



My College. Right from the Start.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, September 13, 2012
Murdock Hall Room 218**

The following Trustees were present:

Stephen Crowe, Chair
Tyler Fairbank, Vice Chair
Jane Allen
Mohan Boodram
JD Chesloff
James Clemmer
William Dudley
Shirley Edgerton
Susan Gold
Dan Peluso, Student Trustee

Others present:

Mary Grant, President
Cynthia Brown, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Charlotte Degen, Dean of Students
Marianne Drake, Chief Advancement Officer
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
Denise Richardello, Vice President of Enrollment/External Affairs
James Stakenas, Vice President of Administration & Finance
Bernadette Lupo, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications
Thomas Bernard, Clerk

Others present (continued):

Thomas Alexander, Coordinator of ALANA and International Programs and Services
Jason Brown, MCLA Student Government Association President
Joseph Charon, Director of Public Safety
Gerald Desmarais, Treasurer
Jake Eberwein, Dean of Graduate and Continuing Education
Christopher Goodell, MCLA *Beacon*
Annette Jeffes, Associate Dean of Enrollment
Charles Kimberling, Director of Facilities
Curt King, Chief Information Officer
Paul LeSage, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Roberta McCulloch-Dews, Web Communications Manager
Alexander Mukendi, Undergraduate Student
Scott Nichols, Director of Athletics
Celia Norcross, Director of Student Development and Campus Activities
Marilyn Truskowski, Director of Human Resources
Brycen Waters, Undergraduate Student

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 5:01 p.m. in the Room 218 of Murdock Hall on September 13, 2012 with Board Chair Crowe presiding.

Chair Crowe opened the meeting by welcoming everyone back for the new academic year. He welcomed new Trustees Mohan Boodram and JD Chesloff to the Board, and introduced Dan Peluso, Student Trustee for 2012-3013

President Grant introduced and welcomed several new staff members, including Jake Eberwein, Dean of Graduate and Continuing Education, and Roberta McCulloch-Dews, Web Communications Manager. She also introduced Student Government Association President Jason Brown. She acknowledged Human Resources director Marilyn Truskowski, who will retire later in the fall, and thanked her for her many years of service to the College.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 24, 2012, Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 24, 2012, meeting of the Board and all actions contained therein.

Report of the July 2, 2012, Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Allen delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

At the meeting, the committee received an update on the project costs and funding options for the Ashland Street Warehouse project. The committee requested that Vice President Stakenas provide detailed cost estimates for two scenarios: remodeling the existing warehouse and replacing the existing structure with a prefabricated building.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the July 2, 2012, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the August 13, 2012, Executive Committee Meeting

Chair Crowe delivered the report on behalf of the committee.

The committee reviewed cost information related to two scenarios for the Ashland Street Warehouse. Vice President Stakenas will continue to refine the cost estimates in advance of committee action on a recommendation for project funding.

The committee also received an update on the Trustee appointment process.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the August 13, 2012, meeting of the Executive Committee and all actions contained therein.

MCLA Disclosure/Confidentiality

Chair Crowe reminded the Trustees about two required annual forms they must complete: the MCLA Confidentiality Agreement and the MCLA Disclosure Questionnaire. He requested that all Trustees complete and return these forms to Tom Bernard in the MCLA President's Office.

President's Report: Campus Priorities and Goals 2012-2013

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting. She touched on some highlights of the opening of the semester, including a "topping off" ceremony for the MCLA Center for Science and Innovation that was held prior to the Board meeting, the academic Convocation held at the start of the semester and a presentation for first year students and members of the campus community by author Sonia Nazario, author of *Enrique's Journey*, a book that is part of every First Year Seminar course during the fall semester.

The president noted that the Department of Higher Education will release a report on the Vision Project on September 20th.

President Grant spoke about the great work of the MCLA faculty and staff and the importance of MCLA's liberal arts mission. MCLA students are challenged to think creatively and globally and to build skills that prepare them for the challenges of careers and citizenship. The MCLA strategic plan provides a framework for student, faculty, and institutional success, centered around the following goals:

- Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- Supportive and Inclusive Community
- Responsive and Intentional Stewardship
- Public Purpose and Engagement

The president informed the Trustees that the members of the MCLA staff would present information about college programs and services. These presentations were designed to give the board a sense of the issues in each division and to set the stage for some of the discussion and action items that would come before the committees of the Board during the course of the academic year.

Strategic Presentations

Public Purpose and Engagement – Enrollment and Recruitment: Vice President Richardello spoke about the importance of MCLA's commitment to access. Associate Dean of Enrollment Annette Jeffes provided a profile of new students entering MCLA in the fall of 2012, discussed work MCLA is doing around college affordability, and previewed recruitment strategies for the 2013 admission cycle.

Supportive and Inclusive Community – Student Affairs: Dean Degen provided an overview of programs in the student affairs division. Athletic Director Scott Nichols discussed MCLA's NCAA Division III athletics program and the academic achievements and leadership development of MCLA student athletes. ALANA Coordinator Thomas Alexander and student Alex Mukendi presented on multicultural student programs and traditions, and highlighted the Campus Conversations on Race program. Public Safety Director Joseph Charon updated Trustees on campus safety best practices.

Excellence in Teaching and Learning – Academic Affairs: Vice President Brown provided an overview of divisional priorities. Dean Joslin discussed MCLA's alignment with the Association of American Colleges and Universities's (AAC&U's) Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) initiative. Student Brycen Waters demonstrated his e-portfolio. Associate Dean of Assessment and Planning Kris Bendikas summarized MCLA's learning outcomes assessment efforts.

Accreditation Self-Study: Vice President Brown and Director of Student Development Celia Norcross 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.

Responsive and Intentional Stewardship – Campus Technology and Projects: Vice President Stakenas noted the role of the Administration and Finance division in stewarding College resources. CIO Curt King spoke about the role of technology in supporting teaching and learning. Facilities Director Chuck Kimberling discussed projects that enhance the campus, and the work being doing to update the College master plan.

Telling Our Story: Marketing and Communications Coordinator Bernadette Lupo presented an overview of the avenues and opportunities we use to spread the word about the great work taking place at MCLA. She noted the College's communications strategic includes outreach through print media, Web and social media channels, and marketing campaigns.

Sowing Seeds for Success: Chief Advancement Officer Drake provided an update on the College capital campaign. The campaign will support programs and initiatives related to the Center for Science and Innovation and the renovation of Bowman Hall, and academic and co-curricular programs, and seeks to increase endowed funds and planned gifts to support students, faculty, and campus life and facilities. She encouraged Trustees to attend the campaign kickoff celebration on October 3rd.

President Grant thanked the presenters for the great quality of their presentations, and acknowledged the dedication, energy, and spirit of the MCLA faculty and staff.

Trustee Chesloff noted that as a new Trustee, the presentations provided him with a great introduction to the work taking place at MCLA and to the College's strategic plan.

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 7:10 p.m.