



My College. Right from the Start.

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

**Thursday, March 29, 2012
Murdock Hall Fitzpatrick Room**

The following Trustees were present:

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

Others present:

Mary Grant, President
Cynthia Brown, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Charlotte Degen, Dean of Students
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
James Stakenas, Vice President of Administration & Finance
Bernadette Lupo, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications
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 5:30 p.m. in the Fitzpatrick Room of Murdock Hall on March 29, 2012 with Board Chair Crowe presiding.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 2, 2012, Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the February 2, 2012, meeting of the Board and all actions contained therein.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 2, 2012, Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the February 4, 2012 Board of Trustees retreat and all actions contained therein.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 7, 2012, Meeting of the Fiscal Affairs Committee

Trustee Clemmer delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting, the committee met new CIO Curt King, who came to MCLA from Empire State University in the State University of New York system. The committee also discussed the FY 2013 budget process, and campus planning to model a variety of budget scenarios. President Grant and Vice President Stakenas presented an overview of student fees for FY 2013, with a recommendation expected during the April meeting of the committee. The committee reviewed the college financial report for the third quarter of FY 2012. Finally, the committee received an update on campus and community projects, including an update on potential opportunities for MCLA to be part of the Mohawk Theater project downtown, the Center for Science and Innovation, space planning in Freel Library, and the Ashland Street warehouse property. For the warehouse, the committee requested an update at their April meeting, including full costs and borrowing options.

In order to advance work on the warehouse, the committee recommended that the Board approve \$189,000 to produce a detailed design and construction plan.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED To authorize President Grant to commit MCLA funds not to exceed the amount of \$189,000 to produce detailed design and construction documents for the Ashland Street warehouse renovation, including a comprehensive budget to complete the project.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the March 7, 2012, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 7, 2012, Meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee

Trustee Dudley delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

Topics discussed at the meeting included faculty reappointments and tenure recommendations. The committee discussed the reappointment and tenure processes. President Grant noted that reappointments do not require a Board vote. The only personnel action that requires a formal vote of the Board is tenure. However, it is important that the Trustees get to know the faculty and their progression during the reappointment process.

The committee also discussed recommendations that three members of the faculty be granted tenure. They recommended these candidates to the full Board for approval.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: unanimously to recommend tenure for Dr. Michael Dilthey (Fine & Performing Arts), Dr. Dale Fink (Education), and Dr. Elena Traister (Environmental Studies).

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the March 7, 2012, meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 8, 2012, Meeting of the Student Affairs Committee

Trustee Fairbank delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

The committee received updates on the college mascot selection process and the work undertaken to pilot a campus bike share program.

The committee also received an overview of the mission and goals of the newly-established Campus Police Advisory Group. The goals include a review of departmental operations including firearms implementation, review of standards of training, and an ongoing partnership with the campus police department to communicate the duties, roles and responsibilities of MCLA Campus Police Officers.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the March 8, 2012, meeting of the Student Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Chair's report

Chair Crowe acknowledged President Grant's candidacy for the chancellorship of the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth. He acknowledged the president's accomplishments at MCLA and in the community, and offered the board's support as she went through the search process.

President Grant thanked the Trustees for their support and acknowledged the work of MCLA's students, faculty, and staff.

President's report

President Grant informed the Trustees that their meeting materials included a copy of the 2011 MCLA President's Report. She noted that the report reflects the many accomplishments of students, faculty, and staff, and acknowledged the good work of Coordinator of Marketing and Communications Bernadette Lupo in managing the project.

The president thanked the team in Facilities and IT for coordinating the relocation of the President's Office and Academic Affairs to Blackinton Street, and the move of the Center for Student Success and Engagement to Eldridge Hall.

President Grant noted that planning for the renovation of Bowman Hall is underway, and that the renovation will begin once departments move into the Center for Science and Innovation.

The president issued an invitation to Trustees to attend the Undergraduate Research Conference on April 19th.

The president provided an update on state issues, including concerns about the formula used to allocate funding for need based financial aid accounts, the DHE Vision Project, and the FY 2013 budget process.

President Grant reported on student travel during spring break including study trips to Dubai and Abu Dhabi, China, Japan, and England, and a community service trip to Kentucky.

The president and the Board congratulated Trustee Leibowitz, who will receive an honorary degree at Commencement on May 19th.

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 6:17 p.m.