

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

Present: Aldrich, Concannon, Coppola, Dargan, Donohue, Everitt, Falke, George, Haar, Mrvica, O'Brien, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Shea, Schlosberg, 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 November 7, 2008 meeting.
The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President – C.J. O'Donnell

Collective Bargaining Summit

MTA higher education leaders have been meeting with several other statewide unions and have planned a Collective Bargaining Summit for Wednesday, December 17th in Boston. The idea is for the bargaining committees and officers of each union to attend. President O'Donnell attached the most recent email from Arthur Pippo about this summit. It will also be mailed to all members of the two bargaining committees.

President O'Donnell strongly encouraged each member of the bargaining committees to attend if at all possible. It would be helpful if we could ensure that at least one member from each campus was present. President O'Donnell hopes this will become a more regular event and create a better working relationship among the various statewide unions.

MSCA Committees

Ballots for chair and vice chair were mailed to all members of the three MSCA committees that did not elect a chair on October 17th. The results of that balloting for chair were as follows:

Chairs:

AA/EO/DIV – Tracy Ware (Salem)

Credential – Jean Stonehouse (Bridgewater) and Ann Mrvica (Fitchburg) – tied

Legislation – Ken Haar (Westfield)

During the board meeting, Jean Stonehouse (Bridgewater) and Ann Mrvica (Fitchburg) agreed that Ann Mrvica should serve as chair of the Credential Committee.

The results of that balloting for vice-chair were as follows:

Vice Chairs:

AA/EO/DIV – Diane Caggiano (Fitchburg)

Credential – Bruce Cohen (Worcester)

Legislation – Carlos Fontes (Worcester)

President O'Donnell intends to contact each individual above to confirm that they are willing to serve as chair or vice chair, as elected. If those named are not interested in serving, then a new ballot will be mailed out.

Board of Higher Education

President O'Donnell previously reported that BHE Chairman Fred Clark will be resigning from the Board on December 6th. The BHE was meeting on December 5th (afternoon) to interview Richard Freeland for the position of Commissioner of Higher Education. Dr. Freeland will be the only candidate interviewed.

If approved by the Board, Dr. Freeland's name will then be forwarded to Secretary of Education Paul Reville for approval.

Dr. Charles Desmond will serve as the new BHE Chairman following BHE Chairman Fred Clark's resignation.

Letter to Ann Wass

A letter (included in the mailing) was sent to Anne Wass thanking her for the leadership shown by her and MTA in the overwhelming defeat of Question 1.

David Borer Invitation

President O'Donnell called MTA Executive Director/Treasurer David Borer to invite him to an upcoming MSCA Board meeting. A date has not been set, but President O'Donnell is hopeful that he will be able to attend the February meeting.

MTA Legislative Support/Oppose Statements

MTA's Governmental Relations Committee will present its recommendations regarding legislative support and oppose statements to the MTA Board of Directors tomorrow morning. Once those positions have been approved by the Board, President O'Donnell will forward them to the MSCA Board and the MSCA Legislation Committee.

Vice President – Amy Everitt

Passed.

Secretary - Nancy George

Passed.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed his report.

Treasurer Pavlicek reported that the MSCA money in the investment fund has suffered a loss during the recent international economic crisis.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA set aside \$7,500 for attendance at the NCHE conference in Portland, Oregon, provided that no member may receive more than \$1,500 for expenses that are verified by appropriate receipts. Eligibility for reimbursement will require current NCHE membership. The motion passed.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Grievance – Margaret Vaughan

Not present.

Day Bargaining – Dan Shartin

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

Passed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen

Consultant Whalen distributed to board members an article from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* addressing workplace bullying. Consultant Whalen reminded the MSCA members how important it is to treat clerical staff with respect and decency.

Director – Ron Colbert

Passed.

Chapter President's Reports:

Bridgewater

The Bridgewater Chapter is working on its bylaws. There are concerns regarding the lateness of the student evaluation process.

Fitchburg

The parking grievance continues; mediation is being considered. Sabbaticals have not been approved by the college's trustees. Recent problems on campus have brought attention to the fact that the campus does not have adequate safety/emergency procedures in place.

Framingham

The current college administration continues to make large/small decisions that enrage faculty and librarians.

Mass College of Art and Design

Passed.

MCLA

Not present.

Mass Maritime

It was noted that student evaluations were just recently given to faculty to administer to their classes. It was also noted that it is often difficult – particularly given the last minute distribution – to find another faculty member to administer the evaluations, so a student in the class has to administer the evaluations.

Salem

The college is still working on a site for the new library. A new 500 bed dorm will be built on campus beginning this spring. The new provost, Dr. Kristen Esterberg, will begin on January 5th.

Westfield

Twenty new faculty members are being hired; no parking or office space for them at this time. Projects to revitalize downtown Westfield are being initiated by the college. These include student housing, moving the radio station, and a new theatre/recital hall.

Worcester

The administration is trying to increase course caps, especially for online courses (from 20 to 25) and raise the number needed to run a class to 10.

Brief surveys were made of chapters regarding class sizes (online and in-person) as well as the administrative process for handling SIR II evaluations.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary