

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 7, 2014
Framingham State University**

Present: Berg, Bullens, Concannon, Dargan, Donohue, Everitt, Fielding, Foley, George, Hennessy, Hoagland, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Resnik, Stonehouse

Guests: Sandy Faiman-Silva (Bridgewater), Joey Hansen (MTA), 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 December 6, 2013. The motion passed.

MSCA Committee Reports:

Day Bargaining – Dan Shartin (consideration on initial proposal)

In the absence of Dan Shartin, President O'Donnell led the discussion.

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.

It was moved and seconded to bring out of executive session that the Board approved an initial proposal that will be presented to management. The motion passed.

Elections – Robert Donohue

There are four certified candidates for the Spring 2014 MSCA Officer Elections:

President – C.J. O'Donnell

Vice President – Amy Everitt

Secretary – Nancy George

Treasurer – Glenn Pavlicek

The Labor Guild has been contracted to supervise the election. If chapters wish to hold candidate forms let the Elections Chair know.

Grievance – Sandy Faiman-Silva

Chair Faiman-Silva presented a brief report. Discussion followed.

MSCA Officers' Reports

President – C.J. O'Donnell

Committee Appointments

The Delegate Assembly created a special advisory Investment Committee to be comprised of one member from each chapter. We still need members from most chapters.

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

- Day Bargaining: Nita Sturaile (MassArt)
- Day Bargaining Alternate: Rachael Resnik (MassArt)
- Grievance: Jane Fiske (Fitchburg)
- Grievance: Anne-Marie Hakstian (Salem)
- Day Bargaining Alternate: Anne-Marie Hakstian (Salem)

The motion passed.

MTA Elections

This is an election year. The MSCA Board typically invites all announced candidates for MTA President and MTA Vice President to a Board meeting so the Board can meet the candidates in a forum where all, hopefully, are present.

It was moved and seconded to invite the MTA candidates to the March 7, 2014, Board meeting. The motion passed.

NCHE Conference

The NEA Higher Education Conference is March 13-16 in St. Louis, Missouri. The MSCA has, in previous years, offered at least partial reimbursement for MSCA members to attend. President O'Donnell has received a request for the Board to consider doing so this year.

It was moved and seconded to provide reimbursements, up to \$1200, with a pool of money up to \$6000, to MSCA members who wish to attend NCHE. The reimbursement would include travel, registration, food, and hotel. The motion passed.

President O'Donnell distributed the response to the MSCA's information request regarding the extent of involvement of Deans in the evaluation process.

Day Bargaining

Day Bargaining began on January 29, 2014 with a brief, preliminary meeting.

MTA Consultant Situation

Joey Hansen updated the Board on this matter.

Vice President – Amy Everitt

No report.

Treasurer – Glenn Pavlicek

In the absence of Treasurer Pavlicek, who had to leave early, President O'Donnell distributed the monthly expenses report.

Secretary – Nancy George

No report.

MTA Reports:

Day and DGCE Unit – Bob Whalen

Consultant Whalen recommended that all members who have same-sex partners covered by the members' health insurance submit amended tax returns for up to the last three years. Refunds should be due based on the removal of imputed income for the value of the health insurance plan to the spouse. This is based due to the Supreme Court overturning part of DOMA.

There is a disciplinary trend happening on campuses. Members are being escorted off campus by campus police and given notice not to return to campus unless notified otherwise. Consultant Whalen is going to raise this issue at ERC.

MTA Higher Education Director Joey Hansen

15% Rule

There was a ruling on the 15% contract issue. Director Hansen summarized the ruling and the fact that the COP has appealed. Information on this matter is available on the MSCA web page.

MTA Consultant Search

Director Hansen reviewed the search and interviewing process. There were 50 applicants. A short list has been developed and interviews have been conducted.

ORP

MTA is working with the DHE to facilitate legislation to address necessary changes. Modifications need to be made in order to preserve the timeline for enrollees to opt out. TIAA-CREF is the only vendor that has refused to allow members to unlock their locked funds. MTA is plans to meet with ORP administrators to try to find a solution to this matter. President O'Donnell recommended that there be MSCA representation in meetings on ORP issues.

Health and Welfare Trust – Nancy George

The Health and Welfare Trust met last week. Dental insurance claims are down, which

will be beneficial for next year's renewal. McKenzie Co. is no longer the Health and Welfare Trust's third party administrator. KD Consulting/HPI is now serving as the administrator. KD/HPI is working with McKenzie on the transition. Transition issues include: obtaining accurate member listings, developing a database of members for HR departments to use, simplifying the enrollment process, developing a website for members' use, and issuing member ID cards.

Trustee George noted that the funds received from the DHE appear not to be amount (according to the H&W Trust Treasurer). There appears to be too little money going to the Trust. Discussion followed.

Chapter President Reports

Bridgewater :

A new general counsel for the university has been hired.

Fitchburg:

Chapter grievances regarding the involvement of Deans in the evaluation process beyond what is allowed in the contract are move forward in the grievance process.

The university strategic plan was presented to the Board of Trustees. The faculty will be participating in the process in the near future.

Commissioner Freeland was on campus recently. He suggested that state universities follow the funding model that the community colleges are now following.

Framingham:

Javier Cervillos is the new president with a start date this summer.

The university changed the pay schedule for the visiting lecturers. Neither the chapter nor he part-time faculty were told of the changes until they were implemented.

MassArt:

The chapter secretary and president met with the university's president before the holidays. A meeting was held with the provost as well. This meeting was held after the chapter meeting, as a general meeting of faculty members.

A number of searched for key administrators are taking place at this time.

MCLA:

Not present.

Mass Maritime:

Not present.

Salem:

Based on a recent incident at the university Chapter President Everitt noted that employees should not be using their work computers for personal use. President O'Donnell suggested that it might be useful to have another presentation by a representative from the State Ethics Commission.

The provost recently sent out an email regarding accelerated online courses, which would begin after spring break. If the courses are successful there would be "revenue sharing" with the department.

Continuing education numbers are down.

The university is beginning training for mid-career faculty members and is looking at programming for this segment of the faculty/librarian population.

Westfield:

Two grievances have been filed over negative recommendations from the Committee on Promotions.

Administrative and staff changes continue to occur in the aftermath of the concerns raised over spending and financial procedures.

Worcester:

Grievances have been filed based on negative recommendations from the Committee on Promotions and the Committee on Tenure.

Many procedures are being discussed or implemented regarding online courses and teaching.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary