

MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
6:00 P.M. LOUISON BOARD ROOM, STUDENT CENTER, BROCKTON, MA
Approved October 16, 2019

Attendees: Bonnie Blackler, Thomas Carroll, Robert Harnais, Cindy Mack, Eval Silvera, Ann Sullivan

Absent: Craig Andrade, Deborah Enos, Eshita Chakrabarti, Marilyn MacDonald

Call to Order

Roll call vote to open the meeting:

Chair Harnais – yes
Vice Chair Carroll – yes
Secretary Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Mack – yes
Trustee Silvera – yes

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Chairperson's Report

Chair Harnais deferred his report noted that he would like to take the agenda out of order and invited Commissioner Santiago to give his presentation.

Equity Strategic Framework for Massachusetts Public Higher Education

Commissioner Santiago thanked the Board for the opportunity to present this evening. Dr. Santiago noted that when looking at higher education as a whole in Massachusetts there is much to celebrate. Massachusetts is among the highest in the nation for high school graduation and college enrollment; however, there is work to be done in public college graduation rates and overall college attainment. When taking a closer look at key education indicators by race, ethnicity, and gender, the data vary significantly. The Commissioner then showed a slide displaying the gaps between white females and Latino males noting a 24% gap in high school graduation (2017); 32% gap in college enrollment (2016); 33% gap in public college graduation (2017); and 43% gap in overall college attainment (2018).

The Commissioner continued discussing the persistent disparities in college enrollment rates by race, ethnicity, and gender and said that given the population projections for Massachusetts there is even greater cause for concern. These trends include a decrease in the number of high school graduates and a rapidly growing Latinx student population noting that by 2032 nearly one in four students in the pipeline will be Latinx. Dr. Santiago stated that Massachusetts is the first state to elevate equity to the top-level performance and policy priority for all of its public higher education institutions and went on to describe the equity strategic framework vision, initiatives, and performance measurement reporting system which will provide the foundation for measuring the success at achieving equity. Chair Harnais thanked the Commissioner for his time and said that he looks forward to working together to achieve success in the equity agenda.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Vice Chair Carroll and seconded by Trustee Sullivan to approve items 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of sabbatical leave (spring semester 2020) for Kenneth Demers, Professor of Physical Science

Provost Yameen introduced Professor Demers and discussed his qualifications and provided an overview of his sabbatical proposal on incorporating twentieth century discoveries in physics into first-year physics courses which focus traditionally on classical physics.

A motion was made by Secretary Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Silvera to approve sabbatical leave for Kenneth Demers for the spring semester 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of college credit card for Deanna Yameen, Provost

Vice President Mitchell explained that currently there are only two college credit cards that are issued to President Glickman and he holds the second card. Currently, when booking travel for the college it is charged to one of the cards. Issuing Provost Yameen will yield efficiencies in time and resource management for booking travel within the Student Services and Academic Affairs division. Mr. Mitchell explained that issuing this card is within Massasoit's trust fund guidelines. Discussion ensued regarding procurement cards and the potential for issuing those to various departments in the future.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Carroll and seconded by Secretary Sullivan to approve a college credit card for Provost Yameen. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation on the Mental Health Research Project by Lisa Coole, Associate Professor of Social Science

Professor Coole thanked the Board for the opportunity to present on her research. Ms. Coole explained that during the spring 2019 semester she conducted qualitative and quantitative research on the current state of mental health support services for college students with a focus on Massachusetts community colleges, including Massasoit Community College, in hopes of establishing an evidence-based platform for considerations and recommendations at Massasoit. The research included faculty focus groups, surveys, and workshops to assess their (faculty) views on obstacles to student success and to provide professional development opportunities. The two primary objectives of the research were to assess current approaches across the Massachusetts Community Colleges, and to lead participatory dialogs with key stakeholders to ensure transparency throughout the process. Discussion ensued about the availability of mental health resources available to students, faculty and staff at Massasoit. President Glickman advised that the College is actively working to get substantial services on campus with a goal of January, 2020.

Massasoit Community College Foundation Report

Richard Frye, President of the Massasoit Community College Foundation said it was an honor to be elected as President of the Foundation. He noted that Massasoit is a wonderful institution of which he is proud to be a part. Mr. Frye stated that the Foundation has voted to reduce the number of members from 15 to 11 which will greatly facilitate the ability to do business more efficiently. Additionally, the Foundation will meet with Merrill Lynch to review the Foundation's investment policies and performance of the fund. Finally, he noted that the Foundation is in the process of finalizing a fundraising budget which will be discussed with the Board in October.

President's Report

President Glickman gave an update regarding some changes in names to various departments in the College including Humanities and Communication Arts and the Unity Center. Dr. Glickman gave an update on enrollment projections and noted that we continue to refine our marketing strategy to target areas of most need. She added that the CNA lab in Canton has been updated and we are working on baccalaureate completion programs on campus in respiratory therapy and radiological technology.

Chair Harnais requested that agenda item J, Preferred Name Usage presentation, be postponed until the October meeting. There were no objections.

A motion was made by Secretary Sullivan and seconded by Vice Chair Carroll to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by:



Lydia B. Camara
Chief of Staff



Ann Sullivan
Secretary, Board of Trustees