

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

March 18, 2014
9 a.m.

Worcester State University
Student Center, Blue Lounge
486 Chandler Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held at Worcester State University (WSU) in Worcester, Massachusetts.

The following Board members were present:

Charles F. Desmond, Chair
Louis Ricciardi, Vice Chair
David Barron
Stacey Deboise Luster
Matthew Malone, Secretary of Education
Kathy Matson, Community College Segmental Representative

The following Board members were absent:

C. Bernard Fulp
Nancy Hoffman
Dani Monroe
Keith Peden
Fernando Reimers
Henry Thomas
Paul Toner

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Desmond called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. WELCOME

Barry Maloney, President, Worcester State University

List of Documents Used:
PowerPoint Presentation

President Barry Maloney thanked the Board and the Commissioner for visiting Worcester State University (WSU). He provided a PowerPoint presentation which, among other things, described WSU's students and programs, and highlighted WSU's accomplishments. He stated that during Fall 2013, there were 6,447 students enrolled at WSU and that the institution was named one of the 75 Best Value public colleges in the nation by *The Princeton Review*. President Maloney spoke of the new buildings on campus and stated that 43% of Worcester Public Schools teachers were WSU graduates.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chair Desmond welcomed attendees to the fourth regular meeting of the

Massachusetts Board of Higher Education for the 2013-2014 Academic Year. He introduced Glenn Gabbard, who will serve as Secretary Malone's designee to the Board at times when the Secretary is unable to attend, replacing Saeyun Lee in this role.

Chair Desmond reminded Board members that one of the goals the BHE set at the start of the year was to begin a board self-evaluation process. The Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges has agreed to help provide the BHE with the framework and knowledge to undertake this work. BHE members will receive a list of possible dates and times for this work. He also told Board members about upcoming events, included a reception at Bunker Hill to celebrate its 40th anniversary and the installation of President Pam Eddinger, DHE's 29-Who-Shine on May 8th at the State House, and campus graduation ceremonies.

IV. COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Commissioner Freeland thanked President Maloney for hosting the meeting at WSU. He spoke briefly about the FY15 budget, went over the BHE's budget priorities, and gave an update on his campus Board meeting visits.

Commissioner Freeland also discussed the steps the Department has taken to get to today's vote on streamlining the program approval process, and said there would be a public comment period on the proposed changes. Depending on the number and nature of the comments, there may be more substantive changes to the policy which will be brought to the BHE at the May 6th meeting.

Commissioner Freeland recognized Bill Hart and Vincent Pedone, Executive Officers for the Community College Council of Presidents and State University Council of Presidents, respectively, and Presidents Ira Rubenzahl and Robert Antonucci.

V. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION'S REMARKS

Secretary Matthew Malone said he always enjoys visiting Worcester and was impressed with construction progress on the new dormitory and fitness center. He spoke of his recent visits to K-12 schools and gave an update on the Higher Education Finance Commission, noting that the group has been preparing a report for the past couple of months.

VI. REPORTS FROM PRESIDENTS

A. Community College Presidents' Report – Springfield Technical Community College President Ira Rubenzahl

List of Documents Submitted by President Rubenzahl:
Community College Organizational Model PowerPoint

President Ira Rubenzahl stated that Massachusetts was the fourth most unequal state as far as income goes in the country. He said community colleges are located in low-income communities and several Gateway Cities. As such, community colleges serve an important function and are strategically positioned to educate underserved students. President Rubenzahl spoke of different sources of revenue and showed the different amounts segments were spending per student. He added the community colleges use a lot of adjunct professors as one means to balance the budget.

B. State University Presidents' Report – Fitchburg State University Robert Antonucci

*List of Documents Submitted by Robert Antonucci:
State Universities Commercials*

President Robert Antonucci concurred with President Rubenzahl's remarks. He thanked the Commissioner, the BHE and the Secretary for pushing the College Incentive Completion Grant Forward. He said he was encouraged that the different segments work as a team in order to accomplish more, and also recognized the Departments of Early Education and Care, Elementary and Secondary Education, and Higher Education for collaborating together.

President Antonucci then showed two commercials advertising the Massachusetts State Universities and encouraged attendees to visit <http://www.massstateuniversities.com/> and to follow on Twitter the MA_StateU account.

VII. REPORT FROM STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Before turning to the Student Advisory Council Report, Chair Desmond recognized and welcomed Senator Michael Moore, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. Senator Moore said it was an honor to represent public higher education in the legislature and to be an advocate during the budget process. He said that for the past two years, it has been especially easy to advocate for public higher education, since the Partnership for Collaboration and Efficiency has streamlined many processes.

Board member Kathy Matson then provided the report from the Student Advisory Council and shared that the leadership conference was in a few weeks. She also provided Board members with an update on Advocacy Day at the State House.

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Chair Desmond then brought forth a motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2014 BHE Special Meeting and January 28, 2014 BHE Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were affirmed by all Board members present. It was noted that the Board was one member shy of a quorum; as a result all votes will need to be ratified at a future Board meeting.

IX. MOTIONS

Trustee David Barron gave a brief update on the March 11th Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) meeting and said the Civic Education Policy would come before the BHE at the May 6th meeting. He then turned the meeting over to Commissioner Freeland.

Commissioner Freeland thanked AAC for their good work. He said that there is a bill before the legislature that seeks to deregulate private, independent colleges and universities in the Commonwealth. BHE's program review process is designed to provide the consumer protection mandated by the legislature through ensuring that the programs of the independent sector meet minimum standards. At the same time, the DHE recognizes the need to streamline the program review process and reduce both the time and cost of the review process. The position of the DHE is to come to an administrative solution to this issue as opposed to a legislative one. DHE staff has met with AICUM three times and has presented two

different proposals.

Commissioner Freeland then asked Senior Deputy Commissioner Carlos Santiago to present on the BHE Motion 14-04. Senior Deputy Commissioner Santiago spoke about the rationale for and content of the proposed revisions, and the ways in which the policy streamlined the review process. He noted that the proposed new policy would replace an existing Board policy (BHE A01-29). He added that the version before the Board today differs slightly from the motion review by AAC last week. The only change to the earlier AAC motion would be to allow for a period for public commentary on the proposed changes.

Secretary Malone applauded DHE staff and stated that he fully supported the policy. Chair Desmond said there had been a lot of deliberation and dialogue in this process, and he commended BHE members and staff who put forward the new streamlined review process.

Commissioner Freeland emphasized that it is an essential DHE action, on behalf of BHE, to certify the quality of academic programs in the Commonwealth as part of the process of federal disbursement of financial aid funds. He indicated that without such a process the Commonwealth would have no way of determining whether an academic program met the quality standards required to receive federal funding.

The following motion was moved, seconded and affirmed by all Board members present. Trustee Barron said the motion was affirmed and would go into effect after the May 6th BHE meeting when the motion would be presented for ratification. Meanwhile, the Commissioner noted there was no reason not to move forward with public comment period, since a Board vote was not necessary for such a vetting process to occur.

A. Board of Higher Education

BHE 14-04 Board of Higher Education 2014 Interpretation: Policy Regarding the Internal and External Review Processes for Massachusetts Independent Institutions Accredited Without Sanction by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (Discussion and Possible Vote)

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education (BHE) hereby rescinds its June 19, 2001 Interpretation of its degree granting regulations for Independent Institutions of Higher Education (BHE A01-29, commonly referred to as the “2001 Interpretation”) and adopts in its place the attached “Board of Higher Education 2014 Interpretation: Internal and External Program Review Policy for Massachusetts Independent Institutions Accredited Without Sanction by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)” (the “2014 BHE Program Review Policy”).

The Board further delegates to the Commissioner the authority to act, following DHE staff review and any necessary public hearing requirements, on requests from established Massachusetts Independent Institutions for new degree granting authority, consistent with the 2014 BHE Program Review Policy. The Commissioner shall properly record and shall regularly report to the

Board all decisions made pursuant to this delegation of authority. Implementation of the 2014 BHE Program Review Policy shall be subject to the following stipulations:

1. The Commissioner shall elicit public comment on the 2014 BHE Program Review Policy for a minimum of three weeks;
2. The effective date of the 2014 BHE Program Review Policy shall be upon the conclusion of the public comment period, but no later than May 7, 2014; and
3. Any modifications to the 2014 BHE Program Review Policy resulting from the comment period will be brought back to the BHE's Academic Affairs Committee for ratification.

Authority: M.G.L. c.15A, §§ 3, 6 and 9; M.G.L. c. 69, § 31A; 610 CMR 2.0 et seq.

Contact: Carlos E. Santiago, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs

B. Academic Affairs

List of Documents Used:

AAC Motions 14-29 through 14-32

Board member Barron said that still not having a quorum, they will use the same process moving forward. All BHE members in attendance affirmed their assent to following motion:

AAC 14-33 APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MOTIONS 14-29 THROUGH 14-32 ON A CONSENT AGENDA

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

- AAC 14-29 Worcester State University
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics for Elementary Teachers
- AAC 14-30 Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology
- AAC 14-31 Endicott College
Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Behavior Analysis
Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing
- AAC 14-32 Lasell College
Professional Master of Business Administration

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws

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

Board member Barron introduced the next motion; all Board members present affirmed their assent to the following motion:

AAC 14-34 CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM Bristol Community College

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

Contact: Winnie Hagan, Ed.D., Director for Educator Policy

C. Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy

List of Documents Used:

FAAP Motions 14-25 through 14-35

At this point in the meeting, Secretary Malone left the meeting due to a prior commitment and his designee Glenn Gabbard took his place.

Board member Luster said she had the opportunity to serve as Committee Chair at the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy meeting. She introduced FAAP 14-36.

Board member Matson said that she would like make a conflict of interest disclosure stating that neither she nor her children will be enrolled in public postsecondary institutions next year and therefore she does not have a personal financial interest in this motion.

Vice Chair Ricciardi briefly spoke about the work being done to formulate a performance-based funding formula for the State Universities and said that while tuition rates have not gone up, mandatory fees had increased significantly. .

All Board members present affirmed their assent to the following motion:

FAAP 14-36 APPROVAL OF FISCAL AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS 14-25 THROUGH 14-35 ON A CONSENT AGENDA

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

- FAAP 14-25 Community Colleges
Resident Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-26 Community Colleges
Non-Resident Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-27 State Universities
Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-28 State Universities
Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for
FY2015
- FAAP 14-29 State Universities
Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-30 State Universities
Non-Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-31 University of Massachusetts
Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-32 University of Massachusetts
Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for
FY2015

- FAAP 14-33 University of Massachusetts
Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-34 University of Massachusetts
Non-Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2015
- FAAP 14-35 Berkshire Community College and
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition
Rates for FY2015

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws

Contact: Sean P. Nelson, Deputy Commissioner of Administration and
Finance

Board member Luster introduced FAAP 14-37. She noted that she was impressed with the MSCBA's presentation at the FAAP meeting. The following motion was moved, seconded and affirmed by all Board members present.

FAAP 14-37 FY2015 MCSBA Rent Certificate

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the attached Fiscal Year 2015 residence hall rent schedules, effective July 1, 2014, provided that any subsequent increase in the rent schedules shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Higher Education.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 73 and 15A, section 9; Section 1-9 of Ch. 703 of the Acts of 1963, as amended; and the *Contract for Financial Assistance, Management and Services*, dated February 1, 2003, made between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board of Higher Education and the Massachusetts State College Building Authority.

Contact: Sean P. Nelson, Deputy Commissioner of Administration and
Finance

X. PRESENTATIONS:

Update on The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)

List of Documents Used:

PARCC and the Common Core in Massachusetts

Commissioner Freeland introduced Bob Bickerton, Senior Associate Commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Sue Lane, Senior Director of Alignment and Engagement, who would present on the next agenda item. He thanked them for their work on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). Senior Associate Bickerton thanked Commissioner Freeland for his leadership and said that this was important, forward-looking work.

PARCC is a K–12/higher education partnership to build direct pathways into credit-bearing college courses, and a collaboration with the business community to ensure assessment measures the 21st century academic skills required for success. The presentation covered PARCC in the K-12 context and higher education context, a preview of the upcoming assessment and field test, and the

plan to transition from the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) to PARCC.

After the presentation, Commissioner Freeland said that this was an immense undertaking and noted that there was some controversy within the state and nationally.

There was some discussion about developmental education in relation to PARCC. Commissioner Freeland said that one way that PARCC seeks to address the college readiness issue is by early signaling. Being able to say as early as third grade that a student is not on track would be extremely beneficial. In answer to questions about the difference between MCAS and PARCC, he stated that MCAS is a high school graduation requirement, and not a college readiness measurement. PARCC would be able to identify two levels of achievement, one which would be required for high school graduation, and another for what is considered college readiness.

BHE members thanked Senior Associate Commissioner Bickerton and Director Lane for an informative presentation.

Update on Collaboration and Efficiency Measures

List of Documents Used:

Partnership to Advance Collaboration and Efficiencies (PACE), March 18, 2014 Update

Commissioner Freeland welcomed Sean Nelson, Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance and Judy Silva, Executive Director, Partnership for Collaboration and Efficiency (PACE). PACE is a collaborative initiative between the State Universities and Community Colleges designed to promote cost savings and operation efficiencies. Deputy Commissioner Nelson explained that money from the Performance Incentive Fund was being used to fund this project.

Executive Director Judy Silva provided an update on several PACE initiatives including the information technology initiative, professional development and shared training, the creation of an IT Purchasing Director position, insurance and bookstore assessment, and energy services.

Vice Chair Ricciardi suggested that there were cost savings opportunities by not using state pre-approved vendors and provided an example. Deputy Commissioner Nelson said he would investigate that.

Vision Project Performance Incentive Fund Grant Initiatives

List of Documents Used:

Quinsigamond Community College Vision Project: Developmental Mathematics PowerPoint

At this point, Vice Chair Ricciardi excused himself from the meeting.

Commissioner Freeland explained that the Board heard Performance Incentive Fund (PIF) presentations from campuses at the last BHE meeting, but unfortunately Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) representatives were unable to attend. He invited QCC President Gail Carberry to the table. President Carberry introduced Dr. Leslie Horton, Dean of Math and Science.

Dean Horton presented on the Emporium Math initiative that was funded by a PIF grant, and shared with BHE the results of the initial pilots, which were very promising. She said that early completion numbers suggest that QCC students would continue to benefit from course options that allow them to complete developmental math courses at a quicker pace. The Fall 2013 modularized courses made it easier for students to finish the developmental math sequence in fewer than three semesters.

Commissioner Freeland said that QCC is in the front line of this work and that it was very encouraging.

Introduction to Industry Workforce Analysis: Technology Innovation and IT

List of Documents Used:

Technology Workforce: Introduction to Industry Analysis PowerPoint

Commissioner Freeland introduced the next agenda item, noting that the Industry Workforce Analysis of the Technology Innovation and IT Sector would be up for a vote at the next Board meeting and that this presentation was to serve as introduction to that work. He then introduced Associate Commissioner for Economic and Workforce Development David Cedrone and Christine Williams, Director of Economic and Workforce Development, who have been engaged with a range of stakeholders to conduct this analysis.

Ms. Williams said the work had been modeled after the Nursing and Allied Health workforce planning. She explained that technology is the next logical component of workforce on which to focus, given its importance to the state's economy and the rapid growth in technology related jobs. She also noted the important work at many of our institutions' computer science and IT departments.

The presentation showed direct connection with the Workforce Alignment outcome of the Vision Project. Ms. Williams stated that the total Massachusetts technology workforce was currently at around 150,000 and is one of the largest from among Massachusetts' competitive industries. She spoke about the projected growth of the sector and the need to address workforce demands. The presentation included suggested strategies and a plan to move the work forward.

Commissioner Freeland thanked both Associate Commissioner Cedrone and Director Williams for their excellent work.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

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