

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 3, 2006
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts**

Present: Ambacher, Concannon, Coppola, Everitt, Falke, George, Haar, Hetzel, Markunas, Mrvica, O'Donnell, Paolillo, Pavlicek, Seider, Shartin, Shea, Stonehouse

Guests: 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 6, 2006 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Patricia Markunas

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.

MSCA Committee Appointments: Legislation Committee

The MSCA Legislation Committee was not convened on October 6th because no one from the Committee attended the meeting at the time indicated on the schedule. In recent weeks, President Markunas has received emails and phone calls from part-time faculty members who want to know what happened to the legislation for part-time faculty health insurance, which did not pass before adjournment of the prior legislative session.

President Markunas proposed that this committee is reconvened in either December or January to elect a chair, and that the committee makes the passage of the legislation for part-time faculty health insurance a priority of the upcoming legislative session. With no disagreement from the Board, President Markunas stated she will write to the current Legislative Committee members telling them of the reconvening of the committee; included with her letter will be a copy or summary of the bill as well as other bills that might be important in the next legislative session. Copies of this correspondence will be sent to all part-time faculty members who indicated an interest in the passage of the legislation for part-time faculty health insurance and to MSCA Board members.

Possible Joint Meeting with the Council of Presidents

It was moved and seconded to propose a joint meeting of the MSCA Board of Directors with the Council of Presidents early in the Spring 2007 semester. The motion passed.

Post-tenure Review: Results for Year One and Consolidated Grievance

Distributed to Board members were revised PTR results for Year One and a confidential status report on the consolidated grievance and issues related to PTR.

Seminars on the Conflict of Interest Law

Per the suggestion at last month's Board meeting, a distributed letter was sent to all state college department chairpersons and local chapter officers and executive committee members about the last of the series of seminars on the conflict of interest law, to be held in Eager Auditorium in the Sullivan Building on December 8 at Worcester State, from 10:00 am to noon.

Vice-President - C.J. O'Donnell

Vice President O'Donnell reported that he was recently appointed to the MTA Legislative Committee by Anne Wass. Vice President O'Donnell also made a brief report on his other activities as Vice President.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George provided Board members with a brief summary of her activities as Secretary and reported on her recent attendance at the *Seminar on the Conflict of Interest Law* held at Salem State.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the *MSCA Monthly Expenses 2006-2007* report.

Treasurer Pavlicek recommended that beginning in Spring 2007 that the state MSCA Treasurer's Office bill the part-time MSCA members for dues and that the chapter MSCA treasurers offices bill full-time MSCA members for dues. A motion will be made at the December 2006 MSCA Board meeting on this recommendation.

Treasurer Pavlicek reported he is seeking to hire an employee to do data entry work with the MSCA Treasurer's Office database. In the future he will hire an additional person with VB (Visual Basic) skills to make adjustments to the database software.

Treasurer Pavlicek also reported on his attendance at the Health and Welfare Trust meeting last week. This is the last year of the contract with Met Life. MCCC members will be paying into the trust at \$1.00 more than in the past.

Following the MSCA Board meeting, Treasurer Pavlicek was planning to attend the MTA Executive Committee in Waltham, MA. At this meeting Treasurer Pavlicek would appeal the denial of local support funds from the MTA for FY 04-05 (\$35,000).

MSCA Committee Reports:

DGCE Bargaining and Day Bargaining - C.J. O'Donnell

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 Reports:

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Governor's Race

Consultant Sirutis gave a brief summary on activities concerning the upcoming governor's race.

A review of the status of the role of department chairs and tenure committees was presented by Consultant Sirutis.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Passed.

Director - Len Paolillo

Director Paolillo reviewed information pertaining to H4157 (2005), the proposed bill on teacher quality.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board of Directors requests that MTA seek to remove the language from the bill proposed by Representative Linda Harkins on teacher quality, that refers to principals and superintendents rating the preparedness of new teachers and thereby developing an assessment of the teacher training programs of the colleges from which they graduate. Failing that, the MSCA Board requests that MTA not support the bill. In addition, MSCA will seek the support of HELC on this issue. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Paolillo alerted the board to a case regarding performance standards and the teachers in the Springfield, Massachusetts school system and reviewed the arbitrator's decision in this case.

NEA is working hard at Senate and House congressional races. The NEA has targeted 25 House seats and all contested Senate seats.

Local Chapter Reports

Bridgewater

Bridgewater faculty/librarians are investigating potential, additional benefits the college may provide them. Some examples include faculty/librarian housing or reduced housing costs, free campus health club admittance and additional travel funds distributed directly through campus departments.

Fitchburg

Department chairs are making formal complaints regarding the lack of Information Technology support. Chapter leadership is having regular monthly meetings with the college president and vice president. Faculty members may now apply for three-day teaching schedules. At a recent Fitchburg chapter event, President Markunas and MTA Consultant Sirutis were publicly thanked for their work with the MSCA.

Framingham

Chapter President Ambacher requested information is emailed to him on state college child care facilities.

Mass Art

Not present.

MCLA

Members of the Day Bargaining Committee were thanked for meeting with the MCLA chapter on November 2, 2006. A candidate for governor, Deval Patrick, was on campus earlier in the week. He was very well received by the 150 individuals attending the event.

MMA

A brief report was made on the activities at MMA. \$10,000 professional development money is available for MMA faculty.

Salem

There is a push on campus for emergency preparedness. Unfortunately, campus room numbering errors and inconsistencies will make it difficult, if not impossible, for emergency evacuations to occur.

Westfield

A candidate for governor, Deval Patrick, was on campus recently. 1200 people attended the event. The chapter is having difficulty with college administration regarding campus committees. Committees are formed without the chapter being notified. Administrators are appointing faculty/librarians to committees with no input from chapter. Chapter President Haas requested information on this issue from each chapter present.

Bridgewater - Similar difficulties as Westfield.

Fitchburg - Committees are consistent from one semester to the next; chapter is notified when new committees are formed. Faculty/librarian committee appointments are made by the chapter.

Framingham - Committees are consistent from one semester to the next; chapter is notified when new committees are formed. Faculty/librarian committee appointments are made by the chapter.

MCLA - Committees are consistent from one semester to the next; chapter is notified when new committees are formed. Faculty/librarian committee appointments are made by the chapter.

MMA - Similar difficulties as Westfield.

Salem - Committees are consistent from one semester to the next; chapter is notified when new committees are formed. Faculty/librarian committee appointments are made by the chapter.

Worcester - Similar difficulties as Westfield.

Brad Art formally resigned from the Day Bargaining Committee.

Worcester

Worcester faculty members continue to have to fill out attendance time sheets. Chapter leadership is having monthly meetings with the college president.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary