



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

**March 9, 2021**

**Audio/Video Conference**

**Committee members in attendance:**

Mohan Boodram, Chair  
Brenda Burdick  
Susan Gold  
Robert Reilly

**Others present:**

James F. Birge, President  
Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk  
Adrienne Wootters, Interim VP of Academic Affairs

Trustee Burdick called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

**Academic Major Name Change**

Dr. Wootters reviewed the DHE's approval to change B.S. in Community Health Education to B.S. in Public Health and Community Health Education. The revised change better reflects alignment with the existing major and does not change the major's curriculum.

**Faculty Search Updates**

Dr. Wootters reviewed the open faculty positions in the Biology department:

- Biology (Anatomy & Physiology, offer made)
- Radiology (Instructor and Clinical Coordinator, in progress)
- Radiology (Instructor, in progress)

## **Faculty Reappointments and Promotions**

The following faculty have been recommended to the President for second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth year reappointment:

### Reappointment to Second Year of Service

- Lisa Arrastia (Education)
- Thomas Burton (Physics)
- Whitney Gecker (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work)
- Sharon Head (Education)
- Antonio Templanza (English & Communications)
- Julie Walsh (Biology)

### Reappointment to Third Year of Service

- Margaret Clark (Education)
- Kate Flower (Library)
- Amanda Kleintop (History)
- Michaela Petrovich (Fine and Performing Arts)
- Xin Shen (Computer Science)
- Clio Sterns (Education)

### Reappointment to Fourth Year of Service

- Travis Beaver (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work)
- Caren Beilin (English & Communications)
- Guangzhi Huang (Interdisciplinary Studies)
- Mohamad Junaid (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work)
- Amanda Kleintop (History and Political Science)
- Sara Steele (Psychology)
- Guodong Wang (Computer Science)

### Reappointment to Fifth Year of Service

- George Hamaoui (Biology)
- Victoria Papa (English & Communications)
- Nicole Porther (Biology)

### Reappointment to Sixth Year of Service

- Erin Kiley (Math)

### Reappointment to Seventh Year of Service

- Shawn McIntosh (English & Communications)  
Due to the pandemic, the MSCA one-year successor contract agreement allowed faculty in their sixth year to delay tenure consideration by one year. Mr. McIntosh has taken that option.

Dr. Wootters reviewed the reappointments above and responded to questions from the Trustees.

## **Faculty Tenure and Promotion**

The committee then reviewed the list of faculty for tenure and promotions. The following faculty have been recommended to the President for promotion:

### Tenure

Jerome Socolof, Arts Management  
Jeremy Winchester, Theater

### Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Tara Barboza, Business Administration  
Eric Doucette, Biology  
Anna Jaysane-Darr, Anthropology  
Samantha Pettey, Political Science

### Tenure and Promotion to Full Professor

Elizabeth Hartung, Mathematics  
Thomas Whalen, Business Administration  
Benjamin Wood, Psychology

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously:

**VOTED:** to recommend reappointment with tenure, reappointment with promotion to associate professor, and reappointment with promotion to full professor as detailed above.

## **Other Business**

President Birge reviewed the current vice president search for Academic Affairs, which will be narrowed down to four finalists. Virtual interviews will conclude this week.

The searches for VP of Student Affairs and VP of Finance and Administration are also nearing completion. The VPSA search was accelerated as a result of the withdrawal of two candidates. A candidate is on campus for the SA position and an offer is anticipated to be made this week.

The faculty emeritus requests have been postponed as a result of the Early Retirement/Separation Incentive Plan (ERIP) that is being offered to unit and non-unit employees. The deadline for employees to express interest in ERIP is April 1 and they are able to withdraw interest by April 30.

With regard to Commencement, President Birge stated that exercises for the classes of 2020 and 2021 will be conducted virtually on May 15 and 16.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.