

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 1, 2010
Salem State College**

Present: Aldrich, Concannon, Coppola, Dargan, Eve, Everitt, Falke, George, Goodlett, Haar, Hennessy, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Schlosberg, Stonehouse, Turk
Guests: Ron Colbert (Fitchburg), 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. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2010 meeting. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports:

President – C.J. O'Donnell

Committee Appointments

Chapter Presidents' nominations for 2010-2012 MSCA committees as of September 29th are included on the grid attached to this report. Additional nominations from Chapter Presidents were:

Bridgewater: John Maslanka, Legislation.

Salem: Caitlin Corbett, Day Bargaining Alternate.

Mass Art: Sam Schlosberg, Day Bargaining; Nancy Cusack, Day Bargaining Alternate; Ben Ryterband, DGCE Bargaining; Sam Schlosberg, DGCE Bargaining Alternate; David Nolta, Grievance; and Richard McElroy, Librarians.

Westfield: Gary Merlo, Day Bargaining (deletes as Day Bargaining Alternate).

It was moved and seconded to approve the nominations for MSCA committees as distributed and those nominations made by Chapter Presidents from the floor. The motion passed.

Committee Chair Election Procedure

The procedure used for MSCA committee chair elections since 2002 are attached to this report. *A motion to approve the procedure is in order.*

MTA President Invitation

I call MTA President Paul Toner to invite him to this Board meeting, but he is in Washington D.C. today. I will extend an invitation for him to meet with us at the November meeting should the Board wish that I do so.

Legislative Update

Sabbatical Bill (H 1170)

COP Executive Director **Fred Clark** and I met with **Tom Moreau**, Education Advisor to House Speaker **Robert DeLeo**, to discuss moving the bill to make sabbaticals for MSCA faculty and librarians consistent with that of faculty and librarians at the Community Colleges and UMass campuses. Tom expressed a concern that the bill may have some difficulty since the public may perceive that the bill was giving state employees some economic benefit during tough economic times. Fred and I expressed that this was not the case, that this was an equity issues. Tom understood this, but reiterated that the problem might be public perception, not reality.

Fred and I are in the process of scheduling meetings with Senate Minority Leader **Richard Tisei** and House Minority Leader **Bradley Jones** to discuss the sabbatical bill and ask for their support of the bill so that it can pass in informal session.

Funding for the 2009-2012 Day Agreement (H 5028)

Fred Clark, APA President **Rick McDermott** and I met with **Tom Moreau** regarding the funding of the higher education contracts. Tom understood our apprehension at the delay and noted that there was no known opposition on the House side regarding funding the agreements. He told us the Speaker was hoping to pass a single deficiency funding bill, that the Comptroller's Office should have the final surplus numbers for FY 2010 in mid or late September, and that a funding bill would likely be moved in late September.

Since then the House has tried to pass H 5020, the omnibus spending bill that contains all of the higher ed contracts, four times this week. **Karyn Polito**, Republican candidate for Auditor, has stopped passage each day by rising and doubting the presence of a quorum. Yesterday she did this after the bill had actually been engrossed and slated to be sent to the Senate. The fact that a quorum was not present nullified the vote and the bill still waits to be engrossed. The House will meet in informal session again this morning at 10:00 a.m.

Opposition to the bill from Representative **David Flynn** apparently has been resolved.

ORP Bill (S 1173)

MCCC Vice President **Donnie McGee**, Fitchburg State faculty member **Jack Ou**, UMass Lowell faculty member **Gary Handlemann** and I met with Senate President **Therese Murray** on September 22 to discuss having Senate Ways and Means report out the ORP bill. The Senate President did not express opposition to the bill, but gave us her assessment of the likelihood that the bill could pass before the November 2nd elections and gave us strategies to that we should employ to try to get the bill passed during the remainder of informal session.

Vice President – Amy Everitt

Vice President Everitt attended a HELC meeting three weeks ago for President O'Donnell. Discussed at that meeting were the issues of contract funding, the upcoming election, and public higher education. MTA Director Ron Colbert (Fitchburg) also

attended the meeting. Discussion followed. Vice President Everitt also noted that President O'Donnell and she attended a meeting on the Vision Project on September 30. For more information on the Vision Project, please see the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education web site: <http://www.mass.edu>

Secretary - Nancy George
No report.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek
Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed the monthly expenses report.

Treasurer Pavlicek requested that chapter presidents send him lists of new full-time faculty/librarians as soon as they have them (before the Appendix Q's are distributed). It was noted that the colleges are doing a better job not hiring people whose name is on the non-compliance list.

To keep in compliance with IRS rules and regulations, Treasurer Pavlicek distributed the following documents to all Board members: the MSCA Conflict of Interest Policy, the MSCA Whistleblower Policy, the Auditor's Report, and a copy of the MSCA's IRS 990 form. Board members were asked to sign a form acknowledging that they had received a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy.

The issue of chapter student scholarships was discussed.

PHENOM

Ken Haar

PHENOM's Cross-State March begins October 2nd at Berkshire Community College. The march will end on October 7th at the State House. Leaflets will be distributed to local residents along the march. The rally at the State House will begin at 1:30 pm on October 7; the march from UMass Boston to the State House will begin at 11:00 am. After the rally participants will visit legislators. There will be a number of speakers at the rally including MTA President Paul Toner.

MSCA Committee Reports

No reports presented.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit – Donna Sirutis

Consultant Sirutis took orders for election literature. Recommendations regarding the distribution of campaign literature were made.

Consultant Sirutis reviewed the key points in the Member-to-Member Campaign and a number of other issues. Discussion followed.

DGCE Bargaining Unit – Bob Whalen
No report.

Director – Ron Colbert

The MTA Board has not met since the summer. MTA's focus has been on the November election and Vote No on Question 3 campaign.

Chapter President's Reports:

Worcester

A presidential search has commenced.

Westfield

No report.

Salem

The academic program review is continuing. Thirty faculty teams will review reports written by each department. Chapter President Everitt will have to find 90 faculty members to participate on these teams.

Mass Maritime

No report.

MCLA

The Academic Vice President is meeting with department chairs to talk about full-time hiring needs.

Mass Art

A presidential search has commenced. The search committee includes faculty members elected by their colleagues.

Non-unit day part-time faculty will be paid at a higher rate than previously due to the difficulties in hiring.

Parking is a nightmare on campus. The faculty parking lot is no longer available due to construction; the new faculty lot is located a distance from campus and does not have shuttle service.

Framingham

The Trustees have asked each department to create criteria for what constitutes continuing scholarship of “quality, significance, and relevance.” The MSCA has asked the trustees not to pursue this.

Fitchburg

Four classrooms were incomplete at the start of the year. Communication with the faculty on these sorts of working condition issues revealed long-standing problems, as well as some potential safety concerns.

The grievance regarding enrolling more students than the class cap is at step 2.

Low enrollment classes continue to be cancelled. This has forced students to either take independent studies or wait to take the classes in a future semester. This presents difficulties for students and faculty and calls into question whether this is a de facto change in the curriculum.

Due to a campus email listserv problem elections conducted last May will be redone this fall.

A question was raised about forming NEASC subcommittees as special committees. Discussion ensued.

Bridgewater

The library’s heating and cooling will be shut down for three weeks in October.

Old Business

Work to Rule was not discussed and will remain on the agenda for November.

Improving MTA Representation was not discussed. President O’Donnell will be in touch with MTA President Paul Toner to try to schedule a time in October for him to meet with the MSCA Board.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary