

## **BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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January 21, 2014  
12:00 p.m.

Department of Higher Education  
1 Ashburton Place, Room 1401  
Boston, Massachusetts

### **Special Meeting Minutes**

A special meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 in the DHE Conference Room, 14<sup>th</sup> floor of One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

The following Board members were present:

Charles Desmond, Chair  
Louis Ricciardi, Vice Chair  
David Barron  
Stacey DeBoise Luster  
Nancy Hoffman  
Matthew Malone, Secretary of Education  
Dani Monroe  
Fernando Reimers  
Paul Toner

The following Board members were absent:

C. Bernard Fulp  
Kathy Matson  
Keith Peden  
Henry Thomas

The following North Shore Community College Board of Trustees members were present:

Richard Logan, Vice Chair  
Robert Richards

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

#### **II. MOTION**

##### **A. Board of Higher Education**

BHE 14-03 Framingham State University Presidential Appointment

Chair Charles Desmond welcomed Trustee Stacey DeBoise Luster, a new member of the Board of Higher Education (BHE). He said Trustee Luster was Chair of the Board at Quinsigamond Community College and the Human Resources Director of Worcester Public Schools.

Chair Desmond asked those present to introduce themselves and then invited

Commissioner Richard Freeland to speak of the new presidential guidelines that were used in the search for the Framingham State University (FSU) president.

Commissioner Richard Freeland said that the local Board is responsible under statute to initiate the process of looking for a new president and then bring recommendations to the BHE. Under the new guidelines, the process has changed slightly in order to increase the involvement of the BHE. Senior Deputy Commissioner Carlos Santiago represented the BHE and served as a voting member on the Search Committee. Commissioner Freeland said that he, Chair Desmond, Dr. Saeyun Lee, and Board Member Hoffman were able to interview the finalists and that he was thrilled with the recommendation.

Chair Desmond then asked FSU Vice Chair Richard Logan to speak about the search process. Vice Chair Logan introduced himself, FSU Board Member Robert Richards, who was also on the Search Committee, and Interim President Robert Martin.

FSU Vice Chair Logan said that after President Timothy Flanagan announced his retirement, the Board held a meeting on June 4, 2013 and adopted a timeline that was shared with the BHE. The search began in September and Witt/Keiffer, the search firm, was selected to assist in the process. The Search Committee included Senior Deputy Commissioner Santiago, four Trustees, two faculty members, two students, two administrative unit representatives and two staff unit representatives. Vice Chair Logan described the pool of candidates and noted that it was diverse. He stated that on January 7<sup>th</sup> the Board met and unanimously voted to recommend Dr. Cevallos, citing their confidence in him and his passion for public higher education.

Chair Desmond thanked Interim President for all of his hard work and then asked Dr. Cevallos if he would like to make any comments. Dr. Cevallos thanked everyone and spoke of FSU distinguished history and bright future.

BHE members were then given the opportunity to ask questions. Discussion ensued which included topics on K-12 and higher education alignment, support services for first generation students, and improving completion and retention rates.

The following motion was then brought forth and seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOVED: FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT**

The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the January 7, 2014 recommendation of the Framingham State University Board of Trustees recommending F. Javier Cevallos as President of Framingham State University. Such appointment is effective July 1, 2014, is subject to the successful completion of a State Police background check, and is subject to and in accordance with the attached terms and conditions of appointment.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Sections 9(q) and 21

Contact: Constantia T. Papanikolaou, General Counsel

**III. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.