

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 5, 2008
Framingham State College**

Present: Aldrich, Coppola, Dargan, Donohue, Eve, Everitt, Falke, Foss, George, Haar, Mrvica, O'Brien, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Schlosberg, Shea, Stonehouse, Turk

Guests: Ron Colbert (Fitchburg), Dan Shartin (Worcester), Donna Sirutis (MTA), 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.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2008 meeting. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2008 special meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President – C.J. O'Donnell

New Board Member/Guest

On behalf of the Board, President O'Donnell welcomed David Eve, the newly elected Director from MCLA. David attended the special Board meeting in August, but President O'Donnell wanted to introduce David to those Board members who could not attend the special meeting. Also welcomed was Ronald Colbert from the Fitchburg chapter who was elected as the Region 45H member to the MTA Board of Directors this summer.

MSCA Committee Appointments: 2008-2010

The MSCA Constitution provides that committee appointments begin in October of even-numbered years. President O'Donnell distributed nomination forms (blue) to Chapter Presidents in the last Board mailing. President O'Donnell distributed additional copies to Chapter Presidents needing them. Any current member of an MSCA committee who wishes to be re-appointed to that committee for the 2008-2010 term must be nominated by the Chapter President and approved by the MSCA Board. Committee appointments do not "roll over" nor are members allowed to continue to serve until a successor is named.

The deadline for Chapter Presidents to have their nominees included on the "committee grid" is 4:00 p.m. September 22nd. Chapter Presidents may make nominations at any time, including at the Board meeting. President O'Donnell urged all Chapter Presidents to submit their nominations by the deadline to cut down the time needed to get appointment letters out to the committee members.

Included was a proposed calendar and procedure for the election of committee chairs. The proposed calendar parallels the calendar that has been used in 2002, 2004 and 2006. The proposed procedure is nearly identical to that used in 2002, 2004, and 2006. The only additional information that President O'Donnell included was regarding the election by majority vote rather than plurality. This requirement is spelled out in *Robert's Rules*, but President O'Donnell thought it was important to be specifically stated.

It was moved and seconded to accept the *Proposed Calendar and Procedure for Election of MSCA Committee Chairpersons for the 2008-2010 Term: Calendar and Voting Procedure* as distributed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the *Proposed Calendar and Procedure for Election of MSCA Committee Chairpersons for the 2008-2010 Term: Calendar and Voting Procedure* to include the following modifications (additions are in **bold**; deletions are in brackets, []):

Calendar:

October 10 – Deadline for nominations for chair.

October **17**[10] – All Committees will be convened to elect a chair according to the attached schedule. A vice chair may be elected for each committee at the committee's discretion. An additional room has been reserved for any committee to hold a brief meeting that day. **Only if there are no nominees shall nominations from the floor be accepted.**

Voting Procedure:

Signed absentee ballots may be cast by US mail or fax (508-830-6699) to the MSCA President's Office if received no later than 5:00 p.m. on October [9th] **16th**, or they may be sent by email to c.j.odonnell@comcast.net, by midnight, October [9th] **16th**.

The motion passed with a hand count, 8 yes, 5 no.

The original motion passed as amended.

Special Commission to Study University Status for the State Colleges

Appointments to the special commission have not been made, as best as President O'Donnell can determine. The commission has not met, but the Secretary of Education, Paul Reville, who will chair the commission, has begun to collect data that the commission will need to do its work.

ERC Report

President O'Donnell reviewed the ERC Report from the August 20, 2008 meeting. The following items were highlighted:

Post-tenure Review, Alternative One, Year Four – This is the last year for post-tenure review. Members should not defer PTR so that they may go up for a promotion. There is no next year for PTR.

Professional Development – A per capita amount of \$671 for PD was agreed on for this year; same requirements as last year apply.

New Approved Mileage Rate – COP has agreed to increase the mileage rate to \$.585 per mile (IRS rate).

Handbook for State College Department Chairs – Work continues on this handbook.

Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group

President O'Donnell is scheduled to meet with BHE Director for Academic Policy Francesca Purcell on September 11th to discuss directly with her the MSCA's concerns. The college presidents should be submitting the CTAG report to governance. President O'Donnell requested that Board members be in touch with your ACC chair to make sure that this in fact does happen, and that it happens early this semester. The BHE has given a deadline of the end of this semester to make recommendations.

Vice President – Amy Everitt

Passed.

Secretary - Nancy George

Secretary George thanked Sue Dargan (Framingham) for taking the minutes at the August 18, 2008, special meeting.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed his report.

Treasurer Pavlicek reviewed the outcome of the audit and included a few suggestions to the Board that will make next year's audit go even smoother. This included clearer guidelines for reimbursement (allowable expenses, original receipts). Treasurer Pavlicek noted that reimbursements are not taxable; stipends of \$600 or more are taxable. Once a final report is received, it will be submitted to the Secretary of State and the MTA.

In response to a Board member's question, Treasurer Pavlicek noted that there are approximately 50 full-time members who pay the agency fee. He also noted that the majority of members who pay the agency fee are in the DGCE unit. A brief discussion on agency fee payers followed.

In response to another Board member's question, Treasurer Pavlicek stated that MSCA (statewide), MTA and NEA dues calculation is done in Boston. Local dues are calculated at each campus. The change in dues collection started July 1, 2008. Treasurer Pavlicek is tracking dues carefully and described to the Board the dues collection system and structure.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Grievance – Margaret Vaughan

Not present.

Day Bargaining – Dan Shartin

After a brief update from Chair Shartin on the progress of Day Bargaining, a lengthy discussion on potential strategies ensued.

It is to be noted that members are very frustrated and disappointed with Governor Patrick, the “education governor”, whom members helped elect last year.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit – Donna Sirutis

Sick Leave Bank

If any member on the sick leave bank is required by college administration to submit to an independent medical examination, let Consultant Sirutis know immediately. This medical examination might be against the law.

Day Bargaining

Consultant Sirutis reviewed various labor protest options and the legal implications for members and the association. Discussion followed.

Income Tax Ballot Question

Consultant Sirutis provided the Board with a presentation on the *Income Tax Ballot Question*. Detailed information on the Income Tax Ballot Question is on the MTA webpage; a link on the MSCA web page to this information will be provided in the very near future. Strategies and general discussion followed the presentation.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

All Massachusetts public employees will be put on the HR/CMS payroll system by January 1, 2009. Within the state college system, all but two campuses, Worcester and Mass Art and Design, either already have all employees on the system or are working to include all employees on the system.

It was noted that withholding amounts for DGCE will override Day withholding amounts for those members who work both in the Day and DGCE units. Consultant Whalen

requested that chapter presidents solicit DGCE only and DGCE/Day faculty pay stubs (with name and IDs blacked out) so the MTA can examine how deductions are being handled. President O'Donnell also requested that each chapter find out if the part-time and DGCE faculty at their campus is on the HR/CMS system. As a result of this situation, DGCE impact negotiations may have to begin before the DGCE contract is up.

Director – Ron Colbert

Director Colbert reviewed the make-up of the MTA Board and the emphasis on K-12 within the organization. He attended his first MTA Board meeting last month, which was the first week in August in Williamstown. Much of the time at that meeting was spent on Board development to make the Board a more cohesive group. Additional time during the Board meeting was spent discussing the Kerry and Obama elections and the income tax repeal.

Chapter President's Reports:

Worcester

Two dean searches are going on this year.

Westfield

Passed.

Salem

There was a failed Arts and Sciences Dean search which will be continued this year. The AVP search continues; three to four candidates will be invited to campus the end of September.

MMA

Passed.

MCLA

AVP Steve Green is retiring at the end of August 2009.

Framingham

College President, Tim Flanagan, seems to be very supportive with MSCA Day Contract issues and is very annoyed with the lack of progress towards a contract.

Mass. Art

Passed.

Fitchburg

Passed.

Bridgewater

There has been an arbitrary addition of students above caps in core courses. There are new Directors of Teaching and Learning and Online Teaching. The Bridgewater chapter president was questioning the interactions these new directors have been having with faculty. The administration is full of “acting” administrators. There are searches going on for AVP and VP for Administration and Finance.

New Business:

A suggestion was made to invite Governor Patrick to the state college campuses. President O’Donnell noted the suggestion and thought it was a good idea.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary