

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 7, 2007
Framingham State College**

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

Guests: Kenneth Lemanski (COP), Patricia Maguire Meservey (COP/Salem), Jake Oliveira (PHENOM), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Margaret Vaughan (Salem), Ferd Wulkan (PHENOM)

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 June 1, 2007 meeting. The motion passed.

Special Item: Recommendation to the Membership on Ratification of the 2007-08 Day Contract Extension and Ratification Procedures

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 bring out of executive session the motion regarding the ratification of the 2007-08 Day Contract Extension. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board recommend to the membership the ratification of the 2007-08 Day Contract Extension, dated August 27, 2007, which contains an agency fee provision. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Bridgewater
Stonehouse – yes
Pavlicek – yes

Mass Maritime
Concannon - yes
O'Donnell - yes

Fitchburg
Mrvica – yes
Turk – yes

Salem
Everitt - yes
George - yes

Framingham
Ambacher – yes
Dargan – yes

Westfield
Haar - yes
Shea - yes

Mass Art
Coppola – yes
Schlosberg – yes

Worcester
Shartin - yes
Falke - yes

MCLA
Paolillo - yes
Seider - yes

It was moved and seconded to set the contract ratification dates to Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Thursday, September 27, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The motion passed.

President Markunas and Treasurer Pavlicek reminded chapter presidents that all full-time and part-time unit members, employed since July 1, 2007 are eligible to vote. This includes new faculty and librarians hired since July 1, 2007, and those faculty and librarians who have retired after July 1, 2007, but were employed as of that date. In addition, part-time day unit members, employed from the third consecutive semester onward are eligible to vote. Employees who teach in DGCE, only, may not vote.

President Markunas publicly thanked and commended the Day Bargaining Committee, C.J. O'Donnell, Donna Sirutis (MTA), and Ed Sullivan (MTA) for their hard work on the 2007-08 Day Contract Extension.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Pat Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments

It was moved and seconded to appoint Richard McElroy (Mass Art) and Signia Warner (Westfield) to the Librarians Committee; John Ambacher (Framingham) as the alternate to the day Bargaining Committee and Maynard Seider (MCLA) to the Grievance Committee. The motion passed.

Board members were provided "committee grids." Chapter presidents were encouraged to make an effort to fill any vacancies as soon as possible. President Markunas reminded everyone that the MSCA officers' election will be held next spring and that the MSCA elections committee will be a particularly important committee next year.

Request from PHENOM for Financial Support

President Markunas introduced Jake Oliveira from Framingham State College and Ferd Wulkan from UMass-Amherst, who presented some background information on the activities of PHENOM. The Interim Steering Committee asked that organizations assist with the financial needs of PHENOM to help it realize its goals for this year and beyond.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board of Directors assist PHENOM in its activities and pay for the PHENOM subscription to the VoterVoice at a cost up to \$3,000. The motion passed.

PHENOM will hold its fall higher education summit meeting on Friday, October 26, 2007, at Framingham State College. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Joint Committee on Higher Education Hearing: October 2, 2007, 11:00 a.m., Hearing Room B-1 in the State House, Boston

The JCHE will hear various bills of importance to us: this year's so-called academic freedom bill (H1190), to which the MSCA Board is on record in opposition and the textbook bill (H1200), which the Higher Education Leadership Council has endorsed.

It was moved and seconded the MSCA Board of Directors go on record in support of H1200. The motion passed. President Markunas plans to testify on both H1190 and H1200.

President Markunas had mailed to Board members a proposed bill drafted by Dan Georgianna of UMass-Dartmouth on part-time faculty at public higher education institutions.

It was moved and seconded the MSCA Board of Directors go on record that in support of the proposed legislation, "Act to Maintain Faculty and College Excellence" as proposed by Dan Georgianna of UMass-Dartmouth. The motion passed.

Also distributed was a letter that MTA sent to all part-time faculty in the system about legislation to include part-time faculty in the state's GIC health insurance system. MCCC continues to push this legislation aggressively and President Markunas will keep board members informed about this bill's progress.

Post-tenure Review

Distributed were the pay increases by campus for post-tenure review, alternative one, for years one and two, prepared by Chris Melin in President Markunas' office. This table will be published in the upcoming issue of the *MSCA Perspective*.

Constitutional Issues/MSCA Officers' Responsibilities

The MSCA's strategic initiative on reviewing and updating the governance documents of the chapters and the statewide MSCA fell through the cracks of non-stop negotiations this summer. President Markunas expects to present the statewide issues at the November MSCA Board meeting and hopes to hold a meeting of the ad hoc committee on governance sometime this month.

Thanks from the Andover Education Association

Per President Markunas' email on Labor Day, President Markunas' husband, Tim Van Wey, reported that the demonstration at his high school was a great success and, on behalf of his membership, thanked the MSCA for its contribution of demonstration materials.

MLRC Charge

MTA Attorney Ira Fader has heard nothing from the Commission about the charges filed against the MSCA last fall, the hearing for which was held at the end of April.

October 5, 2007 MSCA Board Meeting

President Markunas will be attending a professional conference during this week and has asked MSCA Vice President C.J. O'Donnell to chair this board meeting.

Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell

Passed

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George informed the board that she is investigating web server and communication software options through the MTA.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

MSCA Monthly Expenses

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the current MSCA Monthly Expenses statement.

MSCA Audit

Treasurer Pavlicek reported that the MSCA's audit report is in the process of being completed. The current CPA employed to perform the audit took a traditional approach to the process and did not utilize the use of computers in the audit. President Markunas noted that it might be necessary to change auditors periodically.

Other Activities

Treasurer Pavlicek described other activities the treasurer's office is involved in including payroll and reimbursement activities.

MSCA Committee Reports

Grievance Committee - Margaret Vaughan

College administrators, in an attempt to avoid meeting with grievants, are canceling arbitration dates at the last minute. Discussion followed.

Visiting Speaker

Patricia Maguire Meservey - President, Salem State College

President Markunas introduced new Salem State College President Patricia Maguire Meservey. After introductions, President Meservey greeted the Board and made a few remarks on her background and experience.

MTA Reports:

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Affirmative Action Plan

Consultant Sirutis distributed copies of the new Affirmative Action Plan for the state college system to all chapter presidents, President Markunas, and Chair Vaughan of the Grievance Committee.

Social Security Offsets

Consultant Sirutis distributed the Social Security Offsets petition to chapter presidents.

Other Items

Consultant Sirutis distributed additional handouts developed to assist in finding key information in the contract and information on the evaluation process.

Letter from Mark Peters Dated August 27, 2007

Consultant Sirutis reviewed the letter from Mark Peters dated August 27, 2007. Discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded that each chapter, acting through the chapter president, convene a meeting of faculty and librarians with the college president to discuss the importance of the presidents to maintain their commitment to enforce and to continue the contractual limits on part-time and full-time temporary faculty. The motion passed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Not present.

Director - Len Paolillo

The MTA Board of Directors met in August.

Director Paolillo reported that organizations in cities and towns can join the Group Insurance Commission as long as it is bargained with the unions and employee organizations.

Director Paolillo spoke briefly regarding the Social Security Offsets and stated he will report on this topic in the future after further investigation.

The MTA Board of Directors supported Director Paolillo's candidacy for the NEA Executive Committee position.

Local Chapter President's Reports:

Bridgewater

The president of Bridgewater State College appointed Brian Baldwin as his Chief of Staff.

Fitchburg

Passed

Framingham

Passed

Mass Art

Chapter President Schlosberg described the recent privatization of residence hall services at Smith Hall and the subsequent reduction of AFSCME positions at Mass Art.

It was moved and seconded to go on record that the MSCA Board of Directors supports the efforts of AFSCME representatives at the Massachusetts College of Art to seek a fair and equitable resolution of the issues involved with the privatization of services at Smith Hall. The motion passed.

MCLA

Enrollment is up and the dorms are full. This is the largest enrollment increase since the name of the college changed some time ago.

MMA

Passed

Salem

The VP Academic Affairs title is being changed to Provost. Additional responsibilities are being added to the position. The college board of trustees will vote on these changes next week.

The college is now participating in *Foundations of Excellence*, a program directed at improving the first year student experience. Framingham State is putting \$30,000 into the support of this program.

A chapter meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2007, at 2:30 p.m.

Westfield

After discussion regarding special committees at Westfield, it was recommended that Chapter President Haar speak with Consultant Sirutis regarding this topic.

The chapter's assessment of the VP of Academic Affairs and the interim president is currently being performed. This will be done on a regular and non-confidential basis.

The administrator currently handling Step II grievances may be replaced with a different administrator.

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Worcester

For the first time in recent memory, MSCA representatives were allowed to attend the new faculty orientation. A successful experience was reported all around.

The new Vice President of Academic Affairs seems to be adjusting well to the college.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary