

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 1, 2007
Westfield State College**

Present: Ambacher, Concannon, Dargan, Everitt, Falke, George, Haar, Markunas, Mrvica, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Shartin, Shea, Stonehouse

Guests: Donna Sirutis (MTA), Margaret Vaughan (Salem), 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 April 27, 2007 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports

President - Pat Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments

It was moved and seconded to appoint Sara Marks (Fitchburg), Richard Clare (Framingham), Nancy George (Salem), Pamela McKay (Worcester), David Langston (MCLA) and Jean Stonehouse (Bridgewater) to the Librarians Committee. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Michael Turk (Fitchburg) to serve as the Fitchburg alternate to the Day Bargaining Committee and Susan Dargan (Framingham) to serve as the Framingham representative to the Day Bargaining Committee. The motion passed.

President Markunas welcomed Susan Dargan to the MSCA Board. Introductions followed.

Proposed Schedule for MSCA Board Meetings and Summer Scheduling

Distributed to Board members was the proposed schedule of MSCA Board meetings for the upcoming academic year.

It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed schedule of MSCA Board meetings for 2007-08. The motion passed.

Distributed was a calendar for the summer months, to assist in planning and scheduling for the summer. Board members were asked to indicate availability on the calendar and return it to President Markunas.

Transitions

Wednesday's *Boston Globe* reported that Governor Patrick would present his education reorganization plan at today's commencement at UMass-Boston. Distributed was a copy of a letter President Markunas received from him and Dana Mohler-Faria, thanking her for her service on the higher education task force.

President Markunas reported that MTA Higher Education Division Director Art Pippo plans to interview a part-time consultant in order to assume most of Bob Whalen's workload as the consultant to the DGCE unit. Consultant Whalen will continue to be available to answer questions and provide information to MSCA leaders and members.

President Markunas and the Board thanked Consultant Whalen for his dedication and service to the MSCA. In addition, President Markunas presented him with a certificate and special gift on behalf of the MSCA.

It is expected that Fitchburg State College president Robert Antonucci will be elected to serve as the chairperson of the Council of Presidents beginning July 1, 2007. As has been President Markunas' practice, she will request a meeting with him to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Campus Security Conference

Distributed to Board members was information about a conference on campus security issues to be held on June 15th at the U-Mass Boston campus. President Markunas urged Board members to take advantage of this opportunity.

Joint Committee on Higher Education Hearing

The JCHE will hear various bills related to tuition and fees. Enclosed in Board members' packets were three of importance to MSCA: this year's in-state tuition bill (H1197) and two bills that provide for two years of free tuition at the state's community colleges. President Markunas plans to testify on the in-state tuition bill.

Other legislative items of note include H2821, a bill to allow part-time faculty to join the state's retirement system. Distributed was an email from Joe LeBlanc concerning this issue.

Also distributed was an item from Jack Flannagan regarding H2697, the amendment to Chapter 150E. On behalf of the Board, President Markunas thanked Jean Stonehouse, Ken Haar, and Bob Bence for their willingness to testify on behalf of the MSCA when this bill is heard.

President Markunas has been contacted by several part-time faculty about the impact of the new health insurance law on them. President Markunas has requested that MTA send a communication to all the part-time faculty it represents about this issue. An email was distributed to Board members on this issue.

Post-tenure Review Issues

Distributed were the current results from post-tenure review, alternative one, for the AY 2006-07 (year two). Appeals are still pending at three campuses. Chapter presidents were asked to send to President Markunas and Donna Sirutis copies of reconsideration and appeal letters.

President Markunas' office is still in the process of trying to compile an accurate list of PTR candidates for review during the AY 2007-08. Distributed was a copy of the materials that will be sent to candidates once that list has been compiled.

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.

Consolidated Grievances on 15% Cap on Part-time Faculty Sections and Excess Workload Credits

Distributed were updated information requests on the status of the resolution of these two consolidated grievances. President Markunas noted that it is obvious that management is not taking sufficient action to resolve either grievance. Charges at the Labor Relations Commission may be needed.

MTA Leadership Conference

Distributed was a letter from Dennis Fitzgerald concerning the cancellation of the higher education party at the MTA Leadership Conference.

Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell

Passed.

Secretary - Nancy George

Passed.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the current expense report to Board members. Discussion followed.

Health Insurance for MSCA Employees

Treasurer Pavlicek will be setting up a Chapter 125 plan for MSCA employees interested in obtaining health insurance. This plan would allow them to put money into a pre-tax account, so that they may pay for health insurance with pre-tax money.

MTA Annual Meeting

It was moved and seconded to reimburse Tej Kalia's expenses and stipend for the 2007 MTA Annual Meeting. The motion passed.

Special Item: Administration of Elections, Leadership Development and MTA Strategic Direction Initiative - Pat Markunas, C.J. O'Donnell and Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis distributed a handout entitled *Possible Areas for Work in the MSCA in Addition to Bargaining* and a variety of related handouts. She and President Markunas reviewed and initiated discussion on the different categories including *Leadership Growth and Transition, Chapter Operations, Political Knowledge and Skills, and Regional Higher Ed Multi-Local Training*.

In addition, President Markunas distributed the newly composed *Handbook for the Chapter Administration of Elections and Voter Eligibility*. Discussion followed.

Deemed of particular importance was the availability of up-to-date chapter constitutions and bylaws. A special ad hoc committee will be formed to work on this issue over the summer.

MSCA Committee Reports

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.

Elections Committee - Deb Foss

In the absence of Chair Foss, Committee Vice Chair Dan Shartin distributed a report of the committee. Included were the rules and calendar used in the 2006 MSCA officers election. It was requested that Board members review these rules and the calendar and, if desired, recommend changes to the Elections Committee.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Passed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Passed.

Director - Len Paolillo

Not present.

Chapter Presidents' Reports

Worcester

Passed.

Westfield

The presidential search is going to begin (again) in the fall. The search committee will keep all search committee details confidential until candidates are ready to be brought to campus.

The chairs' departmental secretaries currently provide secretarial help for the Academic Policies and Curriculum Committees. Per the request of Director Shea, a brief poll was taken regarding secretarial assistance for these two contract committees.

Fitchburg - same situation as Westfield.

Bridgewater - someone in the vice president's office manages the clerical work of the committees and manages the web page for the committees.

Salem - someone in the academic vice president's office does the clerical work for the committees.

Worcester - hourly employee hired specifically to do the clerical work for the committees.

MMA - chair of committees must do all work without any clerical assistance.

Framingham - vice president's office provides clerical support.

Salem

Salem State has a new president, Dr. Patricia Meservey, who is currently Provost and Academic Vice President at Suffolk University in Boston.

MMA

Passed.

MCLA

Not present. Written report submitted to President Markunas.

Mass Art

Not present.

Framingham

Inauguration of the new president was held on April 27th. Governor Patrick attended.

Fitchburg

A brief report was presented. The college will hire a director of assessment. Per the request of the Fitchburg chapter president a brief poll was taken regarding assessment and directors of assessment.

Worcester has had a director of assessment for a few years with little success.

Salem reported having more emphasis on assessment.

Framingham has an assessment planning committee.

Bridgewater

The college spent \$65,000 on a brick wall to shade the parking lot behind the administration building (Boyden Hall).

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary

