

## BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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April 26, 2016  
12:00 p.m.

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

### Special Meeting Minutes

A special meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, in the Department of Higher Education (DHE) Conference Room, Room 1401 of One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

#### The following Board members were present:

Chris Gabrieli, Chair  
Tom Hopcroft  
Donald Irving  
J.D. LaRock  
James Peyser, Secretary of Education  
Fernando Reimers  
Henry Thomas  
Paul Toner  
Owen Wiggins

Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner and Secretary to the Board

#### The following Board members were absent:

Sheila Harrity, Vice Chair  
Nancy Hoffman  
Robert Johnson  
Dani Monroe

### I. CALL TO ORDER

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

### II. MOTIONS

#### A. Board of Higher Education

##### Documents Used:

- *BHE Motion 16-06 Massachusetts Bay Community College Presidential Appointment, and attachments*

#### **BHE 16-06 Massachusetts Bay Community College Presidential Appointment**

Chairman Gabrieli began by stating the purpose of the meeting and invited Commissioner Carlos Santiago to introduce the motion.

Commissioner Santiago welcomed everyone to the Special BHE Meeting and began with introductions. All of the members present introduced themselves and their associated institutions. Commissioner Santiago then introduced BHE Motion

16-06 which is seeking the BHE's approval of the recommended appointment of Dr. David Podell as MassBay Community College's next president. Commissioner Santiago stated that he extended the opportunity to BHE members to participate in finalist interviews and both the Executive Office of Education and the DHE were involved in interviewing all of the finalists. The Commissioner noted that Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance, Sean Nelson, was the DHE staff representative on this presidential search committee and thanked him for his service. Additionally, he noted that the search did operate under the BHE's presidential search and selection guidelines. The Commissioner concluded his remarks by stating that the search committee put together a solid pool of candidates and that he supports the recommendation made by the Massachusetts Bay (MassBay) Board of Trustees and turned the meeting over to MassBay Board of Trustees Chairman, Thomas Peisch.

Chairman Thomas Peisch began by providing an overview of the presidential selection process, highlighting the selection of the search committee, position profile approval, search consultant work, and the review of potential candidates. The search was narrowed down to three finalists, one of whom withdrew. The search concluded when the Board selected Dr. David Podell. Chairman Peisch acknowledged that it was a clear choice that this was the best candidate. Chairman Peisch continued by discussing the professional background and accomplishments of the candidate. He then turned the discussion over to MassBay Committee Vice Chair, Sylvia Beville, for any additional comments. Ms. Beville only wanted to highlight that the candidate impressed the search committee with his ability to listen, arrive at strategies and to be detailed. There being no further remarks from Ms. Beville, Chairman Peisch turned the meeting over to Dr. David Podell for remarks.

Candidate David Podell began by expressing gratitude for the opportunity. Dr. Podell continued with his introduction by elaborating on his current position at Marymount Manhattan College. He then summarized his professional and educational background, highlighting his experience in both private and public higher education. He concluded his remarks by summarizing why he wants to be the next President of MassBay and why he believes he would be the best fit for the position, highlighting in this regard his knowledge and experience addressing funding and resource issues, enrollment management, and innovative programs to address developmental and remedial needs.

Chairman Gabrieli thanked Dr. Podell for his remarks and asked Board members if they had any questions. Questions from Board members touched upon the candidate's experience in increasing retention rates, developmental math, diversity, working with limited resources and funding, and online learning.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Gabrieli called for a motion. The following motion to approve the appointment of Dr. David Podell was duly made, seconded and passed unanimously by all Board members present:

**MOVED: MASSACHUSETTS BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT**

The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the March 30, 2016 recommendation of the Massachusetts Bay Community College Board of Trustees recommending David Podell as President of Massachusetts Bay Community College. Such appointment is effective on or about July 1, 2016, 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 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carlos E. Santiago  
Commissioner of the Department and  
Secretary to the Board