

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 5, 2014
Framingham State University**

Present:

Aldrich, Berg, Benner, Bullens, Concannon, Donohue, Eve, George, Hennessy, Matchak, McAloon, Morales-Diaz, O'Donnell, Resnik, Rutter, Washington

Guests:

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 amend the orders of the day to include under New Business:

Developmental math course placement

The motion passed.

The original motion passed as amended.

It was moved and seconded to approve minutes of the November 7, 2014 meeting, with editorial changes. The motion passed.

MSCA Officers' Reports

President – C.J. O'Donnell

Committee Appointments:

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

DGCE Bargaining Committee: James Quinn (Bridgewater)

The motion passed.

July 1, 2014 Salary and Stipend Increases:

Yesterday morning President O'Donnell was told by an AFSCME member and an APA member that they had been notified by the BHE that they would be receiving their increases and retroactive pay on December 19th. In the afternoon he received an email from Vice President Donohue forwarded to him by the Framingham administration that

they were working on implementing the increases for December 19th pay period.

President O'Donnell has been repeatedly told that the MSCA would be receiving our increases in December and that they were shooting for December 5th. He learned last week that that was not possible, that the increases would take longer to be inputted into the system. President O'Donnell was aware of that since he was computing the increases and lacked a significant amount of the information that we had long ago requested from the administrations, and which we followed up at ERC every month since.

President O'Donnell contacted the presidents' representative late in the afternoon and was forwarded the email the BHE sent to the presidents on November 24th.

President O'Donnell will forward to chapter presidents an email that you can send to faculty and librarians on Monday notifying them that the increases and retroactivity will be paid on December 19th. If he can finish everything in time, the MSCA will, as we did the last two years, send letters explaining how the increases were computed either before or when they are paid. If he cannot get that done by then we will send an email to members letting them know that we will be sending the explanation letters as soon as we can after the increases are paid.

MTA's Proposed Legislative Package:

The proposal was included in the materials forwarded to Board members. Members of HELC had a conference call on the package Wednesday night at my request. President O'Donnell asked for Board feedback on the package he will be voting on the package at tomorrow's MTA Board meeting.

Higher Education Finance Commission Report:

The final report was included in the materials forwarded to Board members. President O'Donnell thinks the MSCA should consider discussing the recommendations and, at a future meeting, taking a position on the recommendations.

New BHE Equal Opportunity Plan:

At the November Board meeting the Board discussed some issues regarding the mandatory reporting status of MSCA members and President O'Donnell received further concerns about this issue this week. He suggests the Board have further discussion of the issue at this time or under Consultant Whalen's report.

PARCC Judgment Study:

On November 6th President O'Donnell received an email from Carlos Santiago, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs at the DHE, in which he included a "list of faculty nominated to date by our campuses," forwarded to him "for [his] information," and in which Mr. Santiago "ask[ed] if [he had] any additional faculty nominations beyond those that appear[ed] on the list."

President O'Donnell takes the position that this judgment study on college and career readiness is a task force as faculty input will be used as a recommendation to determine

pass levels on the PARCC exam being created, tested and revised. As a result on November 12th President O'Donnell filed a consolidated grievance as he believes the DHE's solicitation of nominations from the "campuses" violates Article VII, Section K.

The grievance will be heard at 1:00 p.m. this afternoon at Worcester State.

Grievance Matter:

President O'Donnell has an issue related to a grievance that he would like the Board's opinion about in executive session.

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.

Jean Stonehouse:

President O'Donnell acknowledged that his report should have led with this item, but he knew there was no way he could get through his report if he had.

The Board is aware that Jean Stonehouse, long-time president of the Bridgewater State University chapter of the MSCA, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on November 24th. President O'Donnell learned this from Treasurer Pavlicek while driving to Framingham for the first DGCE bargaining session. President O'Donnell noted that it was a very difficult drive after the call, and that it was equally difficult for him to hand across the table to management a list of team members and alternates with Jean's name on it that day.

President O'Donnell did not inform the DGCE team until the session ended.

Jean was an important, valued and respected member of every board, committee or body she served on which she served on behalf of the MSCA.

Jean and President O'Donnell joined the MSCA Board around the same time when each was elected as chapter president. Jean was a colleague, a peer, an advisor and an inspiration to him as a member of the Board, and on committees they served on together. President O'Donnell appreciated her ability to calm him down and to put things into perspective when necessary. Jean was a tireless advocate for our members both at Bridgewater and system-wide, as anyone who knew Jean even for a short time learned. The MSCA and its members are all the better for her service.

Jean's last directive to President O'Donnell was regarding the rewrite of the day contract in which she implored him and others to "write it in English." President O'Donnell reported that the parties are trying to make the changes as easy to understand as possible given the already complicated wording and organization of the contract, but both sides are committed, after we get this contract printed and circulated, to begin a complete overhaul and "write it in English."

President O'Donnell stated that he will miss Jean very much.

Vice President – Robert Donohue

Vice President Donohue attended Jean Stonehouse's wake and extended condolences and appreciation from the MSCA to Jean's family.

Vice President Donohue was appointed to the search committee for a new Commissioner of Higher Education. The first meeting will be held December 16th.

Vice President Donohue will work on updating the Chair's Handbook and new board member orientation materials and will also work on email addresses/domain name for MSCA.

Treasurer – Glenn Pavlicek

Not present.

Secretary – Nancy George

The new website needs additional content from chapters. Members present requested access to the mock-up site.

MSCA Committee Reports

DGCE Bargaining – Don Bullens

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.

Grievance – Hemant Pendharkar

Not present.

MTA Reports:

MTA – Bob Whalen

Proposed MTA Legislative Package

Please see President O'Donnell's report.

Health and Welfare Trust – Nancy George

Trustee George presented Board members with a brief report.

The Health and Welfare Trust Treasurer has not yet secured a new bank or CPA/public accountant/bookkeeper. Per a request by Trustee George, it was noted by the Trust chair

in the Health and Welfare Trust minutes that the Treasurer should have a new bank selected and CPA/public accountant/bookkeeper by the January meeting.

In addition, per a request by Trustee George, copies of the Trustee document (bylaws/constitution) will be distributed as soon as possible and reviewed at the next meeting. The Trust's legal consultant and other Trustees noted their concerns regarding DHE fund deposits and the Trust document.

Chapter President Reports

Worcester

An Ad Hoc Committee on adjuncts concerns was recently created. A request was made for a booklet for adjuncts delineating adjuncts rights.

A grievance regarding academic freedom was resolved at Step 1.

Westfield

The presidential search continues. Only two faculty members are serving on the search committee. Faculty members are concerned regarding the small number of faculty on the committee, thus the chapter president is attempting to have MSCA members added to the search committee.

The formation of a faculty-senate like structure is being discussed on campus.

Salem

David Silva, from the University of Texas, Arlington, was recently named as the new provost.

Mass Maritime

A search committee was formed for a new president. There is one MSCA member on the committee as approved by the Board of Trustees.

MassArt

There has been a number of different administrators in the past few difficult years. The presidential search will begin in the spring semester. In addition, there will be a search for a Dean of Students.

MCLA

There is a presidential search underway. A variety of administrators have been serving in multiple interim positions.

Framingham

There is a new Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services. In addition, a new Chief Operating officer of Diversity and Inclusion was hired. Issues of infrastructure needed to deal with disruptive students were discussed.

Fitchburg

The expedited presidential search was narrowed down to three candidates.

Bridgewater

Not present.

New Business

Jean Stonehouse Scholarship Fund

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA, in recognition of her years of service to organized labor and education, donate \$1000 to the Jean Stonehouse Scholarship Fund at Bridgewater State University (pending approval of the Treasurer). The motion passed.

Placement Exam

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA Board voices dissent/disapproval of the recommendation of the BHE Task Force to eliminate Accuplacer the initial placement exam for recent high school graduates with a GPA of 2.7 or higher. The motion passed.

MTA Ethnic Minority Committee

It was moved and seconded to approve reimbursement to members for travel, meals, registration, and reasonable lodging, with a total cap of \$3,000, to attend the MTA Ethnic Minority Committee in Norwood, MA. The motion passed.

Higher Education Conference

It was moved and seconded to approve reimbursement to members for travel, meals, registration, and reasonable lodging, with a per person limit of \$1,000 and a total cap of \$7,500, to attend the Higher Education Conference in Orlando, FL. The motion passed.

It was noted that Chapter Presidents need more information about this conference that they can send to members.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy George
MSCA Secretary