



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
October 3, 2018
87 Blackinton**

Committee members in attendance:

Lisa Chamberlain, Chair
Robert Reilly
Susan Gold

Others present:

Denise Marshall, Board Chair
James F. Birge, President
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
Emily Williams, VP of Academic Affairs
Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk

Trustee Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed Dr. Emily Williams to her first meeting of this Committee.

Dr. Williams reviewed the meeting's agenda and the Committee's request for tenure candidacy faculty to attend the Academic Affairs Committee meetings.

In response to a question regarding the membership of the Peer Evaluation Committee for tenure candidacy, it was stated that the committee consists of two faculty from the candidate's department, and a third member is selected by the candidate.

Tenure Candidacy Faculty

Tenure candidates presenting at this session were:

- Dr. Jenna Sciuto, AB, MA, Ph.D. - English/Communication Department
- Dr. Kerri Leyda Nicoll, M.Div., MSW, Ph.D. - Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work
- Dr. Chali Nondo, Ph.D., B.S. - Department of Business

Each tenure candidate introduced themselves to the Committee members, provided an overview of their background, scholarly work [including publications and major presentations], and service, and responded to questions from the Trustees.

Redesign of Core Curriculum

Dr. Williams next reviewed the redesign of MCLA's core curriculum. The process for this project has been restarted and the committee tasked with this assignment is being restructured. With regard to questions about timing, Dr. Williams stated that the new core curriculum would likely be ready for Fall 2020. For students in the middle of completing core courses, there will be options for course substitution [courses that match the past core requirements].

Title III Reorganization of Project Activity

Dr. Williams next provided a brief overview of the reorganization of Title III project activity areas of responsibility. The grant for Title III is a five year grant and MCLA is in year 3.

Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders Leadership Institute Proposal

Dr. Williams presented information on the Mandela Washington Leadership Institute proposal which is in development with an application due date of October 23, 2018. If received, MCLA would host a Leadership Institute in June 2019 for the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. This venture would be funded with \$200,000 from the Department of State and a non-cash match from MCLA.

Mellon Foundation Grant

The Andrew W. Mellon Concept Paper for Direct Grant was presented next. President Birge provided a brief overview of the grant which, if received would be for \$355,000 over three years used for the development of an MCLA Institute for the Arts and Humanities. Dr. Williams provided a paper copy of the draft concept paper.

Faculty Speakers Bureau

Dr. Williams discussed the development of a Faculty Speakers Bureau. Faculty would have the opportunity to participate as keynote speakers at events outside MCLA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.