



*My College. Right from the Start.*

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, October 8, 2014  
President's Office Conference Room**

**The following Trustees were present:**

Tyler Fairbank, Chair  
James Clemmer, Vice Chair  
Lisa Chamberlain  
JD Chesloff  
William Dudley  
Shirley Edgerton  
Susan Gold  
Denise Marshall  
Alyson Stolz, Student Trustee

**Others present:**

Mary Grant, President  
Ginger Menard, Clerk  
Nancy Martin, Archer~Martin Associates

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Trustee Fairbank welcomed everyone and provided an update on the presidential search. He extended his thanks to President Grant for her continued counsel and unwavering commitment to the College during her last few months in her position. President Grant thanked the Trustees for their work during this critical process. Chair Fairbank asked Search Committee Co-Chair, Susan Gold, to provide an update on the search firm interview process.

Trustee Gold reported that she and Co-Chair Mohan Boodram, along with members of the Search Committee, interviewed three search firms. Of those, Co-Chairs Gold and Boodram selected Nancy Martin of Archer~Martin Associates as she had the most relevant experience and qualifications to lead the search and identify the next president of the College.

Nancy Martin thanked the Board and expressed her excitement to be working with MCLA in this capacity. She provided an overview of her background, her experience as a search consultant, and her understanding of this presidential opportunity.

A discussion ensued regarding the position, the region, and the qualities needed for the next leader of the institution. The Trustees identified certain attributes they feel will be important in the next President of MCLA. These include:

- An understanding of the region and the impact of the College in Berkshire county
- Cultural competency
- A commitment to diversity and continuing the strong sense of community
- Inspirational and inclusive
- Deeply passionate about higher education
- Committed to advocating statewide, and nationally as needed, on behalf of the College and the community
- Able to distinctly articulate the value of a public liberal arts education
- Possess broad expertise with an entrepreneurial spirit
- Be a hands-on leader and a strategic thinker with the ability to listen and take action

Martin offered that MCLA's proposed timeline might be too lengthy and proposed shortening it by one month resulting in the final candidate being submitted for approval at the March 10 Board of Higher Education meeting.

As the previous timeline had been entered into the minutes of the September Board meeting Chair Fairbank proposed a vote to accept the new timeline.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

**VOTED** To accept the amended timeline of the presidential search culminating in an appointment by March 2015

Martin expressed her commitment to identifying the correct candidate for the position and the new timeline will only be applicable if the correct pool of candidates is available as it is the needs of the institution that will guide the search.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.