



My College. Right from the Start.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, December 15, 2011
Murdock Hall Fitzpatrick Room**

The following Trustees were present:

Stephen Crowe, Chair
Tyler Fairbank, Vice Chair
Jane Allen
James Clemmer
William Dudley
Shirley Edgerton
Susan Gold
Richard Lamb
Dr. Eugene Leibowitz
Joelle McDonough
Jaynelle Bellemore, Student Trustee

Others present:

Mary Grant, President
Cynthia Brown, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Charlotte Degen, Dean of Students
Marianne Drake, Chief Advancement Officer
Denise Richardello, Vice President of Enrollment/External Affairs
James Stakenas, Vice President of Administration & Finance
Bernadette Lupo, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications
Ginger Menard, Assistant to the President
Thomas Bernard, Clerk

Joseph Charon, Director of Public Safety
John Durkan, MCLA Beacon
Todd Foy, Student Government Association President

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 5:31 p.m. in the Fitzpatrick Room of Murdock Hall on October 15, 2011 with Board Chair Crowe presiding.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 27, 2011, Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the October 27, 2011 meeting of the Board and all actions contained therein.

Report of the November 16, 2011, Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Dudley delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting the committee was introduced to MCLA's new Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Paul LeSage from the English/Communications department. The committee received an update on faculty sabbatical proposals for the 2012-2013 academic year. There was a discussion of preparations for MCLA's NEASC accreditation visit scheduled for the fall of 2013. It was noted that this is a thorough and extensive process of self-study and data collection that allows for an institutional review of progress over the past ten years.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the November 16, 2011, meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the December 1, 2011, Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Clemmer delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting the committee reviewed the College financial report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2012. It was noted that the College manages the budget carefully. There was a discussion of campus budget projections, which include assumptions about state appropriations, costs of contracts negotiated by the Commonwealth with the collective bargaining units that serve the state university system, fringe benefit costs, and possible debt service related to capital projects. The committee reviewed a report from the National Governor's Association of national economic trends, which informed a review of student fee history at MCLA. The committee and President Grant acknowledged the work of Vice President Stakenas and Treasurer Desmarais in managing the budget process.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the December 1, 2011, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the December 6, 2011, Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Fairbank delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting the committee witnessed a swearing in ceremony for Campus Police Officer Greg LeBeau. This brief ceremony acknowledged publically Officer LeBeau's commitment to the campus, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the constitution of the United States as well as to protect the general welfare of the campus, and the students, faculty, and staff who make up the MCLA community. The committee received an update on the College's fall athletics programs, as well as a presentation on the process underway to select a mascot for the College.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the December 6, 2011, meeting of the Student Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the December 1, 2011, Executive Committee Meeting

Trustee Crowe delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting the committee discussed the Trustee nomination process, information related to a Board development retreat to be held in February, the report from the National Governor's Association of national economic trends, and next steps around the recommendation to arm campus police officers. The Executive Committee will review the arming of MCLA Campus Police Officers at its January meeting, and will hold a special meeting of the Board in early February following the executive committee meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the December 1, 2011, meeting of the Executive Committee and all actions contained therein.

President's Report

President Grant updated the Board on the range of discussion and input that has taken place around the question of arming MCLA Campus Police Officers. In particular, she noted the good process of student input around the issue. She asked Trustee Bellemore to update the Board on the student referendum that was conducted. Trustee Bellemore noted that in the referendum 32% of students supported arming Campus Police Officers and 68% opposed arming. Following the referendum, the Student Government Association voted 10-4 to oppose arming.

President Grant thanked Trustee Bellemore and Student Government Association President Todd Foy for their work in representing their fellow students. She also acknowledged the work of Director Charon in managing the campus input process around this important discussion.

The president provided an update of faculty and staff searches, including searches for a Chief Information Officer and a director of continuing education.

President Grant provided an update on the state budget process.

The president provided a brief update on campus activities, including the fall performance by campus instrumental and choral groups, dance company, and the second place finish of MCLA's student a cappella group the Allegrettos in the Lenox caroling competition.

President Grant noted that a kickoff meeting was held for the faculty and staff who will chair standard teams during MCLA's NEASC evaluation process.

President Grant wished all in attendance happy holidays.

Chair's Report

Chair Crowe wished the Board and staff happy holidays. He thanked Trustee Allen for hosting the annual former trustee luncheon. He congratulated President Grant on receiving the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce Hayden Award in recognition of her service to the community.

Adjournment

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

VOTED To adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m.