AT THE STATE HOUSE

Contract Funding Requires Extra Push by Unions

ORP Opt-out, Sabbaticals and University Status Bills Advance

C. J. O’Donnell, president and Patricia V. Markunas, editor

On Dec. 15, Governor Deval Patrick filed a supplemental budget that included the funding for the MSCA day contract. That bill, H4396, was referred to House Ways & Means on Dec. 17 and remains there with all other higher education contracts.

In February the MSCA Board rejected the Board of Higher Education’s request to return to the negotiating table to discuss concessions. Every other MTA-affiliated higher education union rejected this request as well.

On March 24 the House passed a supplemental budget that included the funding of contracts for other statewide unions including NAGE, SEIU, MOSES and AFSCME (non-higher education). These units agreed to delay their salary increases by 364 days to the end of the fiscal year. MTA worked diligently to have the higher education contracts included in this supplemental budget, but was unsuccessful.

MTA is working closely with the higher education affiliates to get the contracts funded. Union and chapter presidents have been setting up meetings with a targeted group of about 40 representatives and senators and their higher education constituents. We will continue to work to secure funding for the contracts throughout the spring and, if necessary, the summer.

Membership Re-elects Officer Slate of O’Donnell, Everitt, George and Pavlick

MSCA Votes: Results of the 2010 MSCA Officers Election

On April 2, the following results were tabulated in the 2010 MSCA officers election. Those presumed elected are indicated with an (*). These results are tentative, pending official tabulations by the Labor Guild and final certification at the 2010 MSCA Delegate Assembly to be held at Fitchburg State College. The new officers will begin their two-year term on June 1, 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O’Donnell*</th>
<th>Everitt*</th>
<th>George*</th>
<th>Pavlick*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>388</td>
<td>395</td>
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<td>Write-In Votes</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Blank/Void Ballots</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>Total Ballots Cast:</td>
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<td>426</td>
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<td>Total Ballots Mailed:</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,400</td>
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</table>

Thank you for your participation in the election. Deborah Foss, Chair, MSCA Elections Committee

Three bills of importance to MSCA members have received favorable reports from their respective legislative committees.

The first bill, S1173, to allow public higher education faculty members to opt out of the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) and join or rejoin the state retirement system, received favorable action by the Joint Committee on Public Service on Feb. 8 and is now in Senate Ethics and Rules. The text of this bill, a high legislative priority for faculty members across all three public higher education segments, can be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/senate/186/stb1pdf/ST01173.PDF>.

The Joint Committee on Higher Education gave favorable reports to two additional bills. The first one, H1170, would repeal Section 4A of Chapter 73 of the general laws, so that state college faculty and librarians would be eligible for sabbatical leaves every seventh year, as is the case for faculty members in the university and community college systems. This bill awaits action in the House Ways & Means Committee.

The second bill, H4560 (formerly H449), would change the state colleges to state universities and rename six of them as such: Bridgewater, Fitchburg, Framingham, Salem, Westfield and Worcester. Mass Art & Design, MCLA and Mass Maritime would not have name changes.

The vote on this bill, taken March 4, was seven in favor, two opposed. Those in favor included Rep. David Flynn (D-Bridgewater), who assumed the chair’s responsibility for the vote in recognition of his strong support for the bill; Representatives David Torrissi (D-Lawrence), Stephen DiNatale (D-Fitchburg), William Pignatelli (D-Lenox), Kevin Aguiar (D-Fall River), and James Arciero (D-Chelmsford); and Sen. Benjamin Downing (D-Pittsfield). In opposition were Sen. Stanley Rosenberg (D-Amherst) and Rep. Denise Provost (D-Somerville).

This bill is now in House Ways & Means and can be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/house/186/hr04pdf/hr04560.pdf>.

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Paul Toner, Candidate for MTA President

My name is Paul Toner and I am a candidate for President of the Massachusetts Teachers Association. I am running for MTA President because I believe that I am the best and most prepared person to lead MTA through what are certain to be some of the most challenging years we have faced as a profession and a union. My years of experience as MTA Vice President, MTA Board member, local president, middle school social studies teacher, lawyer and public school parent have prepared me to lead our state association.

As Vice President of the MCCC, MTA Director for Region 44H, and Chair of the ORP Ad Hoc Committee, I have established connections with campus educators and MTA leaders. I have 10 plus years of union leadership experience, have served on Day and DCE bargaining teams, and have represented my union as a delegate at MTA’s annual meetings, the NEA’s RA, and at NEA/AFTE higher education conferences. I seek the Region H seat on the MTA Executive Committee because I care about public higher education and have a solid understanding of the challenges facing our campuses and unions.

As MCCC’s statewide coordinator of political action, I have lobbied legislators to improve the contract funding process, to hold the line on health insurance premium costs for state employees, and to reverse the faculty hiring trends at our institutions. I have testified on many higher education bills before the Joint Committee on Public Service and worked closely with MTA’s Governmental Staff to support bills that would serve public higher education institutions and their employees.

I have also led various legislative campaigns to provide retirement equity for former “03” employees, adjunct faculty, and ORP-enrolled employees. I was a leader in the GPO/WEP petition initiative to repeal the social security offsets. MTA sent me to Washington, DC, in 2007 and 2008 to attend the Congressional hearings on these offsets. I've participated in every organizational renewal effort of MTA. Each promised to reform “service model” unionism into “organizing model” unionism. Service models disempower members, render us passive. Leadership “provides” for us, often paternalistically; leadership “knows better” than members. The result is membership disconnected from you, your chapter, your faculty?

I've learned skills and attitudes to change MTA. Yes, I led a strike. But I also led coalition bargaining to the GIC. I did successful interest-based bargaining, positional bargaining, organizing bargaining, higher ed. bargaining, interim bargaining. The key each time was organizing, communicating, informing, enraging (if appropriate), enlightening, mobilizing and empowering members. When there’s one voice, when no one can claim we don’t represent the members, our voice is powerful. Please vote for that unitied voice: Paul J. Phillips.

Diana (Donnie) McGee, Candidate for MTA Executive Committee (Region H)

As Vice President of the MCCC, I have established connections with campus educators and MTA leaders. I have 10 plus years of union leadership experience, have served on Day and DCE bargaining teams, and have represented my union as a delegate at MTA’s annual meetings, the NEA’s RA, and at NEA/AFTE higher education conferences. I seek the Region H seat on the MTA Executive Committee because I care about public higher education and have a solid understanding of the challenges facing our campuses and unions.

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Paul Phillips, Candidate for MTA Executive Committee (Region H)

I teach architecture and history at UMass Amherst. I am the former president of the Massachusetts Society of Professors (the 1400 member union of faculty and librarians at UMass-Amherst), a founder of PHENOM (the Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts), member of the MTA Revenue Committee, and a product of Massachusetts public elementary and secondary schools.

With 107,000 members, the MTA should be the most powerful political organization in the state. We can be if we mobilize all of our members and lead a positive statewide campaign for reinvesting in our public schools, colleges, and universities. I have worked closely with MSCA leaders Pat Markunas and C.J. O’Donnell to fight for good contracts and better funding for our colleges and universities, but also to make the MTA a more pro-active organization, which develops and advocates for a positive agenda for our public colleges and not simply against cuts and attacks. As I believe Pat and C.J. and other members of the MSCA can attest to, I have worked hard to unify our higher education division, because I believe that we will only achieve our goals when we are united, whether it is for fair contracts or more revenues.

My intention is to be a true representative of higher education members’ views on the Executive Committee, so that higher education gets the attention it deserves, and so that we can build a more powerful MTA.
Statements of MTA Candidates (continued from page 2)

Timothy D. Sullivan, Candidate for Vice President

My name is Timothy D. Sullivan and I am running for the office of Vice President of the Massachusetts Teachers Association. I am seeking this office because of my passion and commitment for the fundamental values of unionism. I have demonstrated this commitment by serving on the MTA Executive Committee, MTA Board of Directors, Plymouth County Education Association Board of Directors, and as a local leader in the Brockton Education Association (BEA).

My experiences at the local, county, state, and national levels have prepared me well for the challenges that await me. I am currently serving my fourth year as BEA President. I have held the following BEA positions: Vice President, Chair – Professional Rights and Responsibilities, Negotiations Team, Crisis Co-Chair, Co-Chair – Ballots and Credentials, and Building Representative. My focus as a local leader has always been on the “member” who is the core reason for our existence as a union.

I have served the MTA on the following committees: Advisory Budget Committee, Executive Director Search Committee, Candidate Recommendation Committee, Strategic Action Committee, Board Negotiating Team, Personnel Selection Committee, Candidate Evaluation Team, and the Local Office Support Committee. I am currently the Chair of the Board Negotiating Team and Co-Chair of the Local Office Support Committee.

Although my career has been at the K-12 level, we have much in common. For example, the constant battle with government regarding adequate funding, calls to reopen contracts to consider take-backs and/or wage freezes, and unilateral implementation of changes in health insurance plans. It is unconscionable that the GIC made mid-year plan design changes that led to higher co-pays and deductibles. We must unite to send a message that such cost-shifts will not be tolerated.

I know firsthand the value of a Massachusetts public higher education. In 1993, I received a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study from Bridgewater State College and last spring (May 2009) I received a Doctor of Education from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. The experiences I had in the state college and university system were second to none.

Thank you for all you do! I ask for your consideration and vote.
Fiscal 2011 Budget Proposal to the Delegate Assembly: Recommendation of the MSCA Board of Directors

### Fiscal 2010 Budget vs. Fiscal 2011 Budget Proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Dues Structure</th>
<th>2010-2011 Projected Income</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated Income</td>
<td>$586,552</td>
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<td>$527,356</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-Time</td>
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<td>Part-Time</td>
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<td>MTA, NEA-RA, NCHE/Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elections</td>
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<td>Auditor’s Fee</td>
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<td>Discretionary Fund</td>
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<td>Local Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$312,000</td>
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</table>

### Administrative Salaries/ Payroll Taxes

- President: $17,871
- Vice President: $8,194
- Treasurer: $13,367
- Grievance Chair: $10,933
- Negotiations Chair Day: $7,173
- Negotiations Chair DGCE: $2,836
- Editor: $7,646
- Webmaster: $3,442
- Archivist: $1,500
- Salary Database Supervisor: $8,194
- Chapter Officers/ Stipends: $8,000
- Secretarial Services: $10,000
- Taxes: $5,000

**Total:** $298,352

### Executive Salaries

- Pres. Administration: $2,000
- Sec. Administration: $1,000
- Treasurer: $1,000
- VP Administration: $1,000
- Pres. Administration: $2,000
- Sec. Administration: $1,000
- Treasurer: $1,000
- VP Administration: $1,000

**Total:** $8,000

### Total Projected Members

- Full-time: 2,840
- Part-time: 2,840

**Total:** 5,680

### Proposed Dues Structure

- Full-Time: $200
- Part-Time: $200
- MTA, NEA-RA, NCHE/Members: $33,000

**Total:** $312,000

### Proposed Dues Structure for Members

- Full-Time: 1,560
- Part-Time: 2,840

**Total:** 4,400

### Proposed Dues Structure for Local Support

- Full-Time: $200
- Part-Time: $200

**Total:** $400

### Proposed Dues Structure for Secretarial Reimbursement

- Full-Time: $40
- Part-Time: $40

**Total:** $80

### Proposed Dues Structure for Office Stipend Reimbursement

- Full-Time: $8
- Part-Time: $8

**Total:** $16

### Proposed Dues Structure for Database Reimbursement

- Full-Time: $9
- Part-Time: $9

**Total:** $18

### Proposed Dues Structure for Total Projected Income

- Full-Time: $527,900
- Part-Time: $527,900

**Total:** $1,055,800

### Additional Notes

- The 2009-2010 budget included an estimated 3% raise for that year, which has not been carried forward into 2010-2011 since that was not the across-the-board salary increase in the day or year for that year. Chapter Office stipends are paid by the MSCA and maintained by the Chapters, not by the Chapters.

### MSCA Perspective

A publication of the Massachusetts State College Association, the faculty and librarian union for the nine state colleges in Massachusetts.

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