

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
March 6, 2009  
Framingham State College**

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

**Guests:** Ron Colbert (Fitchburg), Donna Sirutis (MTA), Margaret Vaughan (Salem)

**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 6, 2009 meeting. The motion passed.

**MSCA Officers' Reports:**

*President – C.J. O'Donnell*

*Meeting with Commissioner Freeland*

On February 10<sup>th</sup> President O'Donnell met with Dr. Richard Freeland, the new Commissioner of Higher Education for an hour in his office. They discussed a number of issues including university status for the state colleges, salary issues, collective bargaining (in a broad sense) and the mission of the colleges. The meeting was very cordial. Dr. Freeland listened closely to what President O'Donnell had to say and seemed to be on the MSCA's wavelength on a number of issues.

On February 26<sup>th</sup> Donna Sirutis, Ken Haar and President O'Donnell attended Dr. Freeland's swearing-in ceremony at Framingham State. Governor Deval Patrick gave the oath of office; Secretary of Education Paul Reville, President Timothy Flanagan and BHE Chairman Charles Desmond each spoke. A copy of Dr. Freeland's speech was distributed to Board members.

The state and community college presidents, UMass President Jack Wilson and UMass chancellors met with Governor Patrick prior to the ceremony. It is President O'Donnell's understanding that among the items they discussed with the governor was the federal stimulus funds.

PHENOM was present to ask the governor to use the stimulus moneys to restore cuts to the operating budgets as opposed to capital expenditures.

Former MSCA President Pat Markunas attended a public meeting with the governor yesterday morning. She reported to President O'Donnell that near the end of the Q&A period the governor said that the state intends to use the stimulus money "to restore the cuts in higher education" as well as increase certain Chapter 70 moneys.

*Meeting with Fitchburg Executive Committee*

At Ann Mrvica's invitation, President O'Donnell met with the Fitchburg Chapter Executive Committee on February 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss a survey that the chapter conducted of its members regarding administrators at the college. MTA is working with the chapter to minimize concerns that have been raised.

*Contract Settlements*

NAGE, SEIU Local 509 and MSP Amherst/FSU Boston all have tentative agreements. MSP Lowell has settled on all issues except the issue of a HELC coalition issue of a 0.5% increase with effect on July 1, 2008. MTA Higher Ed Director Arthur Pippo is working with MTA Executive Director David Borer and MTA President Anne Wass on getting a meeting with the Patrick administration to make an argument for this increase for all MTA units that do not have step increases.

*Vice President – Amy Everitt*

Vice President Everitt presented a brief report to Board members reviewing her activities in the past month including working with President O'Donnell to compile data regarding advising loads and workload equivalencies.

*Secretary – Nancy George*

Secretary George reminded Board members of the March 13<sup>th</sup> deadline for NEA-RA nominations. This year's NEA-RA will be held in San Diego, CA July 1-6, 2009. Thus far she has received nominations from two MSCA members. The MSCA can send up to 18 delegates to the NEA-RA.

Treasurer Pavlicek will provide Board members with NEA-RA reimbursement figures for 2008 at the April 2009 Board meeting.

*Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek*

*Treasurer's Report*

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed up-to-date expenditures.

*2009 Delegate Assembly (April 25, 2009)*

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the chapter allocations for the 2009 Delegate Assembly.

It was moved and seconded to approve the chapter allocations for the 2009 Delegate Assembly as presented by the treasurer. The motion passed.

*2009 MTA Annual Meeting (May 1-2, 2009)*

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the tentative chapter allocations for the 2009 MTA Annual Meeting. He noted that MTA will finalize the numbers in March.

*Compensation for MSCA Chapter Officer, et alia*

In response to a request of the Board at the February meeting, Treasurer Pavlicek distributed information on chapter officer stipends and other reimbursements. It was noted that these stipends or reimbursements are voted on by each chapters.

*Compensation for MSCA Employees*

In response to a request of the Board at the February meeting, Treasurer Pavlicek distributed information on MSCA, non-officer employees.

It was requested that chapter presidents forward to Treasurer Pavlicek job descriptions for these positions and that he create a suggested pay schedule for Board consideration in order to ensure more consistent compensation for these employees.

*Appendix Q*

Treasurer Pavlicek asked that chapter presidents send him Appendix Q's. Thus far, he has received Appendix Q's from Fitchburg, Mass. Art and Westfield.

**MSCA Committee Reports:**

*Grievance – Margaret Vaughan*

Chair Vaughan distributed and reviewed the Grievance Committee report. The arbitration for the first year post-tenure review procedural violations will be held March 10, 2009.

*DGCE Bargaining – Sue Dargan*

Chair Dargan announced that the committee will be holding its first meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> to review the online survey. She noted that MCLA and Westfield were the only two chapters that did not have committee members appointed.

*Committee Nominations – C.J. O'Donnell*

It was moved and seconded to approve the nomination of Virgen (Millie) Gonzalez (Framingham) to the Librarians Committee. The motion passed.

*Day Bargaining – 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.

*PHENOM – Ken Haar*

PHENOM Treasurer Haar announced upcoming PHENOM events:

Legislative reception: (March 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. to noon, room 305 in the State House)

All representatives and senators who either graduated from one of the Massachusetts public colleges or universities or who has one of the campuses in his or her district are invited.

Rally and Lobby Day: April 8<sup>th</sup> at the State House.

State College Day: April 15<sup>th</sup> at the State House.

## **MTA Reports**

*Director – Ron Colbert*

Director Colbert gave the Board a summary of some issues discussed at the February MTA Board of Directors meeting. They included: coalition building among higher education unions along the lines of that done by K-12 units; the possibility of surveying higher education unit members on working conditions; concerns over lower MTA membership and the effect on dues; and stipends in local chapters. Director Colbert noted there is much respect for higher education among other MTA members and that MTA members have similar concerns and interests.

*Day Bargaining Unit – Donna Sirutis*

Consultant Sirutis distributed an article on Greenfield Community College possibly offering four-year degrees and reviewed issues regarding this. Discussion followed.

Consultant Sirutis distributed and reviewed a MSCA Day Contract Quiz regarding a number of issues that have arisen recently.

As requested by the Board, Consultant Sirutis reviewed the retrenchment articles of the day agreement. Discussion followed.

*DGCE Bargaining Unit - Bob Whalen*

Not present.

## **Chapter President's Reports:**

*Worcester*

Chapter President Falke requested salary information on administrators and administrative secretaries for the past few years and discovered they recently received a 15% salary increase (with no changes in titles or responsibilities). The cost was over \$60,000 and more than the 4% that was approved by the BHE. It was also discovered that the Vice President for Academic Affairs is making less than the other vice presidents at the college. There continues to be a number of problems due to difficulties with the college administration.

*Westfield*

Chapter President Haar reported that three grievances on promotions and chair elections have been filed in the last month. The college may have four untenured chairs next year. It was noted that a chair resigned over the return of an academic administrator to the department.

*Salem*

Chapter President Everitt reported that buses from Salem will be bringing MSCA members to the April 8<sup>th</sup> PHENOM event in Boston. The college president will have another open meeting on

March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss the budget situation. Jay Leno is coming to Salem State with all money from ticket sales put into a special student scholarship. There has been one promotion denial and one non-reappointment.

#### *MMA*

Chapter President Concannon reported that three vice presidents were given an approximately 3% raise. It does not appear that part-time faculty will be laid off. The president had an open meeting regarding the budget on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Academy has about \$8.6 million left in reserves.

#### *MCLA*

Director Eve reported that the committee on promotions continues to work on making its recommendations.

#### *Mass. Art*

Chapter President Schlosberg reported that the vice president has proposed departmental reorganization creating new departments and changing program area chairs. This is currently in governance. The person in charge of minority recruitment recently met with the chapter president. The issue of mentoring was discussed in this meeting. The chapter president is planning a social event at his house to try to get people interested in being active in the chapter.

#### *Framingham*

Chapter President Donohue reported that CTAG is still going through governance. President Flanagan sent out letters regarding sabbaticals; it will cost \$24,000 to fund them. A new trustee committee on academic affairs will be formed by the college president. The issue of part-time day faculty and tuition retention was briefly discussed.

#### *Fitchburg*

Chapter President Mrvica reported that two one-year sabbaticals were rewarded by the trustees. The chapter spoke at the last trustee meeting regarding sabbaticals. The second budget meeting was held on campus. The college administration is waiting for the stimulus money before making decisions regarding cuts. There has been one tenure denial. The band Jimmy Eats World is coming to campus.

#### *Bridgewater*

Chapter President Stonehouse reported that student fees will increase 6% next year. The president held a campus summit which included discussions on distance learning and a new school of science and mathematics. There has been one promotion denial and one non-reappointment. The three candidates for the provost position have visited the campus.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy George  
MSCA Secretary