

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION MEETING
November 10, 2009

A meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held at Bunker Hill Community College at 250 New Rutherford Avenue, Charlestown, Massachusetts. The following members were present:

Dr. Charles Desmond, Chairman
Dr. Mary-Elizabeth Beach
Jeanne-Marie Boylan
James Coyle
C. Bernard Fulp

Dr. Nancy Harrington
Dr. Nancy Hoffman
Michael Mizzoni
Secretary Paul Reville
Henry Thomas, III

Absent: Dr. Mario Borunda and Mr. Louis Ricciardi. Mr. Ricciardi participated in the meeting via conference call.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Charles Desmond, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. He informed the Board that Mr. Ricciardi was participating in the meeting on speaker phone.

Dr. Mary Fifield, President of Bunker Hill Community College, was introduced as a tremendously enthusiastic president and representative for the Commonwealth's community colleges.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Chairman Desmond recommended a motion for the Board to accept the minutes of the October 6, 2009, meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

WELCOME REMARKS

Dr. Mary Fifield, President of Bunker Hill Community College, welcomed the Board to the Charlestown campus. President Fifield gave a three-part PowerPoint presentation on the goals and accomplishments of the College, the Health and Wellness Center, and on the campus' late-night classes.

President Fifield reported on the latest happenings at Bunker Hill Community College and showed local and national news clips about the Bunker Hill's late-night classes. She told the Board that these classes will be continued in the spring to meet student demand.

President Fifield also showed a "Virtual Tour of the Health and Wellness Center." The President reported that the completion of the Center is expected in January 2010, with classes expected to begin in the summer or fall 2010.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Desmond thanked welcomed Julianne Cormio, State College Representative, and Gloria Saddler, Community College Representative, to the Board.

Chairman Desmond spoke of his recent visits to public college campuses:

- North Shore Community College for the groundbreaking of the Health Professions and Student Services Building at North Shore Community College
- Bridgewater State College for the groundbreaking of the Math and Science Center

Chairman Desmond reported that the work of the Commissioner's Advisory Group on Undergraduate Education (CAGUE) has been progressing nicely and that the Group's report will be discussed at the Board's December meeting.

The Chairman also reported on the work of the Task Force on Efficiency and Collaboration. This Task Force, which has been charged with identifying changes in efficiency and savings, will produce a Phase 1 report around December 1, 2009.

COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Dr. Richard Freeland, Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education, thanked President Fifield and her colleagues for hosting today's Board meeting.

Commissioner Freeland gave the following remarks:

- He has recently completed campus visits to Berkshire, Holyoke and Bristol Community Colleges and Fitchburg State College, where he and Assistant Commissioner Nate Mackinnon have met with presidents, trustees, faculty, campus leadership, and students.
- He stated that the FY10 Fiscal picture remains uncertain. More 9C cuts, made in late October, amounted to \$62 million. There will be a \$16 million negative impact to campuses with the loss of state funding of fringe benefits associated with employees who received benefits via state appropriation. The public college and University campuses will be backfilled with ARRA funds.
- He gave a summary of the three anticipated Federal Stimulus rounds for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) spending.
- He is concerned that college students are paying more than others for health insurance because of the ways that insurance contracts have been negotiated. This issue is being investigated with the hope that the BHE can help with students' insurance cost inequities.
- He said there has been some further progress on The Vision Project. Encouragement from the Board has had the Commissioner reaching out to presidents of the state and community college leadership councils and key Legislators for feedback on The Vision Project.
- He updated the Board on recent staff changes at the DHE.

REMARKS FROM THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Mr. Paul Reville, Secretary of Education, told the Board that he is always pleased with the volume and diversity of education and ways of interesting students in education and was pleased to be visiting Bunker Hill Community College today.

Secretary Reville spoke of the administration's regret of having to make 9C cuts and how it has tried to protect higher education. He said that higher education has had a privileged place among other agencies, but protection will not be available much longer, as ARRA funds are almost drained. He told the Board that ongoing conversations with labor unions will have an impact on the final budget.

The Secretary updated the Board on current initiatives

- Massachusetts is developing a competitive proposal to apply for funding through the federal Race to the Top competition, which asks states to focus on four assurances: standards and assessments, great teachers and leaders, turnaround of the lowest achieving schools and development of data systems that measure student growth and success and inform teachers and principals about how instruction can be improved. Massachusetts is poised to receive more than \$100 million through this competition, if successful.
- On November 13, the Governor will host an event at Salem State College, celebrating the launch of six regional Readiness Centers for improving teacher quality and student learning.

Secretary Reville voiced support of Commissioner Richard Freeland's Vision Project, which assures assessment of goals. He complimented the Commissioner on his strong leadership.

REPORTS FROM PRESIDENTS

Dr. Jack Sbrega, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Community College Presidents, thanked President Fifield for hosting today's Board meeting.

Highlights of President Sbrega's report included:

- The Massachusetts' community colleges' student population has grown tremendously, with a 31 percent ten-year increase.
- The community colleges have been responding to the need for sustainability with the offering of green technology courses.
- Presidents, staff, trustees, and students have been pleased with the recent visits of Commissioner Freeland and Assistant Commissioner Nate Mackinnon.
- The 9C cuts to community college budgets will be difficult for the community colleges, but receipt of the Federal Stimulus funding has been greatly appreciated.
- Many of the community college presidents attended a recent NEBHE breakfast, where Under Secretary of Education Martha Kanter (a former community college president) was the featured guest.

Admiral Richard Gurnon, Chairman of the Executive Committee of State College Presidents, conveyed greetings from the Commonwealth's nine state colleges. He expressed appreciation for Commissioner Freeland's visits to all of the public college campuses. Chairman Gurnon also said that it is uplifting to know that there will be a plan in place for the campuses' receipt of forthcoming ARRA funds.

Admiral Gurnon continued that as capital bond funds become available, it will be important to use the money in the best ways possible. Though ARRA funds will be phased out, he assured the Board that the state colleges are prepared to continue the offering of access and quality education to its students.

MOTIONS

Dr. Nancy Harrington, Chair of the Assessment and Accountability Committee (AAC), brought forth the following consent motion. She informed the Board that on November 3 the AAC met to discuss the DHE's careful review of the following degree programs. Her recommendation for approval was seconded, and the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

AAC 10-04 APPROVAL OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE MOTIONS 10-01 THROUGH 10-03 ON A CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education approves the following motions on a consent agenda:

- AAC 10-01 Westfield State College
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- AAC 10-02 Boston Architectural College
Master of Landscape Architecture
- AAC 10-03 Endicott College
Master of Arts in Interior Design
Master of Fine Arts in Interior Design
Master of Science in Nursing

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws

Contact: Dr. Francesca Purcell, Associate Commissioner for Academic and P-16 Policy

AAC 10-01 APPLICATION OF WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE TO AWARD THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of Westfield State College to award the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Upon graduating the first class for this program, Westfield State College shall submit to the Board a status report addressing its success in reaching program goals as stated in the application and in the areas of enrollment, curriculum, faculty resources and program effectiveness.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 9(b)
Contact: Dr. Francesca Purcell, Associate Commissioner for Academic and P-16 Policy

AAC 10-02 APPLICATION OF BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE TO AWARD THE MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

MOVED: The Board hereby approves the application of Boston Architectural College to award the Master of Landscape Architecture.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.
Contact: Dr. Francesca Purcell, Associate Commissioner for Academic Policy

AAC 10-03 APPLICATION OF ENDICOTT COLLEGE TO AWARD THE MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERIOR DESIGN, MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN INTERIOR DESIGN, AND MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Articles of Amendment of Endicott College to award the Master of Arts in Interior Design, Master of Fine Arts in Interior Design, and Master of Science in Nursing.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.
Contact: Dr. Francesca Purcell, Associate Commissioner for Academic Policy

Ms. Jeanne-Marie Boylan, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy Committee (FAAP) introduced the following consent motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

FAAP 10-07 APPROVAL OF FISCAL AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS 10-02 THROUGH 10-06 ON A CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education approves the following motions on a consent agenda:

FAAP 10-02 Approval of Delegation of Authority to the Commissioner to Amend MSCBA Contract

FAAP 10-03 Approval of MSCBA Residence Hall at Framingham State College

FAAP 10-04 Approval of MSCBA Residence Hall at Massachusetts College of Art and Design

FAAP 10-05 Approval of MSCBA Student Activity Facilities
Bridgewater State College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

FAAP 10-06 Approval of MSCBA Residence Hall Renewal and Adaption

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws
Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

FAAP 10-02 APPROVAL OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE COMMISSIONER TO AMEND MSCBA CONTRACT

MOVED: Delegation of Authority to the Commissioner to amend the contract for Financial Assistance, Management and Services Between the Massachusetts State College Building Authority and the Commonwealth

The Amended and Restated Contract for Financial Assistance, Management and Services between the Massachusetts State College Building Authority and the Commonwealth, acting by and through the Board of Higher Education, is hereby approved in substantially the form presented to this meeting, and the Commissioner of Higher Education is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the same, with such changes, omissions, insertions and revisions as he may determine to be advisable, his execution thereof being conclusive as to such determination, and all other documents and instruments necessary or convenient in connection therewith and the transactions contemplated thereby.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6
Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

FAAP 10-03 APPROVAL OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY PROJECTS PERTAINING TO RESIDENCE HALLS

MOVED: Massachusetts State College Building Authority Construction of a New Residence Hall at Framingham State College

1. The Commissioner of Higher Education (the "Commissioner") is authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the Board of Higher Education (the "Board") to make a written request to the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (the "Authority") that the Authority initiate the projects described in EXHIBIT A attached hereto.
2. Bonds issued by the Authority to finance the projects for which a request is hereby authorized may be issued together with or separately from bonds issued to carry out other projects of the Authority for which the Board authorizes a request.
3. The Commissioner and all other officers of the Board, each acting singly, are authorized to request the Commissioner of Administration to approve in writing the initiation by the Authority of the projects for which a request is hereby authorized, and to do such other things and to take such other action as the officer so acting shall, as conclusively evidenced by the taking of such action, deem necessary or desirable to be done or taken to carry into effect the matters hereby authorized.
4. The Board and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board, declare their official intent under §1.150-2(d)(1) and (e) of the Treasury Regulations as follows:

The Board reasonably expects that there shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority, expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced by the Commonwealth (including within such term the Board and the State Colleges) for the projects for which a written request is hereby authorized, the maximum principal amount of such bonds expected to be issued, all or a

portion of the proceeds of which are reasonably expected to be used for such reimbursement purposes, being \$51,000,000.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6
Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

FAAP 10-04 APPROVAL OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY PROJECTS PERTAINING TO RESIDENCE HALLS

MOVED: Massachusetts State College Building Authority Construction of a New Residence Hall at Massachusetts College of Art and Design

1. The Commissioner of Higher Education (the "Commissioner") is authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the Board of Higher Education (the "Board") to make a written request to the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (the "Authority") that the Authority initiate the projects described in EXHIBIT A attached hereto.
2. Bonds issued by the Authority to finance the projects for which a request is hereby for which the Board authorizes a request.
2. The Commissioner and all other officers of the Board, each acting singly, are authorized to request the Commissioner of Administration to approve in writing the initiation by the Authority of the projects for which a request is hereby authorized, and to do such other things and to take such other action as the officer so acting shall, as conclusively evidenced by the taking of such action, deem necessary or desirable to be done or taken to carry into effect the matters hereby authorized.
3. The Board and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board, declare their official intent under §1.150-2(d)(1) and (e) of the Treasury Regulations as follows:

The Board reasonably expects that there shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority, expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced by the Commonwealth (including within such term the Board and the State Colleges) for the projects for which a written request is hereby authorized, the maximum principal amount of such bonds expected to be issued, all or a portion of the proceeds of which are reasonably expected to be used for such reimbursement purposes, being \$77,600,000.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6
Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

FAAP 10-05 APPROVAL OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY PROJECTS PERTAINING TO STUDENT ACTIVITY FACILITIES

MOVED: Massachusetts State College Building Authority Acquisition, Repair, Renovation, and Construction of Student Activity Facilities at Bridgewater State College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

1. The Commissioner of the System of Public Higher Education (the “Commissioner”) is authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the Board of Higher Education (the “Board”) to make a written request to the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (the “Authority”) that the Authority initiate the projects described in EXHIBITS A, B, and C attached hereto.
2. Bonds issued by the Authority to finance the projects for which a request is hereby authorized may be issued together with or separately from bonds issued to carry out other projects of the Authority for which the Board authorizes a request.
3. The Commissioner and all other officers of the Board, each acting singly, are authorized to request the Commissioner of Administration to approve in writing the initiation by the Authority of the projects for which a request is hereby authorized, and to do such other things and to take such other action as the officer so acting shall, as conclusively evidenced by the taking of such action, deem necessary or desirable to be done or taken to carry into effect the matters hereby authorized.
4. The Board and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board, declare their official intent under §1.150-2(d)(1) and (e) of the Treasury Regulations as follows:

The Board reasonably expects that there shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority, expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced by the Commonwealth (including within such term the Board and the State Colleges) for the projects for which a written request is hereby authorized, the maximum principal amount of such bonds expected to be issued, all or a portion of the proceeds of which are reasonably expected to be used for such reimbursement purposes, being \$7,615,000.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6
 Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

FAAP 10-06 APPROVAL OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY PROJECTS PERTAINING TO RESIDENCE HALLS

MOVED: Massachusetts State College Building Authority Residence Hall Renewal and Adaption

1. The Commissioner of Higher Education (the “Commissioner”) is authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the Board of Higher Education (the “Board”) to make a written request to the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (the “Authority”) that the Authority initiate the projects described in EXHIBIT A attached hereto.
2. Bonds issued by the Authority to finance the projects for which a request is hereby authorized may be issued together with or separately from bonds issued to carry out other projects of the Authority for which the Board authorizes a request.

3. The Commissioner and all other officers of the Board, each acting singly, are authorized to request the Commissioner of Administration to approve in writing the initiation by the Authority of the projects for which a request is hereby authorized, and to do such other things and to take such other action as the officer so acting shall, as conclusively evidenced by the taking of such action, deem necessary or desirable to be done or taken to carry into effect the matters hereby authorized.
4. The Board and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board, declare their official intent under §1.150-2(d)(1) and (e) of the Treasury Regulations as follows:

The Board reasonably expects that there shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority, expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced by the Commonwealth (including within such term the Board and the State Colleges) for the projects for which a written request is hereby authorized, the maximum principal amount of such bonds expected to be issued, all or a portion of the proceeds of which are reasonably expected to be used for such reimbursement purposes, being \$18,400,000.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6
Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

Ms. Boylan commented that the development of a FY2011 budget has required arduous work. She then introduced Commissioner Richard Freeland, who gave a presentation on the FY11 Budget Request.

Commissioner Freeland announced that FY2011 would be a difficult year. The net effect of the cuts along with the loss of Stimulus funds will be 22.5 percent, more than one-fifth of the state's budget for public higher education.

Commissioner Freeland reported that the budget would be linked to the five goals of the Vision Project to produce the best-educated citizenry and workforce in the country. It is imperative that the Commonwealth have a first-class system of public higher education. He pointed out that the DHE administrative budget was reduced 23 percent from \$2.5 million in FY09 to \$1.9 million in FY10.

A discussion among Board members followed the presentation. Mr. Thomas asked if the budget request had been submitted to the Governor. Commissioner Freeland replied that the Budget Request would be sent to the Secretary of Education.

Commissioner Freeland reminded the Board that the Task Force on Collaboration and Efficiency will soon be reporting on collaborative ways that institutions can effect cost savings. He suggested that campuses must be aggressive in looking at regional sources to achieve savings.

Chair Boylan stated that this is a difficult time for public higher education and said that she was confident that our public campuses were maximizing all of their resources.

Chair Boylan brought forth the following motion, which was seconded. Secretary Reville indicated that, because the budget was being submitted to him by the Board, he would abstain from this vote. The motion passed, with one abstention by Secretary Reville.

FAAP 10-08 APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION FY2001 BUDGET
(See attachment.)

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the attached Board of Higher Education budget Request for Fiscal Year 2011.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6

Contact: Edward Terceiro, Acting Associate Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Policy

PRESENTATION

Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Program (DCEP)

Ms. Shelley Tinkham, Director for Academic, P-16, and Veterans Policy, gave a presentation on the Department of Higher Education's Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Program (CDEP), a program that allows high school students to enroll in college-level coursework for which they may receive high school and college credit.

Projected FY2010 CDEP enrollment is 2,472 students with a projected allocation of \$750,000 to fund program development features to strengthen common procedures, implement a robust data collection system, and to evaluate and monitor outcomes. The FY2011 budget request is \$1 million.

Stafford Peat of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) joined Ms. Tinkham in offering that the CDEP has been a successful collaborative effort between the DHE and DESE. Donna DeSimone of Bunker Hill Community College, Scott Greenberg of Framingham State College, Liliana Mickle of the University of Massachusetts Boston, and W. Megan Fidler-Carey of TechBoston Academy were also on hand and offered comments of support for the CDEP.

Ms. Tinkham recommended the DHE Website, www.mass.edu/dualenrollment, to those interested in learning more about the CDEP.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Boylan offered that the Board is looking into the subject of the high cost of college student insurance,

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.