

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

December 11, 2012
9 a.m.

Massachusetts Bay Community College
Library Atrium
50 Oakland Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts

Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held at Massachusetts Bay Community College (MBCC) in Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts.

The following Board members were present:

Charles Desmond, Chair
Louis Ricciardi, Vice Chair
Saeyun Lee, Designee of Paul Reville, Secretary of Education
David Barron
Jeanne-Marie Boylan
Gianni Falzone
C. Bernard Fulp
Nancy Hoffman
Keith Peden
Fernando Reimers
Henry Thomas
David Chapin (Segmental Advisor)

The following Board members were absent:

Paul Toner

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Desmond called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and invited MBCC President John O'Donnell to offer greetings.

II. WELCOME

President O'Donnell welcomed the Board to campus and began his remarks by referencing a question brought up at the last board meeting regarding how the Vision Project translates from public policy statement to campus implementation. To answer that question, he described the demographics of MBCC's student population, the geographic reach of MBCC, and the economic impact of MBCC on the region. He also introduced key people at MBCC who represent the many staff and faculty whose work helps to maintain the quality of education provided which, President O'Donnell noted, is particularly important during a time of growth.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Chair Desmond brought forth a motion to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2012, BHE Meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously by all Board members present.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chair Desmond asked the BHE members to introduce themselves. He then read aloud a proclamation for Jeanne-Marie Boylan whose term on the Board is coming to a close. Jeanne-Marie thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the students of the Commonwealth. Chair Desmond announced Bernie Fulp as the new chair of the FAAP committee. He then thanked President O'Donnell for hosting today's meeting and for introducing the Board to members of his staff.

Chair Desmond went on to discuss a pilot project taking place the week of December 17th (National College Application Week) during which Department of Higher Education (DHE) GEAR UP staff will partner with the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) in assisting students with the college application process. He also noted that the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is accepting applications for the Massachusetts High Demand Scholarship program, and that it is partnering with MEFA to provide financial aid training for high school guidance counselors across the state.

Chair Desmond concluded his remarks and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Freeland.

V. COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Commissioner Freeland thanked President O'Donnell for hosting the meeting today and welcomed Francesca Purcell, a former DHE staff member who is now MBCC Provost, to the meeting. He then acknowledged the presidents in attendance who would not be delivering remarks: Berkshire Community College President Ellen Kennedy and North Shore Community College President Wayne Burton. He also noted that Bill Hart, Executive Officer for the Community College Council of Presidents and Vincent Pedone, Executive Officer for the State University Council of Presidents, were both in attendance.

Commissioner Freeland also thanked Jeanne-Marie Boylan for her service. He noted that Steve Lenhardt retired from the DHE at the end of November and that the search for the Chief Financial Officer is on-going. He also introduced Rachel Trant, who will be serving as an interim Director at DHE and is on loan from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). He also noted that the Roxbury Community College (RCC) presidential search is on-going and that DHE Assistant Commissioner Nate Mackinnon is the voting member representing the BHE. DHE Deputy Commissioner for P-16 Policy and Collaborative Initiatives Aundrea Kelley will be the voting member representing the BHE on the Bunker Hill Community College presidential search.

Commissioner Freeland went on to note that Governor Patrick has made mid-year budget cuts, \$5 million of which are to be incurred by the DHE. He remarked that state revenues have not been coming in as projected and that Governor Patrick has imposed a hiring freeze, but expressed confidence that filling several DHE key positions, which are tied to the successful implementation of new FY13 Budget initiatives, will be a priority for the Governor.

Commissioner Freeland reported on the various groups across the state with which he has been sharing the Vision Project, *Time to Lead* report. Among them are: Affiliated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM), the LaWare Forum, and the North Shore Community College Strategic Planning Task Force. He is also scheduled to present to the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. He noted as well that Christine Williams has recently been hired by the DHE as the Associate Director of Workforce Training Economic and Workforce Development.

Commissioner Freeland added that each community college now has a gubernatorially-appointed Board of Trustees Chair and that, at a recent meeting attended by both himself and Jeanne-Marie Boylan, the Governor met with them all. The group discussed the Office of Trustee Relations, the high-demand scholarship program, the Performance Incentive Fund (and establishing the course equivalency program which is a condition of the PIF), and the development of a new funding formula for community colleges.

With regard to Vision Project work, Commissioner Freeland noted that a report from the Math Developmental Education Task Force is forthcoming. He added that Board member Nancy Hoffman is taking a team to the Complete College America meeting and that the Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment (AMCOA) work is going well under Peggy Maki's leadership. Likewise, he added, the Multistate Collaborative on system-level learning outcomes is coming along. Pennsylvania, Oregon, Minnesota, and Kentucky will work with Massachusetts to develop a system-level learning outcomes program to compare students. Missouri, Connecticut, Rhode Island are in discussions on the topic and Indiana is a possibility. Lastly, he added that the @scale Project Initiative is moving forward under David Cedrone's leadership.

VI. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION'S REMARKS

List of Documents Submitted by the Secretary of Education:

None submitted.

Dr. Saeyun Lee delivered remarks on behalf of Secretary Reville. She thanked President O'Donnell for hosting today's meeting and for also introducing the BHE to members of his team at MBCC. She commented on the Governor's recent budget adjustments noting that they were a proactive measure as the revenues were not coming in at the same levels projected when the FY13 Budget was created. Dr. Lee commented on the new Community College Funding Formula, and thanked everyone who worked incredibly hard on this new approach to funding public higher education in Massachusetts. She also discussed the Governor's statement in November regarding young immigrants, noting that the Governor's announcement aligned existing BHE policy on in-state tuition with President Obama's new Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy. As long as students meet the current in-state residency requirements and the new federal guidelines, they are eligible for in-state tuition. She expressed thanks to Commissioner Freeland for his leadership nationally on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) initiative. She also noted Secretary Duncan's educator preparation statement, highlighting that it is his second term priority. Lastly, Dr. Lee offered congratulations to Jeanne-Marie Boylan for her service.

Chair Desmond then invited Holyoke Community College President William Messner and Massachusetts College of Art and Design President Dawn Barrett to deliver reports from the Community College and State University Councils of Presidents, respectively.

VII. REPORTS FROM PRESIDENTS

A. Community College Presidents' Report - President William Messner, Holyoke Community College

List of Documents Submitted by President Messner:

None submitted.

President Messner delivered remarks on behalf of the Community College Council of Presidents. He first extended thanks to Jeanne-Marie Boylan for her service. He noted that in the area of workforce development, the Department of Labor invited the Massachusetts Community College Council of Presidents to Florida to present, as a best practice, their experience with the \$20 million U.S. Department of Labor grant which was awarded collectively to all fifteen Community Colleges. He also discussed the Massachusetts Gaming Commission's Memorandum of Agreement with Massachusetts Casino Careers Institute to develop a workforce plan for the casino industry to fill the 10,000 jobs to be generated by 3 casinos. With regard to the budget, he expressed the support of the fifteen presidents for the FY14 Budget Request stressing two important considerations: full funding of the collective bargaining agreements and the Community College Funding Formula. He noted that the community college presidents have been pressing for this for years. The lack of a funding formula for years is a concern for the presidents because correcting 10 to 15 years of enrollment swings at one time could cause institutions to lose (or gain) a significant amount of funding. An equivalency fund in the amount of \$5.2 million will prevent that, but it will be hard to come by. Accordingly, the Community College Presidents suggest that the BHE advocate for it as they go into this budget session.

Chair Desmond thanked President Messner for this report and invited President Barrett to make her remarks.

B. State University Presidents' Report – Massachusetts College of Art and Design President Dawn Barrett, designee for State University Council of Presidents Chair and Westfield State University President Evan Dobelle

List of Documents Submitted by President Barrett:

None submitted.

President Barrett presented on behalf of the State University Council of Presidents. She thanked Jeanne-Marie Boylan for her service. President Barrett noted the opening of the new MassArt residence hall and the beginning of the new design and media center. She discussed financial aid needs and the new state university internship program, noting that this program relates to both workforce development and civic engagement.

Chair Desmond thanked President Barrett for this report and invited student BHE member Gianni Falzone to deliver remarks on behalf of the Student Advisory Council.

X. REPORT FROM STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

List of Documents Submitted by Mr. Gianni Falzone:

None submitted.

Gianni Falzone delivered remarks on behalf of the Student Advisory Council. He expressed thanks to MBCC President O'Donnell and to Jeanne-Marie Boylan. He commented on a recent Go Public event which he attended and he provided highlights from last week's Student Advisory Council Meeting which involved planning for the next Student Leadership Conference; discussion of the Community College Funding Formula (the students felt that the stop loss was important); and the internship program which is also seen as an important initiative. The Council is composing their letter to the Governor and will deliver it in mid-January. He noted that the Council is interested in PARCC and would like more information; he added that he look forward to today's PARCC presentation.

Chair Desmond thanked Mr. Falzone for his remarks and added that private industry such as the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership is involved in the internship program as well. Chair Desmond turned to Dr. Hoffman for an account of the Academic Affairs Committee meeting.

XI. MOTIONS

A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

List of Documents Used:

AAC Motions 13-12 through 13-15

Dr. Hoffman reviewed the activities of the December 4th Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) meeting. She noted that the Committee reviewed and approved the applications of two new degree programs, and approved the renewal application of a criminal justice program under the BHE's Guidelines for Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Academic Programs.

Dr. Hoffman stated that DHE staff also gave a very informative presentation on the degree granting approval process, which led to a discussion of the BHE's role in approving distance learning programs and overseeing for-profit institutions. Chair Desmond added that concerns were expressed regarding the proliferation of distance learning programs, which is challenging state regulators across the country to review their approaches which were primarily designed to address the "brick and mortar" delivery model of higher education. David Barron added that distance learning programs, which are typically conducted by out of state institutions and often have no physical on the ground component, have posed both the jurisdiction and the administrative capacity issues for state regulators and authorizing agencies. He noted that these issues dovetail with recent developments involving for-profit institutions—a major provider of online education-- and consumer protection concerns. While we do not know the scope of the consumer protection problems, we do know that the issues have taken a lot of different forms, such as high default rates, low graduation rates and questionable recruitment practices. Fernando Reimers added that online education, which includes hybrid models, is a growing area of opportunity for higher education, but the BHE's regulations, particularly as they relate to jurisdictional issues and requirements of physical presence, are old and may be disincentivizing institutions from getting BHE approval and doing the right thing.

Chair Desmond stated that to address this issue he is forming a BHE Task Force which will be charged with exploring: 1) the issues and challenges presented by the for-profit industry, within the context of the BHE's consumer protection role; and 2) jurisdictional issues posed by the online education delivery model offered by out-of-state institutions, based on the BHE's current statutory and regulatory framework. He appointed David Barron, Fernando Reimers, Aundrea Kelly, Dena Papanikolaou and Shelley Tinkham as members of the Task Force, and asked Mr. Barron to serve as Chair of the Task Force. Chair Desmond asked that the Task Force develop

and present recommendations to the BHE on how to strengthen the BHE's existing policies, procedures and regulations in this area and to report back to the BHE by the June 2013 meeting. In formulating their recommendations, Chair Desmond asked the members of the Task Force to pursue a balanced approach which would try to address any gaps or ambiguities in the BHE's consumer protection and jurisdictional oversight functions, while acknowledging the value that for-profit and online programs have added and can add to higher education, including expanding access to quality programs through non-traditional delivery models. BHE student member, Gianni Falzone, and Segmental Advisor David Chapin asked if they could also be on the Task Force and Chair Desmond agreed, and noted that these will be open meetings and any BHE member is welcome to attend and participate.

Chair Desmond then turned to Dr. Hoffman and asked her to present the AAC motions. Dr. Hoffman brought forth the following motion. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously by all Board members present.

AAC 13-12 APPLICATION OF FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY TO AWARD THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GAME DESIGN

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the application of **Fitchburg State University** to award the **Bachelor of Science in Game Design**

Upon graduating the first class for these programs, the University 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, Deputy Commissioner for P-16 Policy and Collaborative Initiatives

Dr. Hoffman then brought forth the following motion. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously by all Board members present.

AAC 13-13 APPLICATION OF GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY TO AWARD THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

MOVED: The Board hereby approves the Certificates of Organization of **Georgetown University** to offer the **Master of Science in Nursing**.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 69, Section 30 et seq.

Contact: Dr. Shelley Tinkham, Assistant Commissioner for Academic, P-16 and Veterans Policy

Dr. Hoffman then brought forth the following motion. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously by all Board members present.

AAC 13-14 APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS UNDER THE GUIDELINES FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education approves the **Dean College Associate in Science in Criminal Justice program** under the *Guidelines for Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Academic Programs*. The program has been found to meet or exceed all quality standards established by the *Guidelines*.

As required in the Guidelines, each institution shall submit two copies, including one electronic copy, of a report to the Board annually, certifying that each program is being maintained and operated within the provisions and spirit of the criteria and guidelines set forth by the *Guidelines*.

Authority: Chapter 41, Section 108L (as amended)

Contact: Aundrea Kelley, Deputy Commissioner for P16 Policy and Collaborative Initiatives

Dr. Hoffman then brought forth the following motion, and added that the Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development Plan is a very important document which signals the Board's commitment to developing and implementing a comprehensive plan to address nursing and allied health workforce development. Dr. Hoffman noted that the AAC modified the original motion, and the edits are reflected in AAC 13-15, as presented in today's materials. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously by all Board members present.

AAC 13-15 NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education (the "Board") applauds and endorses the Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development Plan, as presented by the Department of Higher Education (the "Department"), and calls upon each institution to engage in campus-level implementation planning, coordinated at the segmental level, to address the recommendations contained this report; the Board further directs the Department to report back to the Board on such campus-level implementation planning within ninety (90) days.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 15A, § 9; Section 2 of Chapter 139 of the Acts of 2012 (Line Item 7066-0020)

Contact: David Cedrone, Associate Commissioner Economic and Workforce Development and STEM

Chair Desmond turned to Ms. Boylan for an account of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy Committee meeting.

B. FISCAL AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS

List of Documents Used:

FAAP Motions 13-21 and 13-22; Massachusetts Performance Funding with Visualization Document

Ms. Boylan reviewed the activities of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy (FAAP) Committee meeting, briefly summarizing the discussions which focused on review of the FY14 Budget Request and the Internship Incentive Program Guidelines.

Commissioner Freeland, at this time, provided a summary presentation on the FY14 Budget Request. In his presentation, Commissioner Freeland discussed 9C cuts and proposed new revenues. He also noted the inclusion of full-funding for the collective bargaining reserve. He addressed funding for the Mass Grant, students in foster care, and the DHE administrative account. He also discussed the framework for the proposed Community College Funding Formula and summarized how and why the formula was developed.

Discussion arose among the Board members regarding the trend in the percentage of financial aid dollars that are provided to institutions by the state. Also discussed was the origin and modification of the funding formula. Modifications include recognizing the importance of non-credit work and attaching value to producing graduates in high-need fields.

Ms. Boylan then brought forth the following motion, which was seconded and approved by all Board members present, with the exception of Dr. Lee who abstained.

FAAP 13-21 APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION FY2014 BUDGET

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the attached Board of Higher Education budget request for Fiscal Year 2014, including the community college budget formula as specified therein, as its budget recommendation, and further authorizes the Commissioner to submit the Board's budget recommendation to the Secretary of Education.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6, 9 and 15B

Contact: Stephen Lenhardt, Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Finance

Ms. Boylan then brought forth the following motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously by all Board members present

FAAP 13-22 APPROVAL OF INTERNSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education approves the attached guidelines for the State University Internship Incentive program.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 15A, Section 9 and 9B; Section 2 of Chapter 139 of the Acts of 2012 (Item 7066-0000).

Contact: David Cedrone, Associate Commissioner Economic and Workforce Development

and STEM

XII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Update on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) – Aundrea Kelley, DHE Deputy Commissioner for P-16 Policy and Collaborative Initiatives; Steven Chrostowski, DESE PARCC Coordinator; Sue Lane, DHE Senior Director of Alignment and Engagement

List of Documents Used: “Update on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)”, *PowerPoint presentation, December 11, 2012.*

Deputy Commissioner Kelley, with DESE PARCC Coordinator Steven Chrostowski and DHE Senior Director Lane, provided an update on the PARCC initiative highlighting the following: strategies and efforts to increase college participation; revisions to the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) while a next generation of assessment is being developed through PARCC; and Massachusetts’ national leadership role in PARCC with DESE Commissioner Mitchell Chester as the Chair of the Governing Board and DHE Commissioner Freeland as the Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee on College Readiness (ACCR). The group also provided information on the PARCC structure in Massachusetts as well as its goals, activities, and timeline. They also described the process, summary, and recent survey of the statewide draft definition of College and Career Readiness.

Discussion followed the presentation. Dr. Reimers asked if there are plans to provide support for the PARCC initiative, noting that Massachusetts has an existing statewide assessment (MCAS) administered in the 10th grade. Deputy Commissioner Kelley provided that the PARCC assessment would be administered in the 11th grade. Dr. Reimers asked if the 11th grade assessment then would be the student’s first opportunity for feedback. Deputy Commissioner Kelley noted that like MCAS, the PARCC assessments will be offered between grades three and eleven and provide multiple opportunities for feedback. Dr. Lee noted that the Readiness Centers offer specific tools and regional meetings to review model curriculum and intervention strategies. Mr. Fulp asked if metrics have been established yet and how parents would determine that the PARCC assessment is successful. Commissioner Freeland noted that sending a clear message to schools about what they should be working on is important and the metrics would follow. Mr. Falzone inquired about the Adams Scholarship. Deputy Commissioner Kelley shared information about the California Early Assessment Program through which the higher education Chancellor notifies 11th graders who pass the assessment that they are on track for admission and advises other students on what they need to do to get on track. It was noted that DESE and DHE are completing a database that will result in a “school-to-college” report that will show how well the Commonwealth’s public high school graduates perform in Massachusetts public colleges.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no requests from the public to participate.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard M. Freeland, Ph.D.
Commissioner of the Department and
Secretary to the Board