

Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Wednesday, April 13, 2016  
6:15 p.m. in the Canton Library, Canton Campus

Attendees: Bonnie Blackler, Mary Brophy, Deborah Enos, Pamerson Ifill, Myrna Lyncee, Ann Sullivan, Judy Waterston

Call to order

Chair Ifill called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Chairman's Report

Chair Ifill greeted everyone, and thanked Senior Vice President Palantzas for hosting the meeting at the Canton Campus. Chair Ifill met earlier in the evening with several of the Board Officers to discuss concerns surrounding the siting of the proposed Allied Health Building. He reiterated that the Board is in full support of the new building being located on the Brockton campus for a number of reasons, including best allocation of resources and allowing for one contiguous college campus. He noted it is also important as a Board to continue the conversation with the Mayor of Brockton, the Brockton City Council, local agencies, and Brockton businesses about how we as an institution can have a meaningful presence in Downtown Brockton. Chair Ifill added that there is a role Massasoit can and should play in Downtown Brockton and that Dr. Wall will continue to seek out those prospects.

Chair Ifill mentioned that graduation is quickly approaching on June 3 and that it is the time when we celebrate the successes of our students, which is our mission. He encouraged the Trustees to attend the pinning ceremonies and events surrounding Commencement, and noted the numerous events attended by Trustee Blackler and recognized and thanked her for her continuing commitment to our students.

President's Report

Dr. Wall began by thanking Senior Vice President Palantzas and the Canton Campus staff for the arrangements for the Board Meeting. The move from the Akillian Gallery to the Library was made because the site lines are much better. Dr. Wall also mentioned that there is an opening in the Akillian Gallery this evening featuring the work of Massasoit employee Jackie Volpe and another artist.

Dr. Wall said that he recently recorded in our TV studio a Vista's program focusing on our Commonwealth Honor's Program. Two students were on the panel with him, along with Dean Deanna Yameen and Professor Susan Martelli, coordinator of the Brockton Honors Program. One of our Commonwealth Honor's Scholars, Trisha Garcia, was accepted to both Smith College and Wellesley College with full scholarships; she is now the President of her class at Wellesley. Jessica Beckman, another Commonwealth Scholar at Massasoit, received a full scholarship to Mount Holyoke College, including housing for her and her daughter. Other Honors Scholars have received full scholarships to the following institutions: Tufts University; Boston University; Stonehill College; Northeastern University; UMass Boston; Bryant University; and Bridgewater State University. These students reach this level of success because of all the people in this room working together to provide the education, opportunities, and support they need while they are at Massasoit. Dr. Wall will provide the Trustee Members with a link to the Vista's Program.

Dr. Wall advised that it is time for the Board of Trustees to do its self-evaluation. The instrument utilized in 2008/2009 has been updated and will be sent during the second week of May by the Office of Institutional Research to the Board Members for completion within a two-week time frame. Dr. Wall said

he would propose that the self-evaluation be discussed during the Trustee Retreat scheduled for June 10 – 11, 2016.

Phi Theta Kappa is hosting an alumni awards celebration this, Friday, April 15, 2016, at the Conference Center. The Massachusetts Community College Trustee Association is having its Spring Meeting on April 20, at the Middlesex Community College Bedford campus beginning at 4:00 p.m. Trustees Blackler, Offutt, and Lyncee are registered to attend, and at that meeting Trustee Lyncee will be receiving an award for her student trusteeship. This meeting is particularly important for the 15 community colleges because House Speaker Robert DeLeo is the featured speaker. Speaker DeLeo has done so much for the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Starter Academy which helps students be successful in these disciplines. Dr. Wall also noted that the MetroSouth Legislative Luncheon, which we co-sponsor with Bridgewater State University, will be held this year at the Bridgewater campus on April 29, from noon to 1:30 p.m., with Senate President Stan Rosenberg as the featured speaker. There are still three seats available at the Massasoit table if anyone would like to attend. Dr. Wall invited the Trustees to the annual Massasoit Retirement Recognition Dinner on Friday, April 29, at 4:30pm at the Conference Center. This event recognizes employees' achievements, terms of service, and retirements.

Dr. Wall added that work on the Allied Health Building done by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), Payette (the architectural firm), and Massasoit staff continues to move forward very nicely this year. He noted that the difference from the work done last year is the change in location from the former Christo's property to the Brockton campus, at the request of the Baker Administration. He gave credit to Gail Rosenberg, senior project manager at DCAMM, Elayne Campos, deputy director of programming at DCAMM, and Massasoit staff led by Vice President Mitchell, for their continued hard work. He stated that this building would be the first new construction on Massasoit's campus since the 1970s and that the building is vitally important to our meeting the needs of the healthcare industry. Dr. Wall is optimistic, continues to have conversations with the Administration on this topic, and stated that we are just waiting for the funding to come through.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 9, 2016 minutes

**A motion was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Trustee Waterston to approve the minutes of March 9, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.**

College Police Report for the month of March, presented by Chris Cummings, Chief of Police.

Chief Cummings advised that the Department has concluded its year-long run to get members of our community, including students, trained in active shooter defense and response. The Department has received a lot of praise from both our community and outsiders and will be taking a break from this kind of training to prepare for Commencement. A total of 463 members of the Massasoit community, including faculty, students, and staff, have completed this training, with a wait list already established for the summer. To achieve the success rate that we did, and the amount of participants in a short amount of time, took a team effort, including the members of the police department, our various role players, media services, and the willingness of our community. Over the past year the Department has received numerous notes of appreciation. The police plan to resume this training in late summer and continue it throughout the fall semester, and will be exploring other training opportunities that we can offer.

Chief Cummings said that the Department has once again started the process of its annual State Police Inspection. The Chief anticipates full compliance and will provide the Board with a full update once the inspection is complete. As noted in the monthly Police Report, the College has observed an increase in call volume, specifically with fights and disruptions. This situation is not unusual at this time of year; however, the number of incidents in the March report was higher than usual. The Chief believes that the stress of finals, dynamics in the classroom, and outside social aspects all play a role in the increase, but

noted that this is a trend. The police are responding effectively and removing the disturbance so that it does not affect the rest of the community.

Chair Ifill asked how long the annual State Police inspection will last. The Chief explained that it is typically a one- to two-month process and advised that our inspection auditor stated that Massasoit is one of the best when it comes to compliance, so the inspection could be complete within several weeks. Chair Ifill asked what they are looking at in the review. Chief Cummings explained that they look at everything, including record keeping, firearms, yearly in-service trainings, etc.

Chair Ifill revisited the number of fights and disruptions noted in the report and asked the Chief if there were any specific reasons for the increase. The Chief reiterated that this kind of increase is not unusual for this time of year; however, we are noticing that the incidents are involving more women than in the past. Chair Ifill asked if these incidents are reported to Student Services and Vice President Tracy said yes; if it is involving a student there is an investigation and possible suspension. Chair Ifill noted that a number of the incidents resulted in criminal charges. Chief Cummings replied that yes, but only as a last resort. It is a balancing act and, unlike other police departments, we consider everything, including academic career. It really has to be a significant event, and we look at each individual incident before deciding whether to charge criminally. Chair Ifill asked if there is a program of campus in which a student can participate to show good citizenship if the student is not criminally charged. The Chief noted that they send their reports to the Dean of Students who, as Vice President Tracy noted, has a great deal of latitude to institute sanctions and various other methods of discipline through the Code of Conduct.

All College Purpose Trust Fund Report for March, presented by William Mitchell, Vice President of Administration/CFO.

Vice President Mitchell reiterated that while he understands that he mentions at every Board meeting that this report is one of our stronger internal controls, he believes that it is important enough to continue to mention, particularly for the new Trustees. The monthly report shows all the expenses for the Board and the President in great detail. The Board reviewed the report and had no further questions for Vice President Mitchell.

Human Resources Department Overview, presented by Margaret Hess, Executive Director of Human Resources, and Donna Boissel, Director of Human Resources.

Executive Director Hess explained that when she and Director Boissel began their Human Resources careers over 30 years ago, the term *human resource management* was not used, and stated that *personnel* was the common term. At that time, personnel was very transaction-based, providing services such as payroll and benefits processing. While Human Resources still provides those transactional services today, the Department has evolved into a much more strategic department that focuses on people, trying to maximize employee output.

Executive Director Hess introduced the members of the Human Resources team to the Board: Jolene Smith, HR staff assistant; Gaelle Prospere, employment coordinator; Donna Beals, benefits coordinator; and Donna Boissel, director of human resources. Director Boissel gave a PowerPoint presentation that identified the six functions of Human Resources: recruitment; benefits administration; professional development and training; human resources information systems (HRIS); employee and labor relations; and affirmative action, also noting that all the functions interact with each other, which makes them a good team. Director Boissel highlighted the fact that diversity plays an important role in all six of these functions.

Director Boissel gave an overview of all six HR functions and explained that in the recruitment process, from search and screen to the onboarding process, they strive to hire the most qualified candidates for the position and help them with the tools they need to succeed. The benefits administration function ensures that our employees are made aware of, and have the opportunity to receive, all the benefits to which they are entitled; benefits administration takes care of our employees from hire to retire. The Human Resources Department coordinates professional development and training for Massasoit employees, allowing our employees to participate in tuition reimbursement programs, trainings, and seminars that help employees to succeed in their careers. The HRIS function provides a secure and confidential method for maintaining personnel records; in 2015, 1584 transactions were entered into HR CMS (client management system). Within the employee and labor relations function, Human Resources provides employees assistance with interpreting the collective bargaining agreements and the non-unit professional handbook, and also coaches our employees and managers and facilitates discussions to help resolve conflicts. Finally, the Affirmative Action function ensures that Massasoit is in compliance with federal and state laws and institutional policies, monitors the search and screen process to ensure diverse candidate pools, and investigates affirmative action complaints. Director Boissel noted the following key takeaways from the presentation: human resources supports our staff, who support our students; we welcome the new hires to the College and introduce them to the culture; we are always mindful of the policies, procedures, and bargaining agreements which ensures fairness to both the employees and the College; we ensure that the College is in compliance with all labor laws; we are a resource for all employees at the Brockton and Canton campuses, as well as at the Middleborough Center, for any personnel related issue; and finally, we belong to organizations with whom we network, not only to improve our knowledge and skills, but also to enable us to better serve our employees.

Executive Director Hess explained that the purpose of the presentation this evening was to help the Board have a sense of what HR's daily operations are like, rather than providing the traditional recruitment-focused Board presentations. Trustee Brophy thanked Executive Director Hess and Director Boissel for an informative presentation and asked if there is human resource representation at all three locations or if it is centrally located in Brockton. Executive Director Hess explained that the function is centrally located, but HR goes to each location to serve employees at those locations should the need arise. Chair Ifill asked if there are any retirements coming up this year and when they will happen. Donna Beals explained that retirements happen throughout the year, sometimes on a birthday, anniversary, or end of the academic year. Chair Ifill asked what we do for planning purposes when someone retires. Executive Director Hess explained that we do succession planning with the cooperation of the Vice Presidents and Dr. Wall and that it is an evolving process. Trustee Lyncee asked about the ways in which the Human Resource department works through collective bargaining issues. Executive Director Hess explained that we have three contracts that they must understand fully and help managers to understand. A good example is the tentative agreement between the MCCC and the Commonwealth. There are changes to the new agreement and it is the responsibility of Human Resources to educate our managers so they understand the agreement.

#### Update on Power Outage cause and resolution, presented by Richard Hadley, Director of Facilities and Capital Planning.

Dr. Wall advised that while this presentation may seem dated, as the power outage occurred some time ago, it is important to understand what happened, why it happened, and how it was resolved.

Director Hadley addressed the Board and reminded them that he had the pleasure of presenting last year when he and his team had bailed out 108 inches of snow. Tonight, he will discuss the power outage that

occurred in the early morning hours of February 16, 2016. On Tuesday, February 16 a major fault occurred in which fuses in a primary switchgear and two feeders that distribute power to all the buildings on the Brockton Campus blew; this situation is a textbook worst-case scenario. The purpose of having two feeders is that, in case there is disruption to one, the other serves as a backup. Unfortunately, both fuses blew simultaneously, causing the entire campus to lose power. Over the course of the next two days we immediately notified our emergency response teams (high voltage and site contractors), who provided testing equipment and manpower to augment Massasoit personnel. They began preliminary cable testing at the main hub after pumping out the manhole and found that both feeders had a short circuit, which is a very unusual situation.

On Wednesday, February 17, upon further visual inspection of all manholes, the investigation revealed that the historical diagram (from the 2010 study) of the electrical infrastructure was inaccurate. Trustee Waterston asked for clarification as to whether there was redundancy in the system, Director Hadley confirmed that, in fact, there was not. Once the magnitude of the situation was confirmed, Director Hadley arranged for stand-by generators to be delivered to each building to provide light and heat, and met with State officials to determine an action plan so that the campus could be fully operational as soon as possible. Trustee Sullivan asked if it was that the diagrams were incorrect or if it was that the infrastructure was not what was expected. Director Hadley responded that he assumed that it was a matter of construction plans changing during the upgrades in 2000 and 2010 that did not get documented, but he could not confirm as he was not at Massasoit during that time.

On Thursday, February, 18, the team continued to inspect each manhole and isolate any individual issues, building by building. By this time the generators were on-line so each building had heat and power so crews could work in each of the buildings. Unfortunately, before power could be restored to the Liberal Arts building, a water pipe had burst in that building, causing some damage in Vice President McCarthy's area. Because of the excellent rapport with our service contractor, Service Master, they were immediately on-site to begin remediation of the area. By Friday, February 19, it was determined that the fault was not in the cables and it was discovered an air switch in the Administration building was the cause of the short-circuit of the two campus feeders. Moisture buildup in the air switch and a failed isolator resulted in the ionization of the air inside the switch, causing an arc flash bridging the switch blades. National Grid also discovered a fault on its second line and repaired the issue and power was fully restored. By Saturday, February 20, all buildings were checked and found to be in working order, and the College reopened and classes resumed on Monday, February 22.

Director Hadley noted that while this incident was an unfortunate one, there are always lessons to be learned. Moving forward we will rebuild the switch or replace it with a vacuum switch; recommend adding fault interrupters at the air switch so a major fault only interrupts one section rather than the entire campus; mitigate water and drainage issues at the present location; schedule preventative maintenance on manholes and switches every three years; conduct a complete short circuit analysis; and recommend upgrading the distribution cables from the manholes to the buildings. Director Hadley now has a documented plan of action in place, approved by the Department of Public Safety and the Brockton Fire Department, should a major power outage occur again. Vice President Mitchell added that the direct cost of this incident was \$125,000, which will be reimbursed through DCAMM.

Trustee Brophy asked what we know about the Canton Campus and Middleborough Center infrastructure. Director Hadley explained that there is no redundancy in Canton, only one main line. Buildings do have generators for life safety only, with the exception of our data center, some areas of the Science building,

and culinary areas. Trustee Brophy also asked if the generators were checked regularly. Director Hadley said yes, they are inspected once per month. Trustee Sullivan raised a question for later consideration about the College's overall business continuity plan. Dr. Wall said we can absolutely discuss that at a later time.

Integrated Student Support Programs Presentation by David Tracy, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management, and Deanna Yameen, Dean of the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts

Vice President Tracy explained that while various individual programs have previously presented to the Board, such as Latch and Ubuntu Scholars, this presentation is more about how these programs collaborate. Each program targets a particular cohort of students. These programs include Choices, which provides transitional assistance; Gateway targets 16 – 20-year-old students; Latch is for developmental students (low-income and students with disabilities); TRiO is a Federal program for first-generation and low-income students; Ubuntu Scholars for male minorities; and Center for Experiential Learning, which is currently working on homelessness issues. Individually, these programs have had tremendous successes over the past several years. This presentation discusses collaboration and leveraging these programs to help more students and not just the students in these various programs.

Dean Yameen thanked the group for the opportunity to present and noted that the two Honors students Dr. Wall mentioned in his President's Report started in the Latch and Choices programs, respectively. These students began their time at Massasoit with unbelievably complicated lives and were able to achieve a high level of success.

Dean Yameen explained that she would give an overview of the collaborative efforts, how each program works individually to assess themselves to ensure success, and the next steps for all of the programs. In the past year, 19 peer mentors were trained together from TRiO, Gateway, Latch, and Ubuntu Scholars. Eight years ago, there were no peer mentors; now, we have a strong core. Rather than each program holding individual trainings, collaborative trainings took place under one national certification model that also works with the Academic Resource Center (ARC). Additionally, these programs spearheaded the GradesFirst early alert intervention software initiative, streamlined processes so all seminars and workshops in these programs are now jointly shared, and discussed recruitment strategies to ensure the best program for each individual student.

Trustee Enos asked about the decision-making process for a student who could benefit from multiple programs. Dean Yameen said that it is typically the first point-of-contact that will determine the best fit for the student and that it is not unusual for a student to transition from one program to another depending on the level of support needed. Also, councilors will sit with students and explain the pros and cons of each program and let the student decide what is the best fit for the individual. Vice President Tracy added that it is also not unusual for a student who has completed one of these programs to return as a tutor. Dean Yameen noted that research shows that those students who had the most difficulty and succeed make the best tutors. In addition to programmatic support and a student referral network, external community resources are leveraged to provide students with the support they need and to offer opportunities for Massasoit to reach out to the community in additional ways.

Dean Yameen said that to ensure quality throughout these programs, each has established methods to measure success. Choices, working with Institutional Research, has started to follow up with students after they leave the program to understand their level of success after leaving the program. They will also increase their use of additional features in GradesFirst. Gateway is beginning to look at school district and

student interview and survey data. The Latch program is using demographic analysis, programmatic engagement data, academic success follow-up, college engagement, and student satisfaction feedback. TRiO is conducting a survey to quantify the success of its recent non-credit student success seminar. Ubuntu Scholars is measuring community attendance and a full-scale plan done with MA Mentoring. The Center for Experiential Learning is doing a follow-up survey for professional development seminars offered throughout the semester and following up with the Office of the Registrar to see if our homeless population stayed, persisted, and succeeded.

Lastly, these programs are considering next steps. Choices is conducting a program review with Admissions and Financial Aid because those are the entry points for Choices students. Gateway is working on an accelerated 7-week class model and increased district partnerships. Latch is increasing the quality of professional development for its peer tutors, mentors, and professional staff, working with Institutional Research to disaggregate its data to identify areas of opportunity, and working on a year-round engagement program with Gateway. The TRiO program is looking to expand into different areas (i.e. Canton) and researching Talent Search and/or Upward Bound programs. Ubuntu Scholars is exploring a program at the Canton Campus. The Center for Experiential Learning is expanding collaborations with partner agencies to bring more free, quality professional development to our faculty and staff, and looking to create greater promotion of the Emergency Homeless Fund. Trustee Enos asked which of these programs expand across all three locations. Dean Yameen explained that they are all in Brockton; the Latch program is in Brockton and Canton; and Ubuntu and the Center for Experiential Learning are actively exploring options to expand to Canton.

Dean Yameen gave a recent example of an initiative stemming from the Think Tank for students on academic probation or academic deficiency in which all these programs mentioned in the presentation worked together to get feedback and were able to respond to these students within one week. She also added that though there was negligible cost associated with this effort, the benefits to our students is immeasurable. Chair Ifill asked how many students in total these programs currently serve. Vice President Tracy said 450 students are served in aggregate. Vice Chair Waterston commented on how helpful this presentation is and how proud she is of the work everyone is doing to help our students.

Proposal by Barbara McCarthy, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and William Mitchell, Vice President for Administration/CFO, to lease classrooms in Marshfield High School to enable offering programming in proximity to that geographic part of our service area as a first step toward greater expansion into Marshfield.

Dr. Wall noted that, as some of the veteran members of the Board are aware, there has been a desire to create a satellite center on the South Shore, off Route 3, for quite some time. This site would be geared toward, but not exclusively dedicated to, marine and environmental technology. There was an attempt to lease a building; however, it did not come to fruition. We now have an opportunity to establish a presence in a geographically strategic location off exit 12 on Route 3 in Marshfield at the brand new Marshfield High School. Dr. Wall believes it is an excellent opportunity not only to offer programming, but also to serve as a pilot to gauge interest in the Marshfield area at almost no risk to the institution. He also stated that the administration in Marshfield has been more than hospitable.

Vice President Mitchell stated that, in the past, the cost associated with this initiative was quite costly, whether it was constructing a new building or attempting, on two occasions, to lease space through a competitive RFP process through DCAMM. As the CFO, he is very comfortable with what is proposed from the Superintendent of Marshfield Public Schools, the Principal of Marshfield High School, and the

Business Manager of Marshfield. The cost is slightly more than \$37,500 per semester (15-week term), and as Dr. Wall mentioned, it is an excellent opportunity for Massasoit to get into the Marshfield area. Vice President Mitchell said it was interesting to note that when the new high school was built in Marshfield, part of its purpose was to offer space for community use. To that end, there is a high level of partnership and collaboration between Marshfield and Massasoit. Also important to note is that in the unforeseen event that the proposal does not work out well, it is not a long-term commitment but rather a year-to-year licensing agreement. In addition to all the positive discussion in regards to the Marshfield proposal, there is an aggressive marketing campaign that will kick-off the opening of the site as well.

Vice President McCarthy said that this is an opportunity to serve three aspects of the community: adults; high school students, as certainly dual enrollment will play a role; and workforce development. Massasoit has had a long-time commitment to the marine tech community in Marshfield and we are happy to continue that at Marshfield High School. Speaking to the three segments of the community, we are now able to experiment with scheduling to identify what will work best. Vice President McCarthy also noted that the Superintendent and Principal are both very engaged and enthusiastic about this partnership. Trustee Brophy asked if there will be general liberal arts and science classes offered, if they are evening classes, and where the classrooms would be located. Dr. Wall offered that we will have our own entrance to the building; a Marshfield school administrator on duty in the evening, in addition to the support staff; and a Massasoit administrator. Dr. Wall added that the revenue projections are forthcoming and that we are working on a place for the hands-on portion of the marine technology classes. Vice President Mitchell said that the Marshfield space could satisfy students from surrounding colleges who may want to take summer or intersession classes as well.

**A motion was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Vice Chair Waterston that the Board of Trustees authorize Massasoit Community College to engage the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to enter into a lease agreement with Marshfield Public Schools. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Proposal of plans to create a Veterinary Technology Surgical Services Suite at the Canton Campus by Barbara McCarthy, Vice President of Academic affairs, and William Mitchell, Vice President of Administration/CFO.

Vice President Mitchell explained that last year, the Board approved the architectural firm Jones and Associates to do the planning for the renovation of space for the suite. Working with the deans, facilities, the program director, faculty, and staff to identify a suitable space, they arrived at a plan and put it out to bid; the successful bidder is Contractor's Network, Inc. of East Providence, RI, with a total cost not to exceed \$1,467,000. Vice President Mitchell advised that it is an aggressive timeframe to build the suite, but as the Board is aware, there is only one particular timeframe during the summer where renovation can take place, after Commencement and before classes start in the Fall. He further explained that while aggressive, we have no reason to believe that it cannot be accomplished on-time and on-budget. Chair Ifill asked where the suite would be located. Vice President Mitchell said that it would be located in the Canton Campus on the same level as the library and that a dedicated entrance to the space will be created. Chair Ifill asked if we are also purchasing the dogs and Vice President Mitchell said yes, they will be beagles. Chair Ifill asked if there were any companies in Massachusetts that were capable of performing this work. Vice President Mitchell stated that again, this project went through the bid process and the firm selected was done so using the required state process. He added that two-thirds of this cost will occur in the next fiscal year and that in addition, as required by the state's building renovation and upkeep budgeting process, this money has been budgeted.

Vice President McCarthy reminded the Board that we already had our first cohort for the fall semester. Chair Ifill asked how many students we have. Vice President McCarthy said we wanted a cohort of 15 and we landed with 17 students. She added that they are looking to reach a cohort of 24 for the second class, which includes 15 students from our partnership with Norfolk Agricultural Technical High School (Norfolk Aggie). In addition, because of the partnership with Norfolk Aggie, our students have access to larger animals and Massasoit is the only program in the state to have that offering. Senior Vice President Palantzas offered that this project is also an excellent fundraising opportunity and that in the next several months efforts will begin to raise additional funds for the program. Chair Ifill thanked everyone for their efforts to make this program a reality.

**A motion was made by Chair Ifill, and seconded by Trustee Brophy that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$1,467,000 with the Contractor's Network, Inc., of East Providence, RI, to create a Veterinary Technology Surgical Suite at the Canton Campus. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Presentation by William Mitchell, Vice President of Administration/CFO, and Patricia Marcella, Comptroller, of the PACE-coordinated audit firm request to approve a contract with O'Connor & Drew to serve as the College's independent auditors for Fiscal Years 2016-2018, with two additional one-year options.

Vice President Mitchell explained that PACE, the Partnership to Advance Collaboration and Efficiency, is a group that works with the state's 15 community colleges and 9 state universities to leverage purchasing power, among other initiatives. Both Vice President Mitchell and Comptroller Marcella are recommending that the auditing firm O'Connor and Drew serve as the independent auditors for both cost and quality reasons. In Vice President Mitchell's past experience with O'Connor & Drew, they send experienced, quality staff to the institutions and we have an excellent rapport with the firm. Vice Chair Waterston added that the Audit Committee concurs with the recommendation to engage O'Connor & Drew.

**A motion was made by Chair Ifill and seconded by Trustee Brophy that the Board of Trustees approve the auditing firm of O'Connor & Drew to provide financial auditing services for Massasoit Community College and the Massasoit Community College Foundation for the Fiscal Years 2016, 2017, and 2018, with the possibility of two additional 1-year options. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Prepared by:



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Anthony Simonelli  
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