



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

May 14, 2019

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Committee members in attendance:

Denise Marshall Chair
Robert Reilly
Susan Gold

Others present:

Denise Marshall, Chair
James F. Birge, President
Emily Williams, VP of Academic Affairs
Theresa O'Bryant, Dean of Student Success and Engagement
Deborah Foss, Dean of Academic Operations
Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk

Chair Marshall called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

New Faculty

VP William presented the names and departments of faculty joining MCLA beginning on September 1:

Dr. Katelyn Born, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology
Dr. Xin Shen, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science
Dr. Margaret Clark, Assistant Professor, Department of Education
Dr. Clio Stearns, Assistant Professor, Department of Education
Michaela Petrovich – Assistant Professor, Department of Fine and Performing Arts
Dr Joshua Uhalt, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology

Newly Elected Department Chairs

Vice President Williams reviewed the Department Chairs for AY2019-2020

Dr. Thomas Whalen, Business Administration
Dr. Anne Goodwin, Interim appointment during Justin Golub sabbatical, Biology
Dr. Justin Golub, Biology
Dr. Carolyn Dehner, Chemistry
Dr. David Eve, Computer Science
Dr. Nicholas Stroud, Education
Dr. Paul LeSage, English/Communications
Dr. Elena Traister, Environmental Studies
Diane Scott, Fine and Performing Arts
Ely Janis, History, Political Science and Public Policy
Rita Nnodim, Interdisciplinary Studies, Modern Languages and Philosophy
Christopher Thomas, Mathematics
Adrienne Wootters, Physics
Sharon Claffey, Psychology
Ingrid Castro, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work

Department Chairs appointment process was reviewed. Department faculty vote on candidates for their department chair and recommend appointment to the President. The President then confirms or denies the appointment. The term limit for a department chair is three, 3-year terms with an exception for departments consisting of 3 or fewer faculty.

Hardman Special Initiative Fund Award

Caren Beilin, Assistant Professor in English/Communications submitted two proposals for the Hardman Special Initiative Fund and was awarded funds for both the Senior Writing Showcase and MCLA's Under 27 Writer's Residency.

Faculty Incentive Awards:

Faculty Incentive Awards were awarded to the following to support original research, development of new courses and programs, innovative teaching and learning pedagogy, and previously unfunded civic learning and engagement projects:

Kerri Nicoll, Associate Professor, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work.
Gentrification or Renewal?: Constructions of Poverty and Progress in North Adams

Mohamed Junaid, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work.
Images of Power, Images of Resistance: Photojournalism and the visual economy of violence in Indian-controlled Kashmir

Michael Dilthey, Professor, Fine and Performing Arts – Music
Producing the oper, The Weeping Woman, this August at MASS MoCA

Zachary Finch, Associate Professor, English/Communications
Places, Please: An Interdisciplinary Memoir

Laura Standley, Associate Professor, Fine and Performing Arts – Theatre
Integrated Actor Training Through Roy Hart Extended Voice

Erin Kiley, Assistant Professor, Mathematics
Shawn McIntosh, Assistant Professor, English/Communications
Calling Bullshit

Faculty Emerita Recommendations for 2019

VP Williams presented the names and credentials of three faculty nominated for emerita status:

Michele A. Either, MSW
Monica N. Joslin, Ph. D.
Elizabeth Lambert, Ph. D.

Trustees discussed the emerita recommendations. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was **VOTED** to recommend approval of the faculty emerita status recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

Drs. Either, Joslin and Lambert will be invited to attend the May 30 Board of Trustees meeting and reception.

Trustee Riley expressed concern with the lack of applicants for the Hardman Award.

Other Business

VP Williams provided additional background information on the newly hired faculty.

Trustees discussed the funding rate for research.

VP Williams provided an update on the DEI Conference scheduled for June 11-14, 2019. There are approximately 39 presenters and 150 registered observers. A schedule of sessions should be available in two weeks and will be shared with Trustees.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.