

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 2, 2007  
Massachusetts Teachers Association - Auburn**

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

**Guests:** Gary Merlo (Westfield), Sarah Nathan (MTA), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Cheryl Stanley (Westfield), Bob Whalen (MTA)

**Approval of the Orders of the Day and the Minutes**

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 December 1, 2006 meeting. The motion passed.

**Day Contract Proposal: C.J. O'Donnell and Donna Sirutis**

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 the actions taken in executive session. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposal to delete the following words from the current contract, **Article I, A., page 2, third paragraph, (3) consecutive semesters.** The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposal to change the **2007-2010 Proposal on Equivalencies** to *Independent and Directed Study 1 Student to 0.5 Semester Hours.* The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposal, **Article XIV, pages 236-238** (Amount of per-capita professional development), to, *3% of unit payroll, prorated for all part-time faculty; paid on the base or as a reimbursement, at option of unit member.* The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposal to delete the following words from the current contract, **Article VII - Appendix A, page 85, d., on long-range planning for the use of space and facilities.** The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board of Directors approves the proposed Day Contract Proposal as amended. The motion passed 17 yes, 0 no, one absence.

Roll Call Vote:

**Bridgewater:**

Glenn Pavlicek – yes  
Jean Stonehouse – yes

**Fitchburg:**

Charlie Hetzel – yes  
Ann Mrvica – yes

**Framingham:**

John Ambacher – yes  
Alan Feldman - not present

**Mass Art:**

Sam Schlosberg – yes  
Bob Coppola – yes

**Mass College of Liberal Arts:**

Len Paolillo – yes  
Maynard Seider – yes

**Mass Maritime:**

Jerry Concannon – yes  
C.J. O'Donnell – yes

**Salem:**

Amy Everitt - yes  
Nancy George - yes

**Westfield:**

Ken Haar - yes  
Jack Shea - yes

**Worcester:**

Anne Falke - yes  
Dan Shartin - yes

It was moved and seconded that the Board authorize the Day Bargaining Committee to withhold all or portions of the asking proposal if circumstances warrant, such as a proposal from management for other than a three-year contract. The motion passed.

**MSCA Officers' Reports:**

*President - Pat Markunas*

*MSCA Committee Appointments and Other Appointments*

The following MSCA members have been nominated to the MSCA Committees indicated below:

- Cheryl Stanley (Westfield) - MSCA Day Bargaining
- Gary Merlo (Westfield) - MSCA Day Bargaining
- Sean O'Connell (Westfield) - MSCA Legislation Committee
- Alice Martin (Salem) - MSCA Legislation Committee
- Richard Clare (Framingham) - MSCA Legislation Committee

It was moved and seconded to approve the nominations. The motion passed.

The following faculty members were recommended by President Markunas to serve on the BHE Business Program Review Committee: Helene Fine (BRI0), Diane Caggiano (FIT), Robert Wallace (FRA), Nancy Ovitsky (MCLA), Bani Ghosh (MMA), Elizabeth Haran (SAL), Gary Merlo (WES) and Joan Mahoney (WOR).

Per discussion after the January 9, 2007 joint meeting of the MSCA Board and the Council of Presidents, President Markunas appointed Ken Haar (Westfield), C.J. O'Donnell (MMA) and herself to a "working group" to include three of the state college presidents for continued informal discussions about the issues raised at that meeting. The first meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2007, at 2:00 pm at Framingham State College. An agenda and minutes for each meeting will be prepared.

At its organizational meeting of January 29, 2007, the MSCA Legislation Committee elected Robert Bence (MCLA) to chair the Committee; Dan Nomishan (Fitchburg) was elected as the vice chair.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board support participation of MSCA members Gerald Concannon (MMA), Margaret Crowe (Bridgewater), Joel Litvin (Bridgewater), Lorri Krebs (Salem), Lou Caton (Westfield), and Jack Loughney (Westfield) at the 2007 Conference of the National Council of Higher Education, with stipends totaling \$5,000. The motion passed.

*Report on the Employee Relations Committee of January 26, 2007 and Update on the Post-tenure Review Consolidated Grievance*

An extensive meeting was held and the MSCA finished its presentation of allegations of procedural violations of last year's post-tenure process. Distributed were materials related to these presentations, which took four meetings to complete, along with materials related to the administration and interpretation of SIR-II student evaluation results. Mark Peters has promised to respond to all proposed remedies at next month's ERC meeting (February 23, 2007). Unresolved allegations will be presented to COP Chair Mary Grant at a formal Step II hearing and then be considered for possible mediation or arbitration.

Distributed was a copy of the so-called "university status" bill that has been filed for this legislative session along with the latest version of the textbook bill. Management does not yet have a bargaining team, a hiring freeze has been instituted (however, this may not affect higher education), and a \$2.4 billion bond bill has been filed (Dana Mohler-Faria was meeting this morning to discuss this).

*Reports on Recent Meetings*

President Markunas briefly reported on a meeting that she and Vice President O'Donnell had with Dana Mohler-Faria, the governor's special education advisor.

In addition, President Markunas distributed materials on PHENOM.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board of Directors endorse the principles of PHENOM and continue to pursue membership in PHENOM. The motion passed.

*Upcoming Meetings*

*Higher Education Leadership Council.* Noah Berger of the Mass Budget and Policy Center will do a presentation on state revenues next week. Distributed was information about this meeting and his presentation. President Markunas requested Board members let her know if they wish to attend. She also distributed an item from the *State House News* about the budget.

*PHENOM Lobbying Day.* The lobbying day is scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup> beginning in the late morning at the State House in Boston. Material was distributed to Board members regarding this day.

*Board of Higher Education.* In the absence of a permanent chairperson and with no appointment expected, Aaron Spencer, the vice chair, will chair this meeting on February 15, beginning at 9:30 am at Framingham State College.

It was moved and seconded to consider an item of new business. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that Ira Fader attend the next MSCA Board of Directors meeting so that he may respond to questions about the brief he presented on behalf of the MSCA to the Labor Relations Commission. The motion passed.

*Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell*

Vice President O'Donnell attended *The Revenue Estimate Hearing* on January 17, 2007 at the State House. The hearing was comprised of members of the Senate and House Ways and Means Committees. Coming out of the meeting was the following information: the economy is growing, but the estimate on spending is larger than the revenue (thus a deficit for the state), resulting in a possible \$1.2 billion state deficit.

*Secretary - Nancy George*

Secretary George reminded the Board that MSCA members have until March 1, 2007, to submit their names to be delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly, which will be held June 29 to July 5, 2007, in Philadelphia, PA. Additional information will be published in the *MSCA Perspective* and is currently on the MSCA web page.

*Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek*

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed a monthly expense report. He also described, in detail, the challenges he has faced with the membership database and DGCE member listing.

*Health and Welfare Trust.* A free vision discount program has begun. Information and cards for this program as well as cards for dental insurance should be at campus human resources offices.

**MTA Reports:**

*Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis*

Consultant Sirutis briefly discussed issues pertaining to strikes and the Labor Relations Commission.

Consultant Sirutis reviewed the background regarding tenure for academic administrators and the situations occurring at the different campuses.

*DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen*

*Ratification Results*

The DGCE Contract was voted in favor of ratification by the DGCE membership on January 31, 2007.

*Director - Len Paolillo*

The MTA Board of Directors will be meeting on 2/2/07 and 2/3/07.

**Local Chapter President's Reports:**

*Worcester:*

There was a membership meeting yesterday, where considerable interest in the university status issue was expressed.

*Westfield:*

Presidential search continues. Chapter President Haar thanked President Markunas and Vice President O'Donnell for attending the recent chapter meeting to discuss bargaining.

*Salem:*

Presidential search continues. The college would like to appoint someone by May 1.

*MMA:*

The ship is at sea and all is quiet at MMA.

*MCLA:*

Passed.

*Mass Art:*

President Sloan announced she has breast cancer. Following surgery, she will be absent from the college for a few weeks while recovering.

*Framingham:*

Passed.

*Fitchburg:*

A Teacher Center has been instituted in the library. Winter graduation took place recently.

*Bridgewater:*

A trustees committee is discussing the university status issue.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy George  
MSCA Secretary