



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 4, 2017
87 Blackinton Street**

Members in attendance

Lisa Chamberlain, Chair
Denise Marshall
Kathy Therrien

Others in attendance

Susan Gold, Board Chair
James Birge, President
Cynthia Brown, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dan Colonno, Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police
Cathy Holbrook, Vice President of Student Affairs
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs
Laura Lefebvre, Sergeant, Campus Police
Ginger Menard, Clerk

Trustee Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Annual Clery Report

Chief Colonno provided an overview of MCLA's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, known as the Clery Report. This is a federally mandated annual report that includes safety and crime statistics from the previous three years from areas on campus as well as off campus areas for which the College is responsible, i.e. Gallery 51, the Advancement Office, and 87 Blackinton. This year's report includes statistics from 2014, 2015, and 2016. Overall the report shows that MCLA is a very safe campus and this report reflects the College's commitment to keep the MCLA campus community safe. A discussion of the report and the data followed.

Faculty searches

VP Brown provided an update on current and upcoming open faculty searches for retired or resigned positions. There is one new faculty position in Fine and Performing Arts with a focus on performing arts management.

Trustee Chamberlain asked about typical response rates to faculty searches. Based on the position, the pool can range from 15 to 200+ resumes, depending on the department and the draw of the industry. VP Brown noted that emphasis will be placed on each search having a diverse pool of applicants.

Trustee Therrien asked about search committee composition and procedures. The committees are in compliance with the state contract and include a search chair along with 2 or 3 members – Department Chairs are not allowed to serve on search committees. Smaller departments may need to include faculty from outside their department. The search committee chairs also work with Human Resources to establish basic understanding of search procedures and strategies for building diverse and robust applicant pools.

Work to Rule update

President Birge noted that bargaining with the MSCA (Massachusetts State College Association) is continuing. As faculty are without a contract they are currently engaging in “work to rule” which means they are focusing only on professional duties as outlined in their expired contract. Ad hoc committees, task forces, and evening events are examples of work that is not included in that definition.

President Birge shared that MCLA faculty have remained committed to delivering academic content and continuing some additional work in terms of Admission events during these budget negotiations. He extended thanks to Faculty Union President, Graziana Ramsden, for her open communication with the College administration during this period.

VP Brown is the MCLA representative to the COP for Collective Bargaining. She provided an update on the negotiation process and shared some of the issues that are of concern to the faculty and administration. The largest contract issue has been economic parameters which must come from the state. The faculty contract ended in June but financial parameters were not released until late August so the bargaining team had not been able to engage fully in negotiations until last month.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.