



My College. Right from the Start.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 15, 2012
President's Office Conference Room**

Members in attendance:

Tyler Fairbank, Chair
Shirley Edgerton (via conference call)
Dan Peluso, Student Trustee

Others in attendance

Mary K. Grant, President
Charlotte Degen, Dean of Students
Joseph Charon, Director of Public Safety
Spencer Moser, Coordinator, Center for Service & Citizenship
Tom Bernard, Clerk

Doris Behanzin '14
Jason Brown '13
Katherine (Katie) Russell '14
Alexandra Kadell '16
Lucas McDiarmid '16
Melody Rolph '14
Elizabeth Staal '16

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Trustee Fairbank.

MCLA Bike Share Program: Report on Pilot Year

Students Jason Brown and Katie Russell provided an overview of the MCLA Bike Share program. Currently, the program provides eight bicycles to members of the campus community on a lending basis. Bikes and helmets are circulated through the library and are available to borrow for a 24-hour period.

The program has been popular and successful, and is supported with an electronic portfolio and Facebook page promoting the bike share, lending process, and bicycle safety information. As the program continues, there is an interest in building an endowment to support the program.

Jason Brown extended his thanks to the Trustees, and to the College administration and staff for their support of the program.

Campus Police Advisory Group Update

Director Charon updated the committee on the work that has been done to prepare for the arming of MCLA campus police officers. This has included updating departmental policies and procedures, screening and training officers, purchasing equipment, and upgrading the campus police headquarters to allow for secure storage of firearms when officers are not on duty. Following additional training, he will update the president. It is anticipated the president will authorize campus police officers will begin to carry firearms by the end of 2012.

Director Charon also noted that Framingham State University recently voted to arm their campus police officers, and that the officers already have begun carrying firearms in the course of their duties.

The director noted that a search is underway to hire a new campus police officer. This officer's screening, training, and preparation will be consistent with what has been provided to and expected of MCLA's current campus police officers.

Leadership, Education, Action & Development (LEAD) Academy

Spencer Moser provided an overview of the LEAD Academy program, a summer program for incoming first year students that includes workshops, community service opportunities, and team building activities designed to promote college success and leadership skills development for new students. Approximately 30 students participate in the program annually; after completing the program, participants have opportunities to serve as LEAD staff members.

Spencer invited students to share their experiences in LEAD, and to discuss what the program meant to them. Students spoke about the way LEAD helped them understand how close the connections that exist between MCLA and the community are; the confidence they gained through participation in the program; the sense of community they developed with fellow LEAD participants; their campus and community involvement following LEAD; and their appreciation for the program. One student presented an original song she wrote as part of her LEAD experience, and the fact that LEAD provided an environment for sharing her work.

President Grant and Trustee Fairbank thanked the students, Spencer Moser, and Dean Degen for their presentation, and for their commitment to building a strong community on campus and in the region.

Adjournment

With no other business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.