

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 27, 2007
Massachusetts College of Art**

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

Guests: Ira Fader (MTA), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Bob Whalen (MTA)

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a. m.

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 March 30, 2007 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Pat Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments

It was moved and seconded to appoint Ken Haar (Westfield) to the Credentials Committee. The motion passed.

President Markunas received an official request from the chancellor's office for two faculty members to serve on a BHE task force on transfer credit policies. President Markunas was pleased to report to the Board that Paul McGee and Jean Stonehouse have accepted her recommendation that they be nominated to represent the MSCA on this task force and she distributed material to Board members on this issue.

Staff Changes

The MTA Division of Higher Education is reorganizing its staff assignments to accommodate the affiliation of several former SEIU units at UMass Amherst and Boston. It is nearly final that Bob Whalen will accept responsibility for two of these units and will no longer be assigned to the MSCA/DGCE bargaining unit as of July 1, 2007. It is President Markunas' understanding that a part-time consultant will be hired in the Division who will be assigned responsibility for the MSCA/DGCE unit. As soon as these changes have been finalized, President Markunas will inform the board.

For Jane Fiste's going-away gift, the MSCA donated \$100 towards the sponsorship of her son, Nicholas Fiste, as an honor scholar to be recognized by the North Shore Chamber of Commerce. Jane's husband, Jay Fiste, is a 1983 graduate of Mass Maritime and Nick has been accepted there as well as other colleges.

Last Minute Arrangements: 2007 MSCA Delegate Assembly and MTA Annual Meeting

The call to order for the MSCA Delegate Assembly is 10:00 am. Christine Melin, President Markunas' new executive assistant, will work registration and is looking forward to meeting everyone.

Distributed was a list of the MSCA delegates to the 2007 MTA Annual Meeting.

It was moved and seconded to elect the list of MSCA delegates to the 2007 MTA Annual Meeting as distributed. The motion passed.

Joint Committee on Higher Education Hearing: May 10, 2007, Hearing Room A-2, State House, Boston

Distributed were the bills relevant to the state colleges that will be heard at this meeting. Two are of critical importance: H 1175, on transfer credit; and H 1185, on university status for state colleges. Discussion followed about these bills.

The MSCA/COP "working group" will meet next on May 7th at Framingham State College to discuss strategy for the May 10th legislative hearing.

Campus Security Conference

As noted in a distributed report from the ERC meeting, a conference on campus security issues is in the works for June at the U-Mass Boston campus. At ERC, the possibility was discussed of holding a state college conference on threat assessment and related issues for faculty members and other "first responders" to students and employees who may pose a threat to self or others. Discussion followed.

Governor's Task Force on Higher Education

The final meeting of the task force was held yesterday, with the governor attending.

There will be no written report or recommendations by the Task Force. Those participating felt there should be a Secretary of Education to communicate the governor's vision regarding education for citizens of all ages and decentralization is a priority. In addition, the function and role of the BHE were a source of conflict among Task Force members, but it is assumed that the BHE and Board of Education will be restructured by the governor.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board send letters of appreciation to Mr. Paul Rennie and Presidents Antonucci, Mohler-Faria, and Wilson, thanking them for their participation and the roles they played on the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education and the Governor's Task Force on K-12. The motion passed.

Post-tenure Review Issues

Distributed were the initial results from post-tenure review, alternative one, for the AY 2006-07 (year two). As noted in the ERC report as distributed, Donna Sirutis and President Markunas will present the remaining unresolved issues from the consolidated grievance concerning PTR decisions in year one at a Step II hearing with COP chairperson Mary K. Grant on May 2, 2007, at the MCLA campus.

As noted in the same report as distributed, the parties are in dispute about what to tell the remaining PTR alternative one candidates about the possible impact of the current collective bargaining talks on the PTR process. A communication from President Markunas' office is likely. In any case, June 29, 2007, is the deadline for any change in the process or the group of candidates to be considered during AY 2007-08, emergency situations being the only exception.

Appendix M

Non-initialed copies of the personnel calendar for the upcoming academic year (Appendix M) were distributed. The parties have executed this Appendix and Mark Peters will distribute it to the academic vice presidents for them to distribute to the faculty and librarians.

Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell

Passed.

Secretary - Nancy George

Passed.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the April financial report at the March 30, 2007, MSCA Board meeting.

Treasurer Pavlicek requested that chapter presidents inform him of any changes in chapter dues.

Health and Welfare Trust

Information on the vision discount plan has been distributed to campus' human resources offices. Members should be receiving this information at this time.

MSCA Committee Reports

DGCE - C.J. O'Donnell

Print copies of the newly executed contracts have been distributed to chapter offices.

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.

[During the executive session, MTA Attorney Ira Fader met with the Board to discuss charges against the MSCA and the MTA that have been filed at the Labor Relations Commission.]

Grievance Committee - Maggie Vaughan

Chair Vaughan distributed her report. Discussion followed. Chair Vaughan was thanked for dramatically reducing the grievance backlog.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis thanked MSCA Board members who attended the PHENOM day at the State House. The importance of constituents meeting with state representatives, and making those targeted connections, was reiterated by Consultant Sirutis.

Information about the PayInfo system of accessing payroll data via the web was distributed. The BHE hopes to eliminate paper payroll information to those members who create an online PayInfo account. The PayInfo account allows access to only the past four pay periods of payroll information, which may prove to be problematic to members. Discussion followed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

A May 31st meeting for grievance officers at Framingham State College is being planned. More information will be available closer to that date.

Director - Len Paolillo

MTA Due Increase

The MTA is proposing a \$9.00 increase per year in dues.

State Budget

The most recent information on the state budget reports that higher education will receive a minimal increase from last year.

Higher Education Act

Senator Kennedy is currently drafting Section 104 of the Higher Education Act. It is imperative that MSCA members contact Senator Kennedy's office to request that he NOT include language from the Academic Bill of Rights in this act.

Social Security Offsets

There are now 290 House co-sponsors and 26 Senate sponsors for this important piece of legislation.

Local Chapter President's Reports

Bridgewater: President Mohler-Faria is absent from campus most of the time working on issues related to education with the governor. Information on PTR at Bridgewater was provided to Board members.

Fitchburg: A review of PTR results was provided to Board members.
MSCA members at Fitchburg are being forced to accept and use laptop computers even though they had earlier been assured this would not happen.

Framingham: Not present due to the investiture ceremony for President Timothy Flanagan.

Mass Art: Passed.

MCLA: PTR results were reviewed. The tri-union luncheon will be held in the coming week.

MMA: Still waiting for the appointment of a third trustee to the institution. Two other trustees have been appointed recently.

Salem: A review was made of the PTR situation at Salem. Presidential search finalists have been interviewed on campus. It is hoped that a new president will be selected and announced in the coming month.

Westfield: A review was made of the PTR situation at Westfield. The presidential search continues. Campus elections were held; there were no contested offices. College administration is reducing stipends and release time for Program Area Chairs.

Worcester: Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary