

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 2, 2009
Westfield State College**

Present: Aldrich, Concannon, Coppola, Dargan, Donohue, Eve, Everitt, Falke, George, Goodlett, Haar, O'Donnell, Pavlicek, Rapp, Shea, Stonehouse, Turk

Guests: Dan Shartin (Worcester), Donna Sirutis (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 4, 2009 meeting. 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, Anne Falke (Worcester). The motion passed.

Day Contract Update

Mark Peters and President O'Donnell initialed the pages of the 2009-2012 day agreement on September 18th. The only hold-up on duplication at this point are the signatures of Peter Tsaffaras and Commissioner Richard Freeland. The governor has not submitted any contracts to the Legislature for funding, including the MSCA agreement, since our last meeting.

President O'Donnell requested names of attendees for the contract orientation meeting on Friday, October 9th in the Forum at Framingham State. He also asked chapter presidents how many paper copies of the agreement each campus would like.

DGCE Bargaining Update

Mediation with mediator Mary Ellen Shea will begin on October 14th in Worcester. MTA Consultant Priscilla Lyons will be handling the first session. Bob Whalen is scheduled to return October 19th.

Legislative Update

COP Executive Officer Fred Clark and President O'Donnell met Senate Co-chair Galluccio's staff on September 10th regarding H1170, the bill to repeal the State College sabbatical statute. Fred Clark and President O'Donnell met with Representative Kevin Murphy on September 17th regarding the same; Rep. Murphy filed the repeal bill last year. Fred Clark met with House Co-chair Torissi on September 23rd. President

O'Donnell missed the meeting due to an issue on his campus. MSCA Vice President Amy Everitt testified on behalf of the MSCA at the hearing that was held on September 29th. We are not expecting problems with passage.

A hearing on S1173, the bill to allow members in the ORP a one-time opportunity to opt out of the ORP, was held on September 21st. Several MSCA and MCCC members were present. Discussion followed.

Department Chair's Handbook

The department chairs handbook was completed yesterday. It will be duplicated and distributed as soon as possible, perhaps at the contract orientation meeting next Friday.

Post-tenure Review Consolidated Grievances

The second day of arbitration on the AY2005-2006 grievances was held on September 22nd. We have filed a consolidated grievance for the AY2008-2009 post-tenure reviews. Consultant Sirutis will report on both issues under her report.

Hyatt Hotels Corporation Termination of Staff

A letter from MTA President Anne Wass to the President and CEO of the Hyatt Hotels Corporation regarding the termination of housekeeping staff members in three Boston-area hotels was distributed to Board members. Discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA ask the MTA to issue a press release in support of the hotel workers terminated by Hyatt Hotels. The motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the MSCA issue a letter of support for the hotel workers terminated by Hyatt Hotels. The motion passed.

Vice President – Amy Everitt

H1170 Testimony

Vice President Everitt testified on behalf of the MSCA at the hearing regarding H1170, the bill to repeal the State College sabbatical statute. Her testimony went well. There was one question from Senator Stan Rosenberg regarding how quickly the bill needs to be voted on, in relationship to state colleges' adhering to contractual obligations and the timing of sabbaticals. Mark Peters stated immediate action was needed. Commissioner Richard Freeland was not present at the hearing.

University Status

Vice President Everitt was present during the university status bill's hearing. Salem State President Pat Meservey testified during the hearing. There is a new version of the bill being considered that would be a change in name only (college to university), prohibit doctoral programs, and exclude MCLA, Mass Maritime and Mass Art from a change in name. President O'Donnell will send the bill's new language to Board members as soon as possible. Discussion followed.

Secretary - Nancy George
No report.

Treasurer - Glenn Pavlicek
MSCA Monthly Expenses
Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed the monthly expenses.

Chapter Dues Reimbursements
On October 1st, Treasurer Pavlicek's office sent chapters checks for first quarter chapter dues reimbursements for full-time unit members' dues. The final quarter's reimbursements will include part-time unit members' dues, dues for cash paying members and any other dues payments not already reimbursed. Secretarial reimbursements from chapters will be deducted from these payments.

DGCE Faculty Lists and Dues Collection
All colleges except Bridgewater have sent DGCE faculty lists to Treasurer Pavlicek's office. It was noted that many campuses are paying DGCE faculty bi-weekly, which allows DGCE faculty to use payroll deduction to pay union dues. Due to fluctuations in the number of credits taught semester to semester, many DGCE faculty members have to fill out payroll deduction paperwork each semester, which can be a bit tedious for these faculty members.

Financial Audit and IRS Form 990
Treasurer Pavlicek distributed and reviewed copies of the MSCA's financial audit as well as the IRS Form 990 to Board members. Discussion followed.

Health and Welfare Trust
Treasurer Pavlicek briefly reviewed the status of the dental plan and provided Board members with some information on the vision plan benefits.

MSCA Committee Reports
Day Bargaining – Dan Shartin
The Day Bargaining Committee laboriously reviewed the contract during the summer and into the fall. The document is now complete and posted in the MSCA website.

DGCE Bargaining – Susan Dargan
Information for this report was covered in MSCA President's Report

Elections – Deb Foss
Not present

Grievance – Margaret Vaughan
In the absence of Chair Vaughan, Consultant Donna Sirutis made a brief report to the Board.

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.

MTA Reports

Day Bargaining Unit – Donna Sirutis

Higher Education Relief Bill

Consultant Sirutis worked with MTA Director of Higher Education, Arthur Pippo, in writing a letter to Commissioner Richard Freeland regarding the draft of the higher education bill. Discussion followed.

Promotion/Evaluation Committees

Consultant Sirutis warned Board members of possible conflicts that may occur when chapter leaders serve on evaluative committees on campus. These may include promotion, tenure, peer evaluation committees, or committees reviewing colleges' academic programs.

In addition, some faculty/librarians have provided college administration with opinions on campus issues by attending committees/cabinet meetings falling outside of the governance structure committees. Offering information in this way may be detrimental and divisive to faculty/librarians' issues in the long run.

Discussion followed.

DGCE Bargaining – Priscilla Lyons

Not present.

Director – Ron Colbert

Not present.

PHENOM

Ken Haar

Public Higher Education Caucus

Three meetings have been held with Representative Garballey to discuss the Public Higher Education Caucus. Thus far, Representative Garballey has recruited 12 legislators to work with him on the Caucus.

ARRA Funds

PHENOM filed a federal complaint against the Patrick administration, claiming that state officials spent stimulus money meant for colleges and universities to bridge the state's budget deficit. PHENOM Board members again met with Congressman John Tierney

regarding this issue. Due to the complaint and Congressman Tierney's influence attention, \$53.7 million in stimulus money will be returned to higher education soon.

In order for 9C cuts to be applied to public higher education budgets, the state would have to apply for a waiver to go below the FY 06 funding levels (a condition for receiving ARRA funds). PHENOM will file a federal complaint if the state applies for a waiver.

Access to Higher Education Conference

The *Access to Higher Education Conference* will be held at Framingham State on Saturday, November 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Chapter President's Reports:

Bridgewater

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.

Fitchburg

Information on the H1N1 virus will be provided to the campus community by Health Services.

There will be a chapter meeting in October with discussion focused on class sizes. At the beginning of the academic year, the number of actual seats in classrooms has dramatically increased. Discussion followed.

A department chairs retreat was recently held. This retreat resembled a leadership conference. Academic Vice President Fiorentino attended the first day of the event.

Fitchburg faculty/librarians have expressed interest in attending chapter executive board meetings as guests.

Framingham

Vice President Bob Martin is retiring at the end of the academic year.

Administrators still want to remove printers from faculty offices and replace them with remote network printers. The chapter president has had a continued dialog with college administration regarding this issue.

Mass. Art

Vice President Johanna Branson is retiring at the end of the academic year. Faculty member Maureen Kelly has been named interim Vice President for the next two years.

MCLA

The chapter continues to work on getting a faculty/librarian to serve as grievance officer.

The number of individuals serving on the promotions committee in the 2009-2012 day agreement has been reduced from seven to five. The new vice president is planning workshops for faculty/librarian going up for promotions and serving on the Committee on Promotions.

The campus is aggressively pursuing policies for guidelines on pandemic flu planning.

Mass. Maritime

Although the Academy continues to insist that the MSCA discuss mandatory flu (seasonal and H1N1) vaccinations of individuals going on the Sea Term, the Academy has not requested formal bargaining over the issue.

Salem

The campus is still trying to figure out how the academic program review is going to proceed.

Funding has not been released by the state for the new library building project.

Work on equivalencies continues. President O'Donnell will be assisting in compiling information on equivalencies at the state colleges.

Westfield

Some DGCE and Day classes have been cancelled due to low enrollment. However, other classes, with the same class sizes as those cancelled due to low enrollment, have run. The chapter president is seeking information from the college administration related to this issue. It is to be noted that the information requested is not being released to the chapter president.

Worcester

There continues to be problems with faculty members not working down their excess workload credits with some faculty's excess increasing.

A search for a provost continues; it is hoped that the position will be filled by fall 2010.

There will be an internal search for Dean; it is hoped that the position will be filled by January 2010. Although the Dean will be someone from within the faculty, the college administration does not want to hire a new faculty member to fill the vacated position.

Chapter leadership and the college's faculty/librarians have been discussing a possible plan of action regarding issues with President Ashley.

New Business

It was moved and seconded to support attendance at the NEA Northeast Regional Leadership Conference to be held in Boston on January 22-24, 2010, by reimbursing costs for hotel, travel, food and registration, up to a total amount for all attendees of \$2,500. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy George
MSCA Secretary