



*My College. Right from the Start.*

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Executive Committee**

**Monday, September 12, 2011  
Admissions Office Conference Room**

**Members in attendance:**

Steve Crowe, Chair  
Jane Allen  
James Clemmer, via conference call  
Susan Gold  
Tyler Fairbank  
Dick Lamb  
Eugene Leibowitz

**Others present:**

Mary K. Grant, President  
Marianne Drake, Chief Advancement Officer  
Denise Richardello, Vice President of Enrollment and External Relations  
James Stakenas, Vice President of Administration and Finance  
Thomas Bernard, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Trustee Crowe.

**Naming Opportunity**

President Grant and Chief Advancement Officer Marianne Drake reviewed with the committee the naming opportunities guidelines for MCLA buildings and facilities that were presented to the committee for review at the committee's July 14, 2011, meeting. The committee approved the guidelines and will advance them to the full Board for consideration at the September 27, 2011, meeting of the Board. Marianne Drake reviewed the procedure around naming opportunities, and in particular the requirement that such opportunities be advanced to the Board through the Executive Committee.

Marianne Drake informed the committee of a proposal to name the annual fall presentation of the MCLA Public Policy Lecture Series in honor of well-known figure in the field of public policy. This naming opportunity would highlight and advance the work MCLA has done in recent years around public policy through the lecture series, the political science and public policy major, and other initiatives. There is interest in exploring this opportunity in more detail in order to connect

the naming announcement with the November 1, 2011, public policy lecture featuring Dr. Robert Gates.

The committee had a detailed discussion about the naming opportunity, ongoing funding and endowment of the series, and the process for advancing the naming work in time for the fall lecture.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

**VOTED** To recommend to the full Board of Trustees that MCLA approve the proposed naming of the fall Public Policy Lecture, contingent upon a signed pledge to be secured by September 27, 2011 to provide the necessary funds for the annual speaker and all expenses associated with the lecture, as well as a pledge to endow the event “in perpetuity.”

### **Budget Update**

Vice President Stakenas updated the committee on the status of the College budget. In particular, he presented an overview of costs and implications of proposals at the state level to address collective bargaining with all public higher education collective bargaining units in the state, including those serving faculty and staff at MCLA. The current contracts run through Fiscal Year 2012, and there is interest from the governor to conclude negotiations on the next collective bargaining agreement as soon as possible.

One scenario would see MCLA facing a 1.75% increase in collective bargaining costs in the current fiscal year. The other would hold these costs at the current level for FY 12, with 3.5% increases in both FY 13 and FY 14. Neither scenario provides a guarantee of funding from the state to meet these costs. Without state funding, these costs must come out of the MCLA operating budget, requiring cuts in other areas of the budget.

President Grant noted that a meeting of representatives from the State University System and the Board of Higher Education has been scheduled with the state Secretary of Administration & Finance to discuss the state collective bargaining proposal, as well as the timing, costs, and implications for the campuses.

President Grant and Vice President Stakenas will provide additional information at the September and October Board meetings, as well as at the October Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting.

### **Strategic Planning Update**

President Grant informed the committee about the work that has taken place since the campus strategic planning retreat in May. She noted that an update on the strategic planning process would be presented to the Board at the September 27, 2011, meeting.

### **Executive Session**

The committee went into executive session to discuss Commencement 2012 and potential honorary degree candidates.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.