



My College. Right from the Start.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, October 11, 2012
Murdock Hall Room 218**

The following Trustees were present:

Tyler Fairbank, Vice Chair
Mohan Boodram
JD Chesloff
James Clemmer
William Dudley
Shirley Edgerton
Susan Gold
Buffy Lord
Denise Marshall
Dan Peluso, Student Trustee

The following Trustee was absent:

Stephen Crowe, Chair

Others present:

Mary Grant, President
Charlotte Degen, Dean of Students
Marianne Drake, Chief Advancement Officer
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
Denise Richardello, Vice President of Enrollment/External Affairs
James Stakenas, Vice President of Administration & Finance
Joseph Charon, Director of Public Safety
David Dilulis, O'Connor & Drew P.C.
Bernadette Lupo, Director of Marketing and Communications
Roberta McCulloch-Dews, Web Communications Manager
Thomas Bernard, Clerk

Complying with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30 and 15A, Section 9, and with a quorum present, the Board of Trustees of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts met at 5:33 p.m. in the Room 218 of Murdock Hall on October 11, 2012 with Board Vice Chair Fairbank presiding.

Vice Chair Fairbank opened the meeting by welcoming new Trustees Buffy Lord and Denise Marshall, and invited all Board Members to introduce themselves.

Trustee Fairbank commented on the ribbon cutting ceremony held prior to the meeting to celebrate the renovation to the Hoosac Hall residence area. He commented favorably on the event, and on the renovation of the residence.

Trustee Fairbank also informed the Board that the College recently had been named a Top Ten public liberal arts college by *U.S. News and World Report* for the second year running.

Approval of the Minutes of the September 13, 2012, Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the September 13, 2012, meeting of the Board and all actions contained therein.

Annual Security and Fire Safety (Clery) Report

Director Charon provided an overview of MCLA's 2012 security and fire safety report. He summarized the reporting process and requirements for reporting campus security and fire safety data covering a three year period on an annual basis. He noted that the Clery report is a public document. He noted that the campus police department and the campus police advisory group are part of a community-based effort to provide the safest possible living and learning environment for students, faculty, and staff.

President Grant acknowledged the work of the campus police department and the campus police advisory group, and noted that Director Charon is proactive in monitoring trends in campus security data and responding accordingly, which contributes to the comparatively safe campus community reflected in the Clery data.

Presentation on Sowing Seeds for Success Campaign

Marianne Drake provided an overview of Sowing Seeds for Success, MCLA's first comprehensive capital campaign. She presented the promotional video created to support the campaign, and highlighted some of the gifts that have been received to date in support of the campaign. She discussed the campaign kickoff celebration held on October 3rd, and thanked Trustee Gold, who serves as a co-chair of the campaign, and President Grant for her leadership in advancing the work of the campaign and the College.

Report of the October 3, 2012, Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Dudley delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

The committee heard a report from Dean Joslin about a planned visit by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) to conduct an accreditation review of MCLA on October 24-26. The accreditation is necessary to ensure that students in MCLA's athletic training program are eligible to take their certification exam and qualify to work in the field.

Vice President Brown informed the committee that search process work is underway to recruit faculty in several departments. She explained that the College expects to complete eight searches during the current academic year; four positions related to faculty retirements and four new positions.

Vice President Brown also updated the committee on the Department of Higher Education (DHE) Vision Project and the release of the first Vision Project report on September 20th.

Finally, Vice President Brown provided an update on MCLA's accreditation self-study process and the planning for MCLA's comprehensive visit by a team representing the New England Association of Schools and Colleges during the fall of 2013.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the October 3, 2012, meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the October 3, 2012, Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Clemmer presented the report on behalf of the committee. There were three items presented at the meeting.

The committee received an update on the project costs and funding options for the Ashland Street Warehouse. The committee discussed the options for both the renovation of the existing warehouse structure and demolition of the warehouse and replacement with a prefabricated building and expressed the opinion that a new structure would best serve the operational and professional needs of the MCLA Facilities department that will occupy the building.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: Unanimously to authorize the College to work with a house doctor architect to prepare detailed bidding documents for construction of a prefabricated building for the Ashland Street site.

David DiIulis (O'Connor & Drew) provided the Board with a report on the FY 2012 audit. The audit provides an unqualified opinion of the College's financial position. Mr. DiIulis reviewed in detail the audited financial statements and footnotes for the year ended June 30, 2012. A general discussion with questions on the financial statements followed.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: Unanimously to accept FY 2012 audited financial statements.

Trustee Clemmer reported that the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (MSCBA) is preparing a bond issue to support state university infrastructure projects. The bond will provide \$1.35 million dollars to advance several projects at MCLA, and the College has capacity to manage the debt payment from this bond.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: Unanimously to authorize the College to participate in the MSCBA bond issue in an amount not to exceed \$1.35 million.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included the FY 2012 Fourth Quarter Report; budget planning for Fiscal Year 2014; campus project updates; and a leadership transition in human resources following the retirement of HR director Marilyn Truskowski.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the October 3, 2012, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the October 11, 2012, Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Associate Dean of Students Theresa O'Bryant provided an update on issues related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and a Dear Colleague letter that the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued in April 2011, which outlined how colleges should deal with reports of sexual harassment and violence involving student victims, and potential violations of Title IX that could arise from such incidents.

Public Safety Director Joseph Charon updated Trustees on campus safety best practices, and provided an updated on MCLA's annual security and fire safety report, also known as the Clery report.

Athletic Director Scott Nichols and coach Adam Hildabrand provided an update on the College mascot selection process. MCLA is conducting a search for a timeless mascot that students, staff, and alumni will embrace.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the October 11, 2012, meeting of the Student Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

President's Report

President Grant welcomed the four new members of the Board, and thanked Governor Patrick and the members of the Public Education Nominating Council (PENC) for supporting MCLA's nominees to the Board.

The president provided an update on campus activities, including the renovation of Hoosac Hall; the first fall Open House for prospective students; a community day of service in partnership with the City of North Adams; Reunion and Fall Family Weekend coming up the weekend of October 19th-21st; two new faculty publications from fine and performing arts professor Tony Gengarely and philosophy professor Paul Nnodim; a visit from state secretary of veterans affairs Coleman Nee; an upcoming lecture by Howard Kurtz on October 17th; an exhibition of work by artist and former MCLA honorary degree recipient Josh Simpson on October 25th; and the great energy and effort underway to support the Sowing Seeds for Success campaign.

The president thanked David DiIulis and the MCLA administration and finance team for their work on the College audit. She also thanked the Trustees for their support in advancing the work of MCLA.

Chair's Report

Trustee Fairbank noted that he and Trustee Boodram attended an Association of Governing Boards conference in Boston on October 2nd.

He also updated the Board about a policy change at the state level that grants the Board of Higher Education authority over the appointment of community college presidents, and asked Board members to consider how this might affect Trustee governance at the state universities.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m.