

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025  
Louison Board Room  
Brockton, MA  
6:05 p.m.**

**APPROVED**

Attendees: Tom Carroll, Bonnie Blackler, Eshita Chakrabarti, Jim Dunphy, Kacey Hilton-Gilleo, Kate Welch

Absent: Laura Lawson, Eval Silvera

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Welch – yes

Chairman's Report

Chair Carroll reminded us that Dr. Gail Gibson Sheffield set an amazing foundation in her efforts to make sure the students at Massasoit were first. We will continue to carry on that legacy. He sends his heartfelt condolences to the Massasoit community on this unimaginable loss. President Mitchell and Chair Carroll met with President Clark to explore ideas on how to create clear pathways for students from Massasoit to attend Bridgewater State University. He looks forward to the Evening of Champions on May 15.

President's Report

President Mitchell reminded us that we have important work to continue. Dr. Gail Gibson Sheffield believed in Massasoit and was a fearless leader who put Massasoit on the pathway forward. Dr. Rita Jones-Hyde has been named the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Joseph Harris has been named Interim Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services. We currently have four finalists for the Chief Diversity Officer position that we will be interviewing in the upcoming weeks. We will have our draft NECHE report completed this fall with the final report scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2026. Enrollment compared to this time last year is up significantly. For summer we are up 27% in headcount and 35% in credits. For the fall we are up 12% in headcount and 7.1% in credits. We are optimistic and making investments in faculty and front line staff that serve the students. Our Transformation through Renovation project is underway with fencing around the LA building. Once Commencement is over, you will start seeing machinery. We have not had a major renovation on this campus since 1978. Last week, the CONNECT team met at the Cape Cod Community College Aviation Program in Plymouth. Our Diesel students represented Massasoit along with the diesel truck.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Kacey Hilton Gilleo introduced Daniel Pestana, the Student Trustee that has been elected to the Board, as of July 2025. Daniel is a culinary student and looks forward to this opportunity. Trustee Hilton Gilleo, along with the Student Senators, participated in the wiffle ball tournament that was held by Brian Schilling, Coordinator of Veteran Services. Trustee Hilton Gilleo is happy to share that she has completed her work on the Student Services guide which includes all the services offered to students. She hopes this will help many students in the years to come. She thanked the Board for their support for the past two years.

Consent Agenda.

**A motion was made by Trustee Welch and seconded by Trustee Blackler to approve items 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the Consent Agenda.**

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Welch – yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Presentation and recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve tenure to Jose Monteiro, Assistant Professor, and Darlene Mendoza, Coordinator of Television Production by Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Rita Jones Hyde (vote needed).

Dr. Rita Jones Hyde, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, is pleased to recommend Assistant Professor Jose Monteiro be granted tenure. Jose was hired as a faculty member for the mathematics department in the Division of Mathematics & Science (now STEM) on 9/1/2019. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the Higher Institute of Education in Praia, Cape Verde and a Bachelor of Science in Curriculum Development from Leiria Polytechnic Institute in Leira, Portugal, as well as a Master of Education in Instructional Technology from Bridgewater State University.

Dr. Rita Jones Hyde, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, is pleased to recommend Coordinator of Television Production, Darlene Mendoza for tenure. Darlene is now in her 6th year of employment. She received her Bachelor of Science in Communications/Media from Fitchburg State University. She consistently works to advance the college's strategic goals and always puts students learning, support, and safety first.

**A motion was made by Trustee Blackler and seconded by Trustee Welch to approve tenure to Jose Monteiro, Assistant Professor, and Darlene Mendoza, Coordinator of Television Production**

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Welch – yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Presentation and recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve tenure to Jennifer Pike, Access and Disability Resources Coordinator, Dan Vang, Academic Counselor, and Brian Schilling, Veterans Services Coordinator by Joseph Harris, Interim Vice President of Student Services & Enrollment Management (vote needed).

Joseph Harris, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management is pleased to recommend that Access and Disability Resources (ADR) Coordinator Jennifer Pike be granted tenure. She was hired at Massasoit in 2018 and holds a Master of Science degree in Human Services from UMassBoston, and a Bachelor of Science in Therapeutic Recreation from the University of New Hampshire. As ADR Coordinator, Ms. Pike capably handles the numerous, often

complex, details of providing accommodation to students with disabilities at Massasoit, and ensuring comprehensive, college wide accessibility for students, employees and visitors with disabilities.

Joseph Harris, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management, is pleased to recommend Brian Schilling be granted tenure. Brian was hired full-time as an Academic Counselor in Massasoit's Veteran Services program in 2018 and later successfully reclassified to an Academic Coordinator. Brian earned his Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree from Bridgewater State University in 2009 and his Master in Mental Health with a Concentration in Trauma degree from Cambridge College in 2017. Brian served as a Non-commissioned Officer in the United States Marine Corps from 2009 to 2014, where he earned the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Navy Marine Corps Certificate of Achievement, and two Meritorious Mast. As Academic Coordinator of Massasoit's Veterans Center, Brian proudly serves as an advisor to and advocate for active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

Joseph Harris, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management, is pleased to recommend Dan Vang be granted tenure. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology from the University of Connecticut, and a Master of Science in Counseling from University of Bridgeport. Dan has proven an invaluable asset, not only to the ACT Center, but to the Massasoit Community College community. He began his career here six years ago, in the ACT Center, and quickly became a tremendous champion for our students.

**A motion was made by Trustee Chakrabarti and seconded by Trustee Hilton Gilleo to approve tenure to Jennifer Pike, Access and Disability Resources Coordinator, Dan Vang, Academic Counselor, and Brian Schilling, Veterans Coordinator**

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Welch – yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Update on campus bookstore system wide bid results by William O'Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO

William O'Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO, reminded the Board that in 2023 we transitioned from Barnes & Noble to Follett as our bookstore vendor. Follett was a temporary solution as we jumped on a long-term bid with other higher education institutions. The bid process resulted in two vendors: Ecampus for books and UGS for branded items. These services will begin on July 1, 2025.

Presentation on Enrollment & Marketing by Jessica Correia, Executive Director of Enrollment and Alex Villanueva, Executive Director of Communications & Marketing

Jessica Correia, Executive Director of Enrollment began with reviewing the Strategic Plan & Enrollment Goal 1: Massasoit will achieve sustainable, stable enrollment comprised of diverse pools of students that reflect the demographics and needs of the region by dismantling barriers to enrollment and student success. Our enrollment Metrics goal is to increase the number of admitted applications by 10%. Our enrollment metrics: Credits and Retention is to increase the overall combined credits institutional threshold (Fall & Spring) to 100,000 credits. To dismantle barriers and to raise awareness of free college we continue to have Open House Tours in multiple languages. We identified various entry points and enrollment barriers in the admission application pipeline through registration, ongoing assessment of our practices, timelines, communications, workflows, staffing and resources. We hired interpreters for peak period enrollment cycles, which were well received by students and employees. Collaboration with Student Services and Enrollment Office, Student Life partnered with Advising and Student Central to offer extended hours to obtain a student ID and to have advisors available from Choices, Latch, and SUCCESS. Ms. Joia Souza Dacaret was elevated to Director of the Unity Center.

Alex Villanueva began by reviewing Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan: Massasoit will be known as a hub of innovation, workforce development, and leadership for the region through renovation, communication, programming, and institutional advancement. He discussed how Marketing increases awareness through out of home advertising, like billboards, and direct mail. He further shared updates to digital marketing including YouTube ads, optimizing social media ads, optimizing podcasts, etc. He shared updates on building identity and branding.

Presentation on Micro-credentials in Life Sciences Research Skills by Dr. Katie, Ruggieri, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) and Micro-credentials in Health Sciences by Dr. Catherine Powers Ozyurt, Dean of Health Sciences

Dr. Katie Ruggieri, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) presented Micro-Credential Modules in Life Sciences and how it aligns with the Strategic Plan. In Goal 1 Equity & Access; we offer a flexible hybrid format, Goal 2—Academic Innovation Industry - aligned credentials, Goal 3— regional leadership and local workforce demand; training hub, Goal 4—Community & belonging Mentorship, research, STEM identity. Goal 5— Institutional Excellence Consortium member; measurable outcomes. The background of the Massachusetts Micro-Credential Consortium is “Educational credentials (both non-credit and for-credit) that are shorter than a degree” The rationale for the modules is that there are workforce shortages in life sciences, industry-informed curriculum and a combination of hard & soft skills.

The program Design would include training—MCC faculty/staff & STEM advisory board, hybrid—online didactic & in-person practical assessments, basic laboratory skills, DNA Technology, Cell Culture, Scientific Literacy, Data Stewardship, Scientific Presenting, Professionalism, LinkedIn. The Program Advisory Board includes representatives from Bridgewater State University, UMASS Boston, Stonehill College, Thermo-Fisher, and Duke University School of Medicine. The Transformation through Renovation will allow us to have the capacity in our new Science building.

Dr. Catherine Powers-Ozyurt, Dean Health Sciences, presented on Micro credential in healthcare. She began with the quote from *Microcredentialsunleashed: Pioneering the next frontier*. “Verified skills and competencies are fast becoming “the new currency” in hiring. This shift aligns with broader workforce trends: skills-based hiring is on the rise and an estimated 40–50% of employees worldwide will require reskilling by 2025” Sullivan, C. (2024). *Microcredentialsunleashed: Pioneering the next frontier*.

Micro credentials in Phlebotomy for Medical Assisting students builds upon current medical assisting program, provides options for National additional credentials, increases employment flexibility and compensation. It serves the healthcare workforce needs for the South Shore and Greater Boston area. Microcredentials meet emerging workplace needs, provide focused skills and competencies, can be quickly adapted and added to curriculum, ability to adapt swiftly, continuously improve offerings, industry recognition. There is currently work in progress for Orthodontic in Dental Assisting microcredentials.

**A motion was made by Trustee Welch and seconded by Vice Chair Dunphy to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.**

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Welch – yes

Recording Secretary – Cori Foy

Chair – Tom Carroll