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Carlos E. Santiago
Commissioner
Chris Gabrieli
Board Chairman

October 31, 2018

Christopher J. O'Donnell, President
Massachusetts State College Association
c/o Massachusetts Maritime Academy
101 Academy Drive
Buzzards Bay, MA 02562

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

I write to follow up on my previous request, extended to you through representatives of the Council of Presidents, that we schedule a meeting to discuss the Massachusetts State College Association (MSCA) collective bargaining agreement. The purpose of the meeting would be to explore together a mutually acceptable process to resolve the current contract dilemma that centers on the estimated cost of the bargaining agreement. The estimated cost of the non-salary components of the bargaining agreement, which were not fully known by the parties until after they concluded their negotiations, exceed the firm economic parameters established by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance. As a result, the contract cannot be funded sustainably in its current form. I am concerned that if the contract were to be implemented in its current form, it could result in excessive increases in student fees and cost cutting measures that would have adverse impacts on students and faculty alike.

It is my hope that we can reconvene as soon as possible to discuss alternatives and seek an expedited resolution to help ensure that faculty will be compensated fairly and expeditiously for the essential work that they do.

I look forward to hearing from you and to working together toward a successful resolution to this matter.

Sincerely,



Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner