



**Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENTIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of September 8, 2021**  
**Audio/Video Conference**

**Members in Attendance**

Mohan Boodram, Chair

Brenda Burdick, Vice Chair

JD Chesloff

Karen Kowalczyk

Robert Reilly

**Others in Attendance**

Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk

Upon establishing a quorum of the Presidential Evaluation Committee members present, Trustee Burdick called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. and began discussion of the presidential evaluation process.

Trustee Burdick reviewed the purpose of this meeting being to finalize the President's performance evaluation document for submission to the board for review before final submission to the Massachusetts Commissioner of Higher Education.

After reviewing the document provided to each Trustee in advance of the meeting, Trustee Burdick opened the discussion to comments and questions. Language related to the increase of financial support to MCLA was edited to read: These efforts contributed to MCLA projecting to have a surplus for FY21 as opposed to a projected shortfall.

For consistency with acronyms used by the College, the abbreviation FYE (fiscal year ending) will be changed to FY (fiscal year) in the entire document. As well, the word America was changed to American to be grammatical correct.

No other changes or correction were suggested be made to the evaluation document. Trustees Boodram and Burdick will provide the evaluation to President Birge on September 9 and provide feedback as requested by this Committee.

- Relative to fiscal reporting to the board, Trustee Kowalczyk provided comment on the continued efforts being made to improve the financial data provided to Trustees at Board meetings.
- Trustee Chesloff asked that feedback regarding the goal to increase diversity among faculty and staff has seen a positive trend, and these efforts should continue in all future hiring opportunities.

- Chair Boodram suggested checking on efforts to onboard the three newly hired vice presidents, and to let President Birge know that his efforts are supported by the Trustees.
- With regard to vice president hiring over the past few years, Trustee Reilly expressed concern with the vetting process in hiring a prior vice president, and noted that recent hires appear to be reflective of increased efforts in the interview process.

The final version of the President's evaluation will be presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration at the September 30 meeting, and then sent to the Commissioner.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.