



My College. Right from the Start.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 3, 2012
President's Office Conference Room**

The following Trustees were present:

William Dudley, Chair
Mohan Boodram
Susan Gold

The following Trustees were absent:

JD Chesloff
Steve Crowe

Others present:

Mary Grant, President
Cynthia Brown, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
Professor Pete Hoyt, Athletic Training
Professor Ryan Krzyzanowicz, Athletic Training
Thomas Bernard, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by Trustee Dudley. He welcomed Trustee Boodram to his first meeting as a member of the committee.

Athletic Training Program Accreditation

Dean Joslin informed the committee that a visiting team from the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) will conduct an accreditation review of MCLA on October 24-26. The accreditation is necessary to ensure that students in MCLA's athletic training program are eligible to take their certification exam and qualify to work in the field. Accreditation also supports program recruitment, as an accredited program is more attractive to potential students.

Professors Hoyt and Krzyzanowicz reviewed the accreditation process and explained some of the unique aspects of MCLA's athletic training program. They noted that many students enrolled in the major also play an NCAA Division III sport, giving them insight into athletic training from

both the athlete and clinical perspectives. They also noted that the program is aligned with opportunities in the region, and provides students with opportunities to apply athletic training coursework to creative and cultural organizations in the region (e.g., dance groups). They informed the committee that they continue to build connections with local schools and organizations to serve as internship and clinical sites for majors. Trustee Dudley offered to assist with making internships between MCLA's athletic training program and Williams College.

Faculty searches overview

Vice President Brown informed the committee that search process work is underway to recruit faculty in several departments. She explained that the College expects to complete eight searches during the current academic year; four positions related to faculty retirements and four new positions. She noted that the decision about which searches to advance reflects departmental needs assessments as well as opportunities to pursue joint appointments in some areas.

The committee discussed the search process, efforts to ensure a diverse applicant pool during the search process, and the regional challenges and unique opportunities related to faculty recruitment at MCLA.

Vision Project update

Vice President Brown updated the committee on the Department of Higher Education (DHE) Vision Project. The first Vision Project report was released at a State House ceremony on September 20.

Vice President Brown provided the committee with copies of the report. She noted that as MCLA connects with the ongoing work of the Vision Project, it is important to highlight MCLA's existing culture of evaluation as well as the range of strong assessment practices already in place at the College, MCLA's commitment to access, and the need to ensure resources are available to support institutional and state commitments to excellence.

Accreditation update

Vice President Brown provided an update on MCLA's accreditation self-study process and the planning for MCLA's comprehensive visit by a team representing the New England Association of Schools and Colleges during the fall of 2013.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.