Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 1, 2020
Audio/Video Conference

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance
Mohan Boodram, Chair
Brenda Burdick, Vice Chair
JD Chesloff
Karen Kowalczyk
Robert Reilly

Upon establishing a quorum of the Executive Committee Members present, Chair Boodram called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. noting the agenda for this session was the review of the College President’s goals for FY21 and a discussion of the three vice-president searches underway.

Chair Boodram opened the meeting with a discussion of President Birge’s FY21 goals. He encouraged committee chairs to take note of the progress being made towards these goals throughout the year. He noted that the Board should aim to provide regular feedback to the President on the progress being made.

The Executive Committee agreed that each goal would be assigned to a committee member who would then continually monitor the action being taken in support of that goal, any unexpected obstacles being faced, and progress towards specified benchmarks, as applicable. The Executive Committee then reviewed the goals and made the following assignments:

- Executive Searches: Chair Boodram, Vice-Chair Burdick, Trustees Chesloff and Kowalczyk
- Enrollment Goals: Trustee Reilly and Chair Boodram
- Facilities/Capital Projects: Trustee Kowalczyk
- Institutional Dashboards: Chair Boodram
- Budget/Deficit Reduction: Trustee Kowalczyk
- Fundraising/Campaign Readiness: Vice-Chair Burdick
- Equity and Diversity: Trustee Chesloff

The Executive Committee members agreed that they would seek opportunities to provide periodic feedback to President Birge over the course of the year in anticipation of the year-end performance evaluation to be prepared by the Board and submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

Chair Boodram then initiated a conversation about the three executive searches currently underway. President Birge has invited the participation of the relevant Board committee chairs in the interviewing of finalist candidates in early spring.
The Executive Committee agreed that this was an excellent idea and will participate as follows:

VP, Finance and Administration: Trustee Kowalczyk, with Chair Boodram as backup if needed
VP, Student Affairs: Trustee Chesloff
VP, Academic Affairs: Vice-Chair Burdick

As agreed earlier in the meeting, these four trustees will collectively provide feedback on President Birge’s executive search goals at year-end.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.