

**MSCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of the Special Meeting  
April 23, 2021  
Virtually using Zoom**

**Present:** Chenault, Ciano-Boyce, Diakite, Donohue, Eve, George, Hegbloom, Hennessy, Krishnamurthy, Lam, Leone, Mitroka Batsford, O'Connell, O'Donnell, Pilkenton, Ramsden, Riel, Seceleanu, Smith, Washington, Weeks

**Guests:** Chris Gullen (Westfield), Roberta James (MTA)

**Approval of the Orders of the Day:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the orders of the day. The motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes: April 2, 2021:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2021 MSCA Board meeting. The motion passed.

**Visiting Speakers:**

none

**MSCA Reports**

*Day Bargaining – Hegbloom*

*Initial Proposal*

Chair Hegbloom reviewed the initial proposal.

It was moved and seconded to approve the initial proposal. The motion passed.

The next Day Bargaining Committee meeting is on Thursday, April 29 at 2 pm. An overview was provided regarding what will be discussed. Silent representatives will be attending.

*DGCE Bargaining – Seceleanu*

Monday, May 3, will be the next meeting. Chair Seceleanu reviewed issues at hand and stated that little progress has been made on the online course evaluation form.

Silent representatives are making a difference. The chair thanked the team for all of their hard work.

*Bargaining Action Leader – Gullen*

Leader Gullen provided board members with information on the Zoom license upgrade.

It was moved and seconded to get a second pro plan Zoom license in August, 2021. The motion passed.

*Organizing and Unity Leader – Seceleanu & Krishnamurthy*

There have been two main efforts: a campaign to move higher education faculty into Phase 2 of the vaccination plan and an unemployment workshop. Other initiatives include engaging members in support of the Cherish Act and the American Rescue Plan, a membership drive aimed at full-time librarians and faculty.

*Grievance – Donohue*

No report.

*Legislation – Riel*

No report.

*Librarians – George*

No report.

*Elections – Mabrouk*

Not present.

**Chapter President Reports**

*Worcester*

Vaccine issue still being discussed by governance.

Promotion and tenure applications were all approved by the Board of Trustees.

The university hired three Becker College faculty members, it was stated that these faculty were additions to Worcester and would replace any unit members.

The university police department is undergoing an external audit. The firm is making recommendations on action plans.

*Westfield*

The search for a new university president is winding down. The Board of Trustees will meet and vote on Wednesday to decide who the new president will be.

Six of the UEAAC committee's recommendations will be implemented. Diversity and inclusion included in the plans. APR's and course caps are being discussed. The college structure will be discussed in the near future.

#### *Salem*

Still on work to rule. As of right now the president is going forward with the May furloughs. Requested that faculty attend the faculty standard of the NECHE report.

At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, the importance of a liberal arts education was discussed.

Faculty listed on the released retrenchment plan received handwritten notes from the provost.

#### *Mass Maritime*

Sea Term is a mess; the Academy is still trying to decide on whether to hold Sea Term due to COVID-19 concerns.

There administration asked several faculty to consider holding their final exam on a Saturday.

#### *MCLA*

Quiet on campus. Students were sent home in early April due to a COVID-19 outbreak. There is a new VP of Academic Affairs, Richard Glazier.

Chapter elections are on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### *MassArt*

Four presidential candidates came to campus four weeks ago. The Board of Directors voted on one of them to serve as the next president of Mass Art; the person selected is Mary Grant.

#### *Framingham*

A meeting with the president, provost and deans was held May 21<sup>st</sup>. During the meeting they were asked why they are balancing the budget by cutting faculty lines. The president was optimistic about requiring students to be vaccinated and about enrollment.

#### *Fitchburg*

A meeting was held recently with the president and provost.

The Health and Safety Committee is reconvening.

A building housing three faculty departments is in disrepair. Faculty have been complaining about these issues for 40 years. Union leadership is working with an MTA to get the building fixed so that it is more habitable.

*Bridgewater*

Governance is pushing back on a permanent pass/no pass policy.

The chapter president spoke before the Board of Trustees. During the meeting, the university president said that it was unclear when the university would receive the third round of COVID money.

Students received link to the SIR II student evaluations.

The university has been reluctant to work with union leadership regarding advocacy on safety issues. Questions were developed by the chapter's executive board to ask university administration. Faculty teaching remote now would have a choice to teach remote in the fall. The chapter is asking for inspection standards, in particular for classroom airflow.

Questions regarding continuing COVID-19 testing in the fall as vaccinations are more widely available. Students are resistant regarding testing.

**MSCA Officer Reports**

*President – O'Donnell*

No report.

*Vice President – Hegbloom*

Vice President Hegbloom provided Board members with a brief update of her activities via email.

*Treasurer – Weeks*

Treasurer Weeks reviewed the expense report distributed via email. Discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded to move \$5,000 from line 9080 (conventions) to line 9010 (office maintenance). The motion passed.

*Secretary – George*

No report.

MTA Reports

Consultants: James & Santiago

No report

Health and Welfare Trust – George  
No report

Board of Directors: Washington & Hegbloom  
No report.

**Old Business**

none

**New Business**

The Board of Directors recommends to the Delegate Assembly that an advisory election is held only if there is a contested race. The motion passed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy George  
MSCA Secretary