

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 29, 2008
Framingham State College**

Present: Ambacher, Concannon, Coppola, Dargan, Everitt, Falke, George, Markunas, Mrvica, Paolillo, Pavlicek, Schlosberg, Shartin, Shea, Spezeski, Stonehouse

Guests: Peter Hogan (Fitchburg), Donna Sirutis (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 February 1, 2008 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President - Pat Markunas

MSCA Committee Appointments

It was moved and seconded to accept the nomination of Robert Donohue (Framingham) as an alternate to the Day Bargaining Committee. The motion passed.

Legislative Issues/FY 2009 State Budget

State Employee Health Insurance Premiums. Distributed with the report was the strategy proposed by the Public Employee Labor Coalition to counter the governor's proposal to increase health insurance premiums. President Markunas asked that Board members assume responsibility to insure MSCA's representation at in-district meetings with key local representatives in their area.

Proposed Legislature on Faculty Staffing Issues. Enclosed in members' packets was a proposed piece of legislation that would require an increase in full-time faculty members and pro-rated salaries and benefits for part-time faculty members, among other benefits, at public higher education institutions. Daniel Georgianna, former president of the faculty union at UMass-Dartmouth, drafted this legislation, which was endorsed by the MTA Higher Education Leadership Council earlier this month.

It was moved and seconded that the Board endorse the "Act to Maintain Faculty and College Excellence." The motion passed.

Higher Education Capital Bond Bill (HR4280). Distributed in members' packets was the redraft of HR4280, the capital bond bill for higher education. This bill has received a favorable report from the Joint Committee on Higher Education and is now before the Joint Committee on Bonds.

It was moved and seconded that the Board endorse HR4280. The motion passed.

MSCA Archives

After consultation with C. J. O'Donnell, Glenn Pavlicek and Susan Edwards, President Markunas signed a one-year contract with Retrievox, a documents storage facility located in Danvers. In addition to meeting the environmental conditions required to store archival documents, Retrievox offers a web-based inventory of a client's materials that can be searched at the file folder level by those individuals authorized to do so, as well as several retrieval processes (delivery of a box or file folder(s), fax transmission, scanning and email transmission, and on-site examination).

Distributed were revised proposed policies concerning the MSC Archives and Documents for the Board's consideration that replaces those drafts sent in the mailed packet.

It was moved and seconded to approve the revised MSCA Archives Policies and Procedures. The motion passed.

Board of Higher Education/Council of Presidents

2007 Faculty Salary Study. The BHE subcommittee on fiscal affairs meeting scheduled for Friday, February 22 was canceled because of weather. The 2007 BHE/COP faculty salary study was to be presented for the BHE's consideration at its regular meeting today. Paul McGee and James Hayes Bohanan agreed to represent the MSCA at this meeting. Copies of the salary study were provided to Board members and an electronic copy will be posed on the MSCA website.

Search for the Commissioner of Higher Education. Peter Hogan, the MSCA representative to the Search Committee, reported on the search process and received input from Board members on it.

Constitutional Amendments to be Considered at the 2008 MSCA Delegate Assembly

Chapter presidents received on 2/29/08 a complete copy of the proposed amendments to the MSCA Constitution that will be considered at the 2008 MSCA Delegate Assembly. In accordance with Article VIII of the MSCA Constitution, these proposals must be circulated to the chapters at least 30 days in advance of the Assembly. The changes will be posed on the MSCA website and published in the March/April issue of the MSCA Perspective. Once the proposals have been posted on the website, President Markunas will send a broadcast message to the membership alerting them to the proposals.

2008 MTA Friend of Education Award

Distributed in members' mailed packets was an announcement about the retirement event for Ed Sullivan. MTA President Anne Wass appreciated the MSCA's nomination of Ed for the MTA Friend of Education Award and indicated that he is the likely recipient.

Letter Concerning Post-tenure Review Reconsideration and Appeal Processes

Distributed was the letter that have been sent to those faculty and librarians who are undergoing post-tenure review this year, informing them of their rights to request reconsideration and appeal of their PTR ratings. President Markunas reminded chapter presidents to send copies of the PTR rating letters to Consultant Sirutis and the MSCA president's office as soon as the letters are available.

Other Items

PHENOM. Ken Haar was elected treasurer of PHENOM. President Markunas requested that Board members distribute informational flyers on PHENOM on the state college campuses.

Higher Education Week. Governor Patrick proclaimed that 3/31-4/4/08 is Public Higher Education Week.

Future Items for the MSCA Board of Directors Agenda

Noah Berger, Executive Director, Massachusetts Center for Budget and Policy, is scheduled to meet with the MSCA Board of Directors at its March 28th meeting.

Vice President - C.J. O'Donnell

Not present.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George reminded Board members that nominations are now open for the 2008 NEA Representative Assembly, which is to be held July 1-6 in Washington, DC. Nominations are due on March 10, 2008. The nomination form was available in the February *MSCA Perspective*.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed his report.

Delegate Assembly. Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed the 2008 Delegate Assembly counts. It was moved and seconded to accept the *Delegate Assembly Delegate Counts 2008* as distributed. The motion passed.

MTA Annual Meeting. Treasurer Pavlicek reviewed the headcount to determine delegates for the 2008 MTA Annual Meeting. Due to incomplete figures for the headcount, the approval of the delegate allocations was to be conducted via email the week of March 2, 2008 once the total number of members is received.

MSCA Budget. Treasurer Pavlicek requested that proposed changes to the MSCA budget be submitted to him as soon as possible. The proposed budget will be available for review at the next Board meeting.

Health and Welfare Trust. The February meeting was not held due to bad weather. It was noted that the vision plan is fairly useless and that the dental plan has been scaled down to a level which members can afford. The vision plan does not cost members or the Health and Welfare Trust anything.

MTA Dues. Treasurer Pavlicek requested that chapter presidents report to him any problems with part-time faculty members regarding MTA dues.

Other Items. Treasurer Pavlicek is working with Bridgewater State's IT staff to ensure tight security, including encryption software and remote servers, of the treasurer office's databases. In the next month Treasurer Pavlicek will be meeting with the investment advisor to discuss investment options.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Day Bargaining – C.J. O'Donnell; as presented by President Pat Markunas

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.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit - Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis requested that chapter presidents ask their academic vice presidents for reasons why full-time temporary appointments are necessary and that the chapter presidents share this information with her once it is obtained.

Distributed by Consultant Sirutis was a memorandum regarding anonymous complaints. Discussion followed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen, as presented by Consultant Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis described two recent mediations involving the new DGCE Contract that were successful.

Director - Len Paolillo

Director Paolillo briefly noted that the MTA is working on a strategy against the proposed health insurance premium increases for state employees.

Sen. John Kerry and the US Senate, as well as the House of Representatives, had hearings on the Social Security Government Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision.

The next MTA Board meeting will be 3/28 and 3/29.

Nominations are due March 11 for the MTA Director position that Director Paolillo now holds.

Chapter President's Reports:

Worcester

Post-tenure review results were released in early February.

Westfield

There is a new president of the college. The faculty is cautiously optimistic about him.

Salem

There is still no library or engineering report from DCAM regarding the library building. An interim library is being planned and will be in place for three-five years. There have been problems with the dean of the library regarding de-accessing print items from the collection.

Mass. Maritime Academy

The ship came back and no one was lost.

MCLA

Passed.

Mass. Art

Passed.

Framingham

The college was actively investigating the purchase of property in Marlborough but it was not purchased due to its cost.

A serious security issue occurred on campus on 2/27/08. Details are not available, but state and local/campus police are investigating.

Fitchburg

Evaluation of administrators

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.

Bridgewater

Many activities are occurring on campus, including a recent security crisis that gained media attention. There have been discussions on campus regarding new schools/deans and the emergency notification system.

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary