

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
March 9, 2007
Framingham State College**

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

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 February 2, 2007 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Patricia Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments and the "Working Group"

Daniel Cooley was nominated to serve as the Bridgewater representative on the Legislation Committee.

It was moved and seconded to accept the nomination. The motion passed.

The first meeting of the working group was held on March 6 at the State House following the legislative hearing with four of the state college presidents. Agenda items were discussed and two more meeting dates were established. Minutes of the working group meetings will be distributed to the Board as they become available.

Preparation for the 2007 MSCA Delegate Assembly

This year's Assembly will be held at the Massachusetts College of Art on Saturday, April 28th. The Board meeting will be held there on April 27th. All events will be held in the Trustees Room on the 11th floor of the Tower Building.

Two long-time union activists will have their service recognized at this year's Assembly: John Ambacher and Charlie Hetzel. President Markunas will prepare a brief program and invite chapter executive committee members and former Board members from Fitchburg and Framingham. [Per the report by Director Paolillo, outgoing chapter president Maynard Sender will be honored as well.]

Preparation for the 2007 MTA Annual Meeting

This year's MTA Annual Meeting will be held May 11 and 12 at the Hynes Auditorium in Boston. Distributed were the procedures the MSCA has used in past years to seat alternates as delegates to this Meeting.

It was moved and seconded to approve the *Procedure to Elect Alternate Delegates for the 2007 MTA Annual Meeting* as distributed. The motion passed.

Deadlines for the reporting of delegate names for both meetings and for hotel rooms for the MTA Annual Meeting will be distributed at the March 30th board meeting.

Production and Distribution of the 2006-09 DGCE Contracts

The execution of the 2006-09 DGCE Contract has been set for March 12, 2007. The MSCA owes a debt of gratitude to C.J. O'Donnell for his meticulous work on the draft in order to produce a final document with a professional and consistent appearance.

President Markunas' office solicited bids from five union printers to print 1000 copies of the DGCE contract. The lowest bid was received from the SSC Copy Center. Copies should be ready by mid-April.

Reports on Recent Meetings

President Markunas was invited by Dana Mohler-Faria's chief of staff to attend a briefing on the proposed higher education budget on February 28th. Materials from this briefing were distributed.

President Markunas attended two legislative hearing for the Joint Committee on Higher Education. The February 28th hearing was devoted to the university system; the March 6th hearing was devoted to the BHE and four state colleges. The state college testimony was distributed.

Although President Markunas was unable to attend the organizational meeting of PHENOM at the State House last week, she was elected to serve on the Interim Steering Committee. The Committee's next task is to update the "Roadmap" so that it reflects the entire system of public higher education.

Jean Stonehouse represented the MSCA at a strategy meeting for the passage of the Education Opportunity Act (in-state tuition bill) on March 7th at the State House. She gave a brief summary of that meeting to the Board.

Upcoming Meetings

The House and Senate Ways and Means Committees are holding a joint hearing to review the K-G portions of the governor's budget. This hearing will be held on March 14th, at the Lilia Frederick Pilot Middle School, 270 Columbia Road in Dorchester near the U-Mass Boston campus.

The second hearing of the Joint Committee on Higher Education devoted to the state colleges will be held on March 15th at the State House. Three hearings will be devoted to the community colleges: March 20th and 22nd from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and March 29th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

PHENOM is planning a statewide lobbying day on Wednesday, April 25th, at the State House. President Markunas asked that Board members make every effort to attend this event and to bring colleagues.

Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell

Vice President O'Donnell attended the February 15th BHE meeting on behalf of President Markunas. The governor's special advisor on education, Dana Mohler-Faria, spoke briefly about Governor Patrick's commitment to public higher education, and public education in general. He gave no specific information on any initiatives.

The 2006 Performance Measurement Report was presented and accepted. The report showed that the seven state colleges (the report excluded the special mission colleges, Mass Art and Mass Maritime) met their targets in all areas.

A report from the Task Force on Retention and Completion Rates at the Community Colleges was given. The Massachusetts graduation and retention rates lag national averages slightly.

Peter Alcock was named the (acting) Vice Chairman of the BHE.

The 2008 tuition rates were approved (excluding MassArt and Mass Maritime); all rates (undergraduate and graduate, resident and non-resident) remain at the 2007 level.

DGCE Bargaining

The DGCE Bargaining agreement was partially executed on March 6th after extensive style edits. MTA Consultant Bob Whalen and Chancellor Pat Plummer will sign the agreement on March 12th.

Day Bargaining

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.

Joint Education Committee

Vice President O'Donnell attended the March 6th hearing of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. Chancellor Plummer and Presidents Antonucci, Flanagan and Grant testified. Vice President for Student Affairs David Ostroth testified for Bridgewater. Vice President O'Donnell plans to attend the March 15th hearing when the remaining state college presidents will testify.

Working Group

President Markunas, Westfield Chapter President Ken Haar and Vice President O'Donnell met Presidents Antonucci and Grant, Mr. Lemanski and Vice President Ostroth after the hearings for the purpose of scheduling meetings and setting agenda items. The group will meet on April 10th and May 17th.

Government Relations Committee

Distributed were the MTA 2007-2008 support/oppose statements for proposed legislation. A copy of MTA sponsored bills will be provided at the next meeting.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George gave a brief report on the 2007 NEA Representative Assembly nominations. Nominations close on March 12th.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

It was moved and seconded to approve the 2007 *MSCA Delegate Assembly Chapter Delegate Allocations* as distributed by Treasurer Pavlicek. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the 2007 *MTA Annual Meeting Chapter Delegate Allocations* as distributed by Treasurer Pavlicek. The motion passed.

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed the monthly expense report. He requested that officers and committee chairpersons submit proposed budgets for FY 2008 to his office as soon as possible. The proposed MSCA budget and dues for FY 2008 will be considered by the Board at the March 30th meeting.

Treasurer Pavlicek noted which MSCA chapters' Appendix Q's had not been received as yet by his office. He also described how union dues billing is proceeding and the continuing problems with non-compliant faculty members.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Ad Hoc Committee on Librarian Concerns - Nancy George

It was moved and seconded to approve the following proposed amendment to the MSCA Constitution:

Article VII, Section I as follows: Section 1. Standing Committees. The Standing Committees shall be the Bargaining Committees, a Grievance Committee, a Legislative Committee, an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity, Diversity (AA/EO/DIV) Committee, an Elections Committee, a Resolutions Committee, [and] a Credentials Committee[.], **and a Librarians Committee**. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the following proposed amendment to the MSCA Constitution:

Article VII, add a new Section 10 as follows and renumber Sections 10 (Special Committees) as Section 11; Section 11 (Role of the MSCA President) as Section 12; and Section 12 (General Provision) as Section 13: Section 10. **Librarians Committee. The Librarians Committee shall serve as a resource and forum for MSCA librarians to discuss and monitor issues pertaining to state college libraries and librarians. Working within the structure of the MSCA, the Librarians Committee shall seek to find resolutions to librarians' workplace challenges and advance issues affecting librarians to other members of the MSCA.**

It was moved and seconded to amend the original language to delete **serve as a resource and forum for MSCA librarians to** from the first sentence. The motion to amend passed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the original language to add the word **specifically** to the first sentence: ...monitor issues **specifically** pertaining...and to add the phrase **and state college libraries** to the last sentence, ...affecting librarians **and state college libraries**... The motion to amend passed.

The main motion passed as amended.

It was moved and seconded to approve the following proposed amendment to the MSCA Constitution:

Article VII, Section 1, add the word "voting" as follows to the third sentence: Each Standing Committee shall consist of one **voting** member from and representing each Chapter. The motion failed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the following proposed amendment to the MSCA Constitution:

Article VII, Section 1, add the following sentence as a new, fourth sentence, as follows: **The Day Bargaining Committee shall also include a MSCA librarian who shall serve in a non-voting, advisory capacity on the committee.** The motion failed.

Due to the failure of this amendment to be endorsed by the Board, President Markunas ruled that an additional proposed amendment concerning the appointment process for an MSCA librarian to serve in a non-voting, advisory capacity on the MSCA Bargaining Committee was moot.

[Per Article VIII of the MSCA Constitution, the two proposed amendments that were endorsed by the MSCA Board will be circulated to the chapters at least one calendar month in advance of the 2007 MSCA Delegate Assembly, at which time they will be considered by the delegates there, who must approve them by a two-thirds vote in order to be enacted.]

MTA Reports:

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

In the absence of Donna Sirutis, President Markunas distributed and reviewed Consultant Sirutis' report pertaining to the PTR consolidated grievance and administration procedures related to the sick leave bank.

Director - Len Paolillo

The MTA's budget will be discussed at the next MTA Board of Directors meeting.

Local Chapter President's Reports:

Bridgewater - University status continues to be discussed on campus.

Fitchburg - The Fitchburg Chapter Executive Board met with the Fitchburg State College SGA Executive Board. It was a mutually beneficial and successful meeting. On April 26 there will be an event honoring outgoing MSCA/Fitchburg Chapter President Hetzel.

Framingham - passed.

Mass Art - The president of Mass Art is back to work after being out on medical leave.

MCLA - MCLA Chapter President Seider will be stepping down as chapter president at the end of this academic year.

MMA - MMA has been quiet recently as classes just began earlier this week.

Salem - This year there were four tenure denials and one “up or out” promotion denial on campus.

Westfield - The presidential search failed and is being re-opened.

Worcester - A new Vice President for Academic Affairs has been hired: Dr. Julie Wollman, Dean of Education at Rhode Island College.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary