

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
April 29, 2011  
Massachusetts Maritime Academy**

**Present:** Aldrich, Dargan, Donohue, Everitt, Falke, George, Goodlett, Haar, Hennessy, Pavlicek, Rapp, Schlosberg, Shartin, Stonehouse, Turk

Guests: Ron Colbert (Fitchburg), Sandy Faiman-Silva (Bridgewater), Patricia Markunas (Salem), 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 April 8, 2011 meeting. The motion passed.

**MSCA Officers' Reports:**

*President – C.J. O'Donnell*

*Due to President O'Donnell's absence due to a sudden emergency, Vice President Everitt chaired the meeting, and there was no President's report other than Committee Nominations.*

*Committee Nominations*

It was moved and seconded to approve the following committee nomination:

Hemant Pendarkar (Worcester) – Grievance Committee

The motion passed.

*Vice President – Amy Everitt*

No report.

*Secretary - Nancy George*

No report.

*Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek*

Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed the MSCA monthly expenses.

*Chapter Dues*

Treasurer Pavlicek requested that chapter presidents notify him if chapter dues or chapter office secretaries' salaries are changed.

*Health and Welfare Trust*

The Met Life dental insurance is being renegotiated. It is hopeful that the annual allowed maximum coverage will increase by from 1,000 to \$1,200.

**MSCA Committee Reports**

*DGCE Bargaining – Susan Dargan*

The DGCE Survey will be going out in the very near future.

A meeting will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposals.

Consultant Whalen participated in a training session held in New York City on interpreting higher education budgets.

It is hoped that there will be a full DGCE Bargaining Committee roster as bargaining begins. Chair Dargan and Consultant Whalen noted how helpful it is to have a full committee membership during the bargaining process.

*Legislative – Ken Haar*

There will be a hearing on the bill for Health Insurance for Adjuncts at the State House on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hearing Room B1 beginning at 1:00 p.m. There will be a Revenue Committee hearing on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Gardner Auditorium that will include HB2553/SB1416. The two financial aid bills will be heard on May 11<sup>th</sup> in Hearing Room A2.

*Grievance Committee – Sandy Faiman-Silva*

Committee Chair Faiman-Silva requested that members of the Grievance Committee attend the regularly scheduled meetings. She emphasized how important these face-to-face meetings are, in particular for those members who have active grievances on their campuses. Discussion followed.

It was suggested that at the beginning of the academic year that the MTA Consultants Bob Whalen and Donna Sirutis, President C.J. O'Donnell, and Grievance Chair Sandy Faiman-Silva speak at the chapter meetings about the grievance process.

It was moved and seconded to make a freedom of information request to find out how much management spends on grievance related legal fees for each campus (DGCE and Day units). The motion passed.

**MTA Reports**

*DGCE Bargaining Unit – Bob Whalen*

See DGCE Bargaining Committee report.

*Day Bargaining Unit – Donna Sirutis*

Consultant Sirutis recently attended a Springfield Chamber of Commerce meeting in

which Commissioner Freeland spoke on the Vision Project. She reported that in the discussion regarding assessment Commissioner Freeland made comments regarding academics not liking assessment and that he said, “we’re going to look behind the curtain.” Discussion followed. It was requested by the Board that we follow up on this comment by Commissioner Freeland.

Consultant Sirutis requested volunteers to attend the upcoming hearings at the State House, in particular the hearing on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Consultant Sirutis provided the Board with information regarding a number of active grievances on the state university campuses. Discussion followed.

*Director – Ron Colbert*  
No report.

## **PHENOM**

*Ken Haar*

Ken Haar also requested that members attend the May 5<sup>th</sup> hearing at the State House.

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

*Worcester*

The Board of Trustees has selected Barry Maloney, current Vice President of Student Affairs at Westfield, as president of Worcester State University. The Department of Higher Education interviewed Barry Maloney as well. It was noted that Barry Maloney does not have the terminal degree.

*Westfield*

Westfield is in the middle of the NEASC self study.

The APC is having conversations regarding policies for online courses. There will be a new committee formed on campus to draft a policy.

There was a proposal for a new Dean structure. A committee is studying the viability of this proposed change.

*Salem*

The NEASC site visit took place earlier this month. Many faculty and librarians attended the open meeting with NEASC. The lack of communication between the administration and the faculty and staff, as well as a lack of transparency regarding the budget and budget process, were big issues.

Governor Patrick is the graduate commencement speaker.

*MMA*

Not present.

*MCLA*

Union leaders are meeting with local politicians and leaders to develop a livable city wage.

A new social space is going to be created for faculty on campus.

*Mass Art*

Mass Art President Kay Sloan is retiring at the end of this semester.

*Framingham*

Academic Affairs is experiencing some administrative organizational challenges this year.

Full-time temporary faculty offers are accompanied by start-up funds of \$1,000 (reimbursement) and a 3% raise. There are 10 to 12 full-time temporary faculty at Framingham.

It was noted that some new faculty with no prior teaching experience are being paid nearly as much as senior faculty

*Fitchburg*

A Fitchburg administrator recently stated that the first stage of the Hammond Building renovation is “ready to go.” The projected cost of all three phases of the Hammond Building renovation is \$45 million.

The Fitchburg Chapter will be reducing dues for its members due to ample funds in reserve.

The campus is in the middle of drafting the NEASC self study.

*Bridgewater*

An external program reviewer wrote a review of a department that included a detailed review of a faculty member’s performance – and included the faculty member’s name.

The chapter president provided board members with examples of salary compression at the Bridgewater campus.

**Old Business**

*Books for Legislators*

At the last Board meeting Ken Haar related during his PHENOM report that a suggestion was made at the higher education caucus to distribute two books to legislators for educational purposes. They are: *Saving State U*, by Nancy Folbre; and *The Future of*

*Higher Education*, by Dan Clawson and Max Page. After discussion at the last board meeting the Board decided to consider this request at the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

After a brief review of the project by Ken Haar, discussion followed. It was requested by Consultant Sirutis that the board receive additional information from the State Ethics Commission (as requested by Ken Haar) and guidance from MTA legal regarding potential legal issues before beginning the project.

Former MSCA President Pat Markunas stated that when the MSCA provided legislators with a t-shirt, as suggested by the MTA Legal Division, it be accompanied by a letter that stated the value of the t-shirt in order to comply with conflict of interest laws.

It was moved and seconded to purchase each book for each chapter so that the Board may make an informed decision regarding the distribution of the books to the legislators. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy George  
MSCA Secretary