasurer as having met the constitutional requirement for becoming certified candidates.

All nine campus forums were held as scheduled. Ballots and candidate statement inserts were mailed on March 15 with several more ballots mailed after that date in response to members' requests (for a total of 2320 ballots mailed). Two election violations involving rule 10A were identified and addressed during the election period.

The ballot count was held at the Labor Guild on April 7, 2006. In attendance were Candidates Markunas, Minasian and O'Donnell; Elections Committee members Foss and Everitt; MSCA members Art, Concannon and Twiss. The Labor Guild reported that 755 ballots had been returned. There was no obliteration or masking of control numbers on the outer envelopes and no challenged ballots.

Upon completion of the first count of ballots, the margin between candidates Minasian and O'Donnell was less than five percent. It was agreed that a recount would be done. After the second count (double counted and checked) there was a slight shift in votes; however, the outcome remained the same. The election results appear below. No written challenges were received by the April 13, 2006 deadline. The Labor Guild certified the results on April 20, 2006. The cost of their conducting the election was \$5110.16. (Note: their summary was presented to the Assembly with Chair Foss' report).

In summary, the 2006 election of the MSCA officers was conducted in accordance with the Election Rules and Calendar and was an inclusive and transparent process. Concerns and complaints brought forward were "minor," in the sense that each was addressed efficiently and resolved in a straightforward manner.

Conducting this election placed substantial demands on individuals and offices. The success of the process was due to the cooperation, coordination, good humor and patience of many people. Chairperson Foss expressed her sincere gratitude to the Certified Candidates, Chapter Presidents, members of the MSCA Elections Committee, Gail Price and the MSCA Treasurer's staff, Ben Jacques and Susan McCarthy (Communications) and Jane Fiste (MSCA President's office) for their assistance and cooperation.

Results of the 2006 MSCS Officer's Election

Office/Candidate	Votes received	Write-in Votes	Blank/Void Ballots
President: Pat Markunas*	681	15	59
Vice President:** C.J. O'Donnell* Frank Minasian	390 348	2	15
Secretary:	676	6	73

Nancy George*			
Treasurer: Glenn Pavlicek*	668	9	78

*elected

**results after a second count of ballots

Election conducted by the Labor Guild
 2320 Ballots mailed
 755 Ballots returned by deadline (April 6, 2006 @ 5:00 PM)
 0 Ballots set aside for challenges

Results certified by the Labor Guild April 20, 2006.

Dues Assessment Policy - Gail Price, Glenn Pavlicek, and Paul McGee
 Treasurer Pavlicek reviewed the dues situation for part-time MSCA members.

It was moved and seconded to approve the following:
 Billing Policy for PT Day and DGCE Faculty and Librarians:
 All part-time faculty and librarians will have their MSCA dues based on the PT Day or DGCE semester when they teach the greatest number of credits in the academic year beginning with Summer Session I and ending with the following Spring Semester.
 The motion passed.

Local Chapter Reports

Worcester

Vice President David Caruso will be leaving Worcester State College for a position at Antioch College in Keene, NH. An acting vice president has been named.

Westfield

Not present.

Salem

University status is being discussed again at Salem.

The Salem AVP is looking into reducing the number of credits required for graduation (undergraduate) to 120 credits.

MMA

Chapter elections are coming up.

The wind turbine is still not working. The state gave MMA a considerable amount of money to install the turbine and it is expected, when working, that the turbine will save MMA approximately \$300,000 per year in energy costs.

MCLA

The MSCA/MCLA Chapter succeeded in petitioning the president of MCLA to change the bagpipe music played at commencement from military to non-military music.

Chapter President Seider proposed to President Markunas a number of initiatives in preparation for the next round of bargaining in a recent email which was distributed to Board members.

It was moved and seconded to put Maynard Seider's proposal before the Board for discussion purposes. The motion passed.

Discussion followed on the content of the proposal. It was suggested that the Board not plan any bargaining activities at this time. The next Bargaining Committee will be established in October 2006 and activities will be initiated by this committee in AY 2006-2007. President Seider's proposals will be referred to the 2006-08 MSCA Bargaining Committee.

Mass Art

Not present.

Framingham

Not present.

Fitchburg

As a result of the recent MSCA/Fitchburg Chapter election, there are new chapter officers and executive board.

There was a recent three union picnic at Fitchburg; this is indicative of the good cooperation between these unions at Fitchburg.

Bridgewater

University status is not being discussed.

A graduate commencement ceremony is now in place.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis distributed the following to Board members:

Chapter Presidents' Role in Decision-Making (MSCA-BHE 2004-2007 Day Contract) and Information to be Provided to Chapter Officers (MSCA-BHE 2004-2007 Day Contract).

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Consultant Whalen gave the Board a brief overview of DGCE bargaining and distributed an article of interest on academic freedom.

New Business

Support to Attend Williamstown Leadership Conference

It was moved and seconded to financially support MSCA members' attendance at the 2006 Williamstown Leadership Conference. This support would cover transportation, accommodations, and registration.

It was moved and seconded to amend the motion to include a cap on total expenditures to \$2500. The motion to amend passed.

The motion passed as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary

