

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION MEETING
June 25, 2008

The June 25, 2008, meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held at the Campus Center at the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMB) in Boston, Massachusetts. The following members were present:

Frederick W. Clark, Jr.
Peter Alcock, Vice Chairman
Jeanne-Marie Boylan
John Brockelman

James Coyle
C. Bernard Fulp
Dr. Nancy Harrington

Absent: Henry Thomas

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 25, 2008, meeting. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

WELCOME

Dr. J. Keith Motley, Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Boston, welcomed the Board to the University of Massachusetts Boston, stating that the University is indebted to the Board for all its work to enhance higher education. He thanked the Board for its recent approval of the UMB Doctorate in Nursing and Bachelor in Science in Business Technology Programs.

While the campus is generating in excess of \$50 million per year in research revenue, Chancellor Motley recognized the need for the investment of capital funding for much-needed campus facilities.

Chancellor Motley reported that the campus has been full of vitality, as it recently celebrated its 40th commencement this year with a record number of first-generation graduates. He closed by stating that he is pleased to be part of the great public education revolution that is taking place in Massachusetts.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Frederick Clark thanked Chancellor Motley for his welcome and congratulated him on the University's new program and the success of the McCormack Institute.

Chairman Clark welcomed the Board's new Student Member, Ms. Kathryn (Kate) Quigley, a senior at Westfield State College. Both of Kate's parents are graduates of Springfield Technical Community College, and her sister will be a student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in the fall. Chairman Clark introduced Kate as a real leader and a student ambassador. Kate remarked that she is excited to be a member of the Board of Higher Education.

It was announced by Chairman Clark that Joseph Sullivan, General Counsel to the Department of Higher Education, is retiring after 40 years of service to the Commonwealth. Mr. Clark told the Board that it was an honor to work with Mr. Sullivan, a gentleman and one of the wisest men and one of the finest public servants in state government. Chairman Clark called Mr. Sullivan's wife and two children to the podium, as he read a resolution, honoring Mr. Sullivan for his outstanding service. A gift was also presented to Mr. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan graciously thanked the Board and the Department of Higher Education for the recognition and the gift bestowed today.

Chairman Clark next recognized Dr. Patricia Plummer, Commissioner of Higher Education. He spoke of her composure during a time of change, as she has worked for three Chairmen in two years. She was complimented for advancement of numerous statewide higher education and P-16 policies and practices, including the School-to-College Report, the Campus Safety and Security Symposium, the Think Again campaign, College and Career Web Portal, Mass Core Curriculum, high-school-college alignment, STEM

networks, MassTransfer, veteran-friendly campuses and Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment for students with disabilities. Further, he noted that she has played a supportive role to the Board of Higher Education, Massachusetts public higher education, and to her position as professor for approximately 20 years at Framingham State College. Chairman Clark called Dr. Laura Busick, Commissioner Plummer's daughter, to present a bouquet of roses to her mother, as Chairman Clark read the resolution written in tribute to Commissioner Plummer's commitment, dedication and advocacy to public higher education. A gift was also given to Commissioner Plummer.

Commissioner Plummer thanked the Board for the tribute. Having just attended the Governor's announcement of the Readiness Project Report, she spoke of his mentions of early assessment, tuition retention, free community college, and closing the revenue gap—all initiatives related to public higher education. She recognized the Department of Higher Education staff for their involvement in these initiatives. In closing, she said that she appreciated the opportunity to be Deputy Chancellor, Chancellor and Commissioner for the Board, and later, Department of Higher Education.

Chairman Clark announced that Dr. Plummer would remain as Commissioner until the end of August.

Chairman Clark commented that the Board's budget was satisfactory in comparison to the declining market in Massachusetts. Overall, the budget increased 5 percent and made advances in financial aid. He thanked Senator Robert O'Leary and Representative Kevin Murphy, Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, for their support in advancing the public higher education budget. He also reported that the Capital Bond Bill passed through the Bonding Committee. If approved, the state and community colleges would expect to receive \$1.1 billion for capital efforts and represents the largest bonding initiative in Massachusetts' history.

On the search for a Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education, Chairman Clark stated that the search will be extended into early fall.

Chairman Clark told the group that he had attended Governor Deval Patrick's Readiness Initiative Report's press conference earlier in the day and listened carefully to the recommendations enumerated by the Governor in the Report. Many of the recommendations are BHE initiatives: tuition retention, free community college, closing the revenue gap, and early assessment—all recognized as important by the Readiness Committee and the Governor.

COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Commissioner Plummer reported that over 350 people were attending the Campus Safety and Security Symposium, taking place within the Campus Center at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Representatives from the state's public and many of the private colleges were in attendance to hear national experts speak on the subject of campus safety and security.

She recognized in the audience the following: Representative Christopher Donelan, Presidents Paul Raverta of Berkshire Community College, John Sbrega of Bristol Community College, Kathleen Schatzberg of Cape Cod Community College, Robert Antonucci of Fitchburg State College, Timothy Flanagan of Framingham State College, Mary Grant of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Carole Berotte Joseph of Massachusetts Bay Community College, Charles Wall of Massasoit Community College, Wayne Burton of North Shore Community College, David Hartleb of Northern Essex Community College, and Terrence Gomes of Roxbury Community College. Ms. Jan Motta and William Hart of the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office, Kenneth Lemanski of the State College Council of Presidents, and Dr. Patricia Markunas, past President of the Massachusetts State College Association were also present.

REPORTS FROM PRESIDENTS

Dr. Robert Antonucci, Chair of the State College Council of Presidents, told the Board that the state college presidents strongly support the acceptance of the Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group (CTAG) Report, with the next step of having the Report reviewed in accordance with the governance procedures contained in

the faculty contract. He thanked Representative Donelan for his leadership and assured him that the state colleges will follow through on the Report's recommendations.

Dr. Antonucci stated that:

- it is the state college presidents' plan to reach agreement with the Massachusetts Teachers Association by the beginning of the new academic year.
- it is the hope of the state college presidents to have a new bond bill in place soon to facilitate the construction of new campus buildings to benefit students.
- representing the state college presidents, he thanked Dr. Plummer for her work on behalf of the state colleges.
- he recognized, on the occasion of his retirement, Joseph Sullivan, Esquire, as a true professional, and he thanked him for his dedicated service.
- he will continue as Chair of the Council of Presidents in AY2009.

Dr. Antonucci thanked President Terrence Gomes for his cooperation with the Council of Presidents over the past academic year.

Dr. Terrence Gomes, Chair of the Executive Committee of Community College Presidents, thanked Commissioner Plummer for her advocacy and support this year. He also thanked Joseph Sullivan, whom he acknowledged was always a tremendous resource. Dr. Gomes wished both well in their future endeavors.

Dr. Gomes told the Board that the community college presidents are pleased with the CTAG Report and endorse the new transfer process. He said that the CTAG Committee has done an extraordinary job in its writing of the Report.

On the Capital Bond Bill, Dr. Gomes offered that the community college presidents will be diligent in expediting the passage of this bill. On the subject of faculty salaries, Dr. Gomes said that the community college presidents are supportive of the salary issue. Their work with the DHE on faculty salaries has given them reason for hope of progressive advancement on this matter.

Dr. Gomes announced that Dr. Charles Wall, President of Massasoit Community College, will assume the Chairmanship of the Executive Committee of Community College Presidents for AY2009.

MOTIONS

Chairman Clark stated that John Brockelman has chaired the Assessment and Accountability Committee for many years and has served in an outstanding manner. His term is completed in September.

Representative Christopher Donelan, a member of the Joint Committee of Higher Education, and Dr. Francesca Purcell, Director for Academic Policy, have co-chaired the Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group. Chairman Clark recognized them and other Advisory Group members for their excellent work in developing the *Final Report from the Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group (CTAG)*, which will be presented to the Board for acceptance today.

Chairman Clark emphasized the two major goals of the Advisory Group—that *MassTransfer* provide:

1. community college students who complete designated associate degrees with the benefits of the full transfer and applicability of credit, guaranteed admission, and a tuition discount (each benefit based on the student's final grade point average) linked to baccalaureate programs and
2. any student in the Massachusetts public higher education system the intermediate goal of completing a portable general education transfer block that satisfies general education requirements across institutions.

As acknowledged in Number 3 of the Governor's Readiness Plan, the goal will allow students to transfer credits more easily among public higher education institutions.

Chairman Clark continued that the Report is one of the most important achievements of the year for the Board, as it identifies how Massachusetts public higher education operates as a system. He added that the interest of the Legislature and the General Court has been instrumental in completing this document. Chairman Clark expressed his thanks to Representative Donelan, Dr. Purcell, and the Transfer Advisory Group.

Chairman Clark introduced Representative Donelan, who, as a graduate of Westfield State College, congratulated Kathryn Quigley, a student at Westfield State College, on her appointment as Student Board Member. He also thanked Dr. Purcell and other members of the Advisory Group, whom he described as being "passionate about public higher education." Representative Donelan also thanked Speaker Salvatore DiMasi. He told the Board that last year he filed a bill on college transfer and was pleased that follow-through led to the commission of the Report. He commented that this Report proves that we are a system in more than name. It proves that we operate as a system of public higher education. Representative Donelan continued that this Report will increase communications and provide more opportunity for our students. He suggested that Massachusetts can become a national leader in transfer, because our program is the best. He told the Board that he was proud of the Report and asked that it be approved by the Board today. Representative Donelan said that it was a pleasure to work with the BHE, DHE, and Commissioner Plummer and that work will continue on the Report's recommendations.

Vice Chairman Peter Alcock praised Representative Donelan for his dedication and leadership. Dr. Nancy Harrington congratulated the Advisory Group for their work on the Report. She said that she found this Report, which she expressed was long overdue, to be one of the soundest ever to be released by the Board of Higher Education. Ms. Jeanne-Marie Boylan added that the Report is a very important work (on a very complex subject) for public higher education students.

John Brockelman, Chairman of the Assessment and Accountability Committee, introduced the following motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

AAC 08-18 ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL REPORT FROM THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSFER ADVISORY GROUP

MOVED: In accordance with applicable provisions of General Laws, Chapter 15A, Sections 6 and 9(v), the Board of Higher Education hereby accepts the *Final Report from the Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group* and directs the Commissioner to implement the MassTransfer policy and recommendations contained in the Report.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6 and 9(v)
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

John Brockelman brought forth the following consent agenda, advising the Board that all motions had been reviewed at a recent Assessment and Accountability meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

AAC 08-23 APPROVAL OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE COMMONWEALTH HONORS PROGRAM MOTIONS, AAC 08-19 THROUGH AAC 08-22, ON A CONSENT AGENDA

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

AAC 08-19 Renewal of Bristol Community College Membership in the Commonwealth Honors Program

AAC 08-20 Renewal of Holyoke Community College Membership in the Commonwealth Honors Program

AAC 08-21 Renewal of Springfield Technical Community College Membership in the Commonwealth Honors Program

AAC 08-22 Renewal of University of Massachusetts Membership in the Commonwealth Honors Program

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

AAC 08-19 RENEWAL OF BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMONWEALTH HONORS PROGRAM

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education accepts the report of the Commonwealth Honors Program Executive Committee and renews the membership of Bristol Community College in the Commonwealth Honors Program for six years, effective June 25, 2008.

Authority: Commonwealth Honors Program Approval Process Guidelines as Revised by the Board of Higher Education in November 2006.
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

AAC 08-20 RENEWAL OF HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMONWEALTH HONORS PROGRAM

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education accepts the report of the Commonwealth Honors Program Executive Committee and renews the membership of Holyoke Community College in the Commonwealth Honors Program for six years, effective June 25, 2008.

Authority: Commonwealth Honors Program Approval Process Guidelines as Revised by the Board of Higher Education in November 2006.
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

AAC 08-21 RENEWAL OF SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMONWEALTH HONORS PROGRAM

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education accepts the report of the Commonwealth Honors Program Executive Committee and renews the membership of Springfield Technical Community College in the Commonwealth Honors Program for six years, effective June 25, 2008.

Authority: Commonwealth Honors Program Approval Process Guidelines as Revised by the Board of Higher Education in November 2006.
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

AAC 08-22 RENEWAL OF UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMONWEALTH HONORS PROGRAM

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education accepts the report of the Commonwealth Honors Program Executive Committee and renews the membership of University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in the Commonwealth Honors Program for six years, effective June 25, 2008.

Authority: Commonwealth Honors Program Approval Process Guidelines as Revised by the Board of Higher Education in November 2006.
Contact: Dr. Francesca B. Purcell, Director of Academic Policy

Chairman Brockelman presented the following consent agenda motion. All higher education institution programs received outside review, and the Assessment and Accountability Committee recommended approval. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

AAC 08-31 APPROVAL OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE NEW ACADEMIC MOTIONS, AAC 08-24 THROUGH AAC 08-30, ON A CONSENT AGENDA

- MOVED:** AAC 08-24 Bunker Hill Community College:
Associate in Science in Clinical Laboratory Science
- AAC 08-25 Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts:
Bachelor of Arts in Art
- AAC 08-26 Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts:
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Policy
- AAC 08-27 Westfield State College:
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
- AAC 08-28 Fisher College:
Bachelor of Science in Human Services
Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Media Studies
- AAC 08-29 New England College of Finance:
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Business Ethics and Compliance
- AAC 08-30 Zion Bible College:
Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies
One-Year Certificate in Biblical Studies

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws
Contact: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-24 BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of Bunker Hill Community College to award the Associate in Science in Clinical Laboratory Science.

Upon graduating the first class for this program, Bunker Hill Community College shall submit to the Department 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: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-25 MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS:
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ART**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts to award the Bachelor of Arts in Art.
One year after graduating the program's first class, the institution 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: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-26 MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS:
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of **Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts** to award the **Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Policy**.

One year after graduating the program's first class, the institution 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: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-27 WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE:
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMISTRY**

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

Upon graduating the first class for this program, Westfield State shall submit to the Department of 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: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-28 FISHER COLLEGE:
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN SERVICES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of Fisher College to award the Bachelor of Science in Human Services and the Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Media Studies.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.
Contact: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**AAC 08-29 NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF FINANCE:
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
MASTER OF BUSINESS ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Articles of Amendment of New England College of Finance, LLC, to award the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Master of Science in Finance, and Master of Science in Business Ethics and Compliance.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.
Contact: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

**BHE 08-30 ZION BIBLE COLLEGE
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL STUDIES
ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE IN BIBLICAL STUDIES**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Articles of Organization of Zion Bible College to award the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and the One-Year Certificate in Biblical Studies.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.
Contact: Aundrea Kelley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Policy

Ms. Jeanne-Marie Boylan, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy Committee, introduced the following motion. She explained that the attached letter agreement is a collaborative effort among Framingham State College, the Massachusetts State College Building Authority and the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management to provide funding and services to construct a new residence hall and to renovate Crocker Hall for academic purposes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**FAAP 08-28 FRAMINGHAM STATE COLLEGE:
APPROVAL OF LETTER AGREEMENT**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby accepts the attached letter agreement between Framingham State College, the Massachusetts State College Building Authority and the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 9
Contact: Dr. Clantha McCurdy, Vice Chancellor for Student Financial Assistance

After the vote, Chair Boylan thanked Dr. Dale Hamel, Vice President of Administration, Finance, and Institutional Advancement, for providing assistance to the Board during the past several months. Chair Boylan announced that Haley Glover, Associate Director of Fiscal and Administrative Policy, will be leaving the Department on July 11, 2008, and moving to Indiana to become Associate Commissioner for Facilities and Financial Affairs at the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

Chairman Clark introduced Peter H. Tsaffaras, Director of Employee Resources and Benefit Administration at the DHE, and thanked Commissioner Plummer for her leadership in the creation of the Campus Violence Prevention Report. Panelists, who appeared at this morning's *Second Annual Campus Safety Symposium*, were introduced: Daniel O'Neill, President and CEO of Applied Risk Management (ARM); David Baty, Chief Operating Officer and President of International Operations of Applied Risk Management; Dr. James Alan Fox, The Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice and Professor of Law, Policy and Society at Northeastern University; Dr. Roger Depue, Forensic Behavioral Scientist-Founder of The Academy Group, Inc.; and Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Professor of Psychology and Director of Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater State College.

Mr. Tsaffaras explained that the first symposium, held last June, was co-sponsored with the Executive Department of Public Safety and the Executive Department of Mental Health. This year, even more public and private campuses are involved than last year. He further explained that the campus presidents must be informed of the major issues that campuses need to address. ARM has worked with each campus to determine the best practices for each. The presentation of the *Report* is just the first step of campus violence prevention, prompting Mr. Fulp to ask, "Who is responsible for the next steps?" Chairman Clark replied that the state secretaries involved with the *Report* will be responsible with assistance from the Crime Prevention Task Force, which will continue meetings and discussions. Dr. Fox added that students must be included in the decision-

making process. Students, he said, often provide critical perspectives that must be considered. Mr. Fulp said that it was important to include input from parents of students and members of the community, too.

Chairman Clark asked, from an accountability perspective, what the campuses will be doing to prevent and to respond to violence. Mr. Tsaffaras advised that Section 4 of the *Report* suggested 27 recommendations. First, however, the public campus presidents must be made aware of the major issues at each campus. From there, the recommendations can be customized to meet the needs of each campus. The Department of Higher Education, the Commonwealth's Secretaries of the Executive Office of Mental Health and the Executive Office of Public Safety and the Attorney General will continue to work on crime prevention.

Mr. David Baty was called to deliver a PowerPoint presentation, which provided an overview of activities leading to the creation of the *Campus Violence Prevention and Response: Best Practices for Massachusetts Higher Education*. It was revealed that among the public higher education campuses, 72.4 percent responded to ARM's request for crime data, 86 percent replied to ARM's survey, and estimate of 90 percent of the total student population was represented, and five public higher education campuses were visited.

Mr. Baty told the Board that serious violence at campuses across the United States and in Massachusetts is remarkably low. In creation of the *Report*, among the public college and University campuses, 72.4 percent responded to ARM's request for crime data, 86 percent replied to ARM's survey, and an estimated 90 percent of the total student population was represented; five colleges were visited.

ARM suggested best practices for campus use:

1. Create an all-hazard Emergency Response Plan (ERP).
2. Adopt an emergency mass notification and communications system (systems and training).
3. Establish a multidisciplinary team to respond to threats and other dangerous behaviors (Threat Assessment Team).
4. Review and train personnel regarding privacy/information sharing laws and policies, such as FERPA and HIPAA.
5. Have a memo of understanding with local agencies and other key partners in the community.
6. Practice emergency plans and conduct training
7. Educate and train students, faculty, and staff about mass notification systems and their role and responsibility in an emergency.
8. Educate faculty, staff, and students about recognizing and responding to signs of mental illness and other potential threats.
9. Conduct risk and vulnerability assessments.
10. Have an interoperable communication system with all area responders.
11. Ensure that all responder agencies are trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS).

One of the major problems reported by 90 percent of the campuses is the increase of students with severe psychiatric problems in recent years.

ARM's survey results report that 100 percent of public higher education campuses in Massachusetts have an ERP, 100 percent have a mass notification system, and 83 percent have on-campus mental health services.

Some best practices need to be increased at public higher education campuses, as

- 65 percent have Threat Assessment Teams.
- 52 percent have conducted active shooter training
- 54 percent do not have CCTV.
- 50 percent have non-interoperable communications equipment.

Responses from campuses that drove ARM's recommendations included:

- 88 percent have not conducted vulnerability assessments.
- 81 percent do not submit violent writings to experts for review.

- 70 percent do not train faculty, staff and students on how to recognize signs of risk and violence.
- 66 percent do not have armed police.
- 65 percent do not have trained trauma response teams.

Mr. Baty concluded his presentation by suggesting that security entails costs that must be considered, weighed, and balanced among each campus' individual security needs.

A question-and-answer period followed, with principal contributors of the *Report* involved in the conversation.

- Mr. Alcock asked if the public colleges had a program to assure that responders are trained properly in dealing with students with mental health issues.
- President Nancy Harrington commented that the *Report* was thorough, and she was pleased that it encouraged collaboration and dialogue. She added that it is important that the campuses need to react very quickly to the *Report's* recommendation. She urged that the next steps be defined quickly.

The answer-and-question session continued with Drs. Englander and Fox joining the discussion.

Dr. Plummer commended the authors of the *Report*, calling them the "Dream Team." She stated that the Board's involvement stems from a request from the Governor for the Board of Higher Education to take a leadership role with the Departments of Public Safety, Public Health and Mental Health. She predicted that the work toward establishing sound security policy will be recognized nationally. She thanked everyone for the hard work required in producing this *Report* and for the continued follow-up work going forward.

Chairman Clark suggested that the issue of campus violence prevention and response should be discussed again at our October Board meeting. In the meantime, the results received today will have been analyzed.

Ms. Boylan added that the Board should formally report this information to the campus personnel, notifying them that they shall be held accountable for campus violence prevention and response. Chairman Clark agreed that communications to the campuses should be sent immediately.

Dr. Fox suggested again that each recommendation must be viewed individually. There are some campuses that will need to implement three or four recommendations, while other campuses may need to implement many more. Chairman Clark reiterated the "one size does not fit all" approach, which each campus having specific needs.

The following motion, introduced by Chairman Clark, was seconded and approved unanimously.

BHE 08-15 ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPUS VIOLENCE PREVENTION REPORT

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby accepts the Campus Violence Prevention and Response: Best Practices for Massachusetts Higher Education Report, dated June 2008, as prepared by Applied Risk Management (ARM), LLD.

Authority: Chapter 61 of the Acts of 2007

Contact: Peter H. Tsaffaras, Director of Employee Relations and Benefit Administration

Vice Chairman Alcock brought forth the following motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

BHE 08-16 APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN HOUSING ALLOWANCE FOR PRESIDENT GAIL CARBERRY

MOVED: Notwithstanding the provisions of any policy, rule, or regulation to the contrary and after consideration and review of the request from the Board of Trustees of Quinsigamond Community College, dated October 10, 2007, the Board of Higher Education authorizes and approves an increase in the housing allowance for Dr. Gail Carberry to \$18,000 per year. Said increase shall become effective as of July 1, 2008.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 9 (q)
Contact: Peter H. Tsaffaras, Director of Employee Relations and Benefit Administration

Chairman Clark introduced the following motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

BHE 08-17 RATIFICATION OF BHE 08-14—RECEIPT OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF STATE COLLEGES BUSINESS PROGRAMS FROM THE STATE COLLEGE COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education ratifies the April 25, 2008, Board vote, BHE 08-14, which received the summary report of the Review of State College Business Programs.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 9
Contact: Joseph Sullivan, General Counsel

Chairman Clark introduced the following motion, informing Board members that Board assignments will remain the same as last year, with one exception: Dr. Nancy Harrington will replace John Brockelman as Chair of the Assessment and Accountability Committee. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

BHE 08-18 APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education approves Chairman Frederick W. Clark's appointment of Dr. Nancy Harrington as the Chair of the Assessment and Accountability Committee of the Board of Higher Education. Such appointment should become effective as of July 1, 2008.

Authority: Article I, Section 3(d) of the by-laws of the Board of Higher Education
Contact: Frederick W. Clark, Jr., Chairman, Board of Higher Education

Chairman Clark offered the following motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

BHE 08-19 DELEGATION OF SUMMER AUTHORITY TO THE COMMISSIONER

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education delegates to the Commissioner until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, in consultation with and upon the advice of the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Board, its authority to take such action as is deemed necessary or desirable.

Authority: Massachusetts General Law Chapter 15A, Section 6
Contact: Joseph Sullivan, General Counsel

DEGREES CONFERRED PRESENTATION

Dr. Jonathan Keller, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Planning, thanked Commissioner Plummer for her leadership at the Department of Higher Education and wished her well in her new endeavors. He also thanked Joseph Sullivan for his wise counsel.

Dr. Keller proceeded to deliver a PowerPoint presentation on what he described as the Board's contribution to the state's workforce effort, "*A Report on Degrees Conferred.*" The *Report* included data on:

1. Degrees conferred from the Massachusetts public colleges and the University of Massachusetts
2. Degrees conferred by gender and race/ethnicity
3. Certificates, associate, bachelor, master, and doctoral level
4. Discipline areas/academic fields

5. Focus on degrees conferred in STEM and health fields
6. Six-year trend analysis

Highlights of the *Report* were reviewed:

1. In FY2007, Massachusetts public institutions of higher education conferred more than 30,000 degrees and certificates.
2. Approximately half were conferred at the baccalaureate level (About 26% were associate, degrees, 17% were graduate-level degrees, and 10% were certificates.)
3. The most common degrees were in the areas of health, education, liberal arts, business, psychology, and public safety.
4. The overall number of degrees conferred has increased steadily over the past six years.
5. Approximately 85% of Massachusetts public college and University graduates stay in Massachusetts.

Dr. Keller reported that the entire presentation will be available on the Board's Web site for further review.

At 3:25 p.m., Dr. Harrington left the meeting.

UPDATE ON STUDENT LOAN SITUATION

Chairman Clark introduced Dr. Clantha McCurdy, Associate Vice Chancellor of the Office of Student Financial Assistance. Joining her at the table was Paul Combe, President and Chief Executive Officer of American Student Assistance (ASA), who updated the Board on the current status of student financial assistance in Massachusetts. He began his presentation by informing the Board that the student loan situation has improved from a "crisis" to an "issues-based" situation.

The American Student Assistance Corporation is not a lender but assumes the role of helping borrowers manage their debt and acts as a higher education loan guarantor. Their focus is on providing borrowers the support they need to finance and repay their student loans.

As ASA maintains its position of lender of last resort, students are not in danger of not receiving loans. ASA is the designated administrator of the Federal Family Education Loan Program in Massachusetts and the District of Columbia, and services are in place to originate and disburse loans. Mr. Combe stressed that it is most important that lenders receive their information from reliable sources and knowing that the federal student loan programs remain strong.

Federal Family Education Loans, guaranteed by the federal government and offered by approximately 2,000 private lenders, are still generally available. These loans remain reliable in that built-in contingencies provide stability in fluctuating market conditions. Federal Direct Loans, which provide funds directly from the U.S. Treasury, are also available.

Mr. Combe reported that, simply stated, the funds are available. He stressed that qualified students are eligible for loans, but it is important for students to connect with the financial aid officer at the higher institution they wish to attend.

Ms. Boylan inquired about the rates of the student loans. Mr. Combe reported that the federal loan rates have been lowered, but the credit requirements for parents are higher.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Christopher J. (CJ) O'Donnell, new President of the MSCA, addressed the Board on the urgency of approval of a new contract, as the current contract expires on June 30, 2008. He said that negotiations have been ongoing since February, and his membership does not want to start the new academic year without a contract. He acknowledged the intervention of Secretary Reville, Chairman Clark, and President Antonucci and expressed hope that a contract would be completed soon.

OPEN FORUM

Chairman Clark invited remarks from the audience, but there were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kate Quigley called for the adjournment of the meeting at 4:02 p.m. Her call to adjourn was seconded and approved unanimously.