

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

March 8, 2016

9:00 a.m.

One Ashburton Place, 21st Floor
Boston, MA

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 in the 21st floor conference room, One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

The following Board Members were present:

Chair Chris Gabrieli

Vice Chair Sheila Harrity

Nancy Hoffman

Robert Johnson

J.D. LaRock

Dani Monroe

Tom Moreau, designee for Secretary James Peyser

Fernando Reimers

Henry Thomas

Paul Toner

Owen Wiggins, Voting Student Member, UMass Amherst

Jahziel Chase, Non-voting Student Member, Bristol Community College

Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner and Secretary to the Board

The follow Board members were absent:

Tom Hopcroft

Don Irving

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Gabrieli called the meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) to order at 9:16 a.m.

II. WELCOME

Chair Gabrieli welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Mr. Jahziel Chase, student trustee at Bristol Community College, who will now be the segmental student advisor for the Community Colleges on the BHE.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Chairman Gabrieli brought forth a motion to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2016 BHE meeting with an amendment to remove Secretary Peyser from the list of Board members present. The motion, as amended, was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

V. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chair Gabrieli commented on the March 8th Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) meeting, noting that the committee is reviewing the program approval process through a strategic planning lens. He stated that in order to assist in the BHE's strategic work and purpose, and to help further the goals of public and private institutions, the BHE needs to identify key issues that will make it easier to process program approvals. He stated that he also recognizes that this will be more work for staff interacting with campuses and Board members.

VI. COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Commissioner Santiago thanked Chairman Gabrieli and welcomed the Board and members of the public. He also acknowledged the college presidents in attendance which included new President, Dr. James F. Birge, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts; President Lane Glenn Northern Essex Community College; President Barry Maloney, Worcester State University; President Francis McDonald, Massachusetts Maritime Academy; President Gail Carberry, Quinsigamond Community College; and President Patricia Meservey, Salem State University.

The Commissioner reflected on a variety of educational projects that are moving forward. One of those projects is the implementation of the new version of the SAT, which purports to be aligned with the Common Core and more accurately captures college readiness. Additionally, two public institutions – Salem State University and UMass Lowell – are piloting an SAT-optional approach to a percentage of admissions. The Commissioner said he applauds these institutions for their willingness to pilot alternative admissions criteria.

The Commissioner reported that he was privileged to attend the launching of the second *100 Males to College* initiative in the Commonwealth. This launch included several high schools in the Framingham area in collaboration with Mass Bay Community College and Framingham State University. The first launch occurred in the Springfield area in April of 2015 with five high schools partnering with Springfield Technical Community College, Westfield State University and UMass Amherst to support preparing 100 male students for college. He stated that other communities beyond Springfield and the Metro West areas have expressed an interest in launching similar models. However, the capacity to support other communities is limited by a lack of funding and staff support.

The Commissioner informed those present that he and Secretary Peyser, along with the Commissioners of Early Education and Care (EEC) and Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE) testified before the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means on the Governor's House 2 budget proposal. He said the Committee was appreciative of the work of EOE and the three agencies.

Commissioner Santiago reported on the progress of the *Commonwealth Commitment* initiative, noting that the community college and state university presidents, and the UMass President are all in agreement on the foundational principles, which will allow students from any public two-year campus to transfer seamlessly to a four-year institution.

The Commissioner reported that the Task Force on Campus Safety and Violence Prevention, led by General Counsel Dena Papanikolaou and Board members Fernando Reimers and Dani Monroe, has been meeting regularly and has selected an external consultant, TSG Solutions, Inc., through a competitive bidding process. The Task Force and TSG Solutions have agreed to survey the campuses and follow up with site visits as they prepare the final report to the BHE. A June conference to offer trainings and to discuss final recommendations is being planned.

The Commissioner announced that the collective bargaining negotiations between the Massachusetts Community College Council (MCCC) and the Commonwealth have resulted in

an agreement that is now subject to ratification by the members. He thanked Michael Murray, Director of Employee and Labor Relations for the Department of Higher Education, and all those who served on the negotiating team for their hard work.

Finally, Commissioner Santiago announced that there had been a record number of presidential vacancies in the state university segment last year and he welcomed new presidents to Westfield State University, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. This year, however, several presidential searches will be launched or, are already underway in the community college segment, including Springfield Tech Community College, Mass Bay Community College, Mount Wachusett Community College and Bristol Community College.

VII. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION'S REMARKS

Secretary of Education designee Tom Moreau said he would hold his remarks in the interest of time.

VIII. REPORTS FROM PRESIDENTS

Community College Presidents' Report – Northern Essex Community College President Dr. Lane Glenn

List of Documents Submitted by President Glenn

None

President Glenn acknowledged recent retirement announcements from Community College Presidents Dan Asquino, Bill Messner, Ira Rubenzahl and Jack Sbrega.

President Glenn announced that the Massachusetts Community College Council (MCCC), the union representing faculty and staff at the state's fifteen community colleges, and the Commonwealth have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract. He is hopeful that the union membership will ratify the tentative agreement later this month, which will secure funding through the budget process to implement the agreement before the end of the fiscal year.

President Glenn reported on the issue of data collection and the measuring and reporting of data that are most critical to the success of our students. He said the announcement of a signed MOU by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC's) and Achieving the Dream (ATD) network will encourage the adoption of the AACC's Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) metrics at ATD institutions and introduce VFA institutions to the ATD network. The VFA metrics would include development progress education measures; two-year progress and success measures; and six-year success measures.

President Glenn also announced that later today, The Boston Foundation will host a celebration of the success of Massachusetts' community colleges meeting workforce development needs by awarding the annual Deval Patrick Prize for Community Colleges, which recognizes progress and excellence in establishing partnerships between employers and community colleges.

In closing, President Glenn reported that even though public support for higher education has not kept up with the demand in higher education, this year alone, the community colleges will serve over 100,000 students, which is about half of all the undergraduates enrolled in the public colleges and universities.

State University Presidents' Report – Worcester State University President Barry

Maloney

List of Documents Submitted by President Maloney

None

President Maloney began by thanking Commissioner Santiago for his engagement with the presidents by working to build strong lines of communication between the department and the campuses and engaging discussions between the chief academic officers to find ways in which the DHE can support the strong academic work happening on the campuses.

President Maloney raised concerns about the Governor's FY17 budget which did not include funding for some contracts, but noted that the Council of Presidents (COP) is in support of the BHE budget recommendations and is actively working with their legislative delegation on continued efforts for a fair representation of the institutions financial needs.

President Maloney announced that the state universities are interested in exploring the ability to offer more advanced degrees and clinical doctorates as part of their effort to keep up with the changing licensing requirements and workforce demands. He stated that in several high demand fields, the profession now expects an advanced degree of study in the form of a clinical doctorate. Since many of these fields are already signature undergraduate and graduate programs within the state universities, he stated that it would make sense to explore offering clinical doctorate degrees at State Universities. He said the COP will be working with the Commissioner and will anticipate working with the Board to explore ways in which the universities can meet these workforce needs.

President Maloney spoke about the increasingly difficult and rigid academic schedule put in place by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's licensing requirement for college students wanting to become licensed educators. This has resulted in education majors double majoring in a subject area and in education. He said that education majors are finding it increasingly difficult to complete all these requirements within four years, while also participating in a demanding practicum schedule that includes a full semester of student teaching and other requirements, such a training in ELL and preparation for the licensure exam. He said in order to allow the state universities to produce more highly qualified teachers on time and ready to teach, there has to be some alternative to alleviate the duplicative burden placed on education majors.

President Maloney reported on the extraordinary capital needs and deficiencies on the campus' infrastructure. He stated that the Commissioner and the Board have been focused on meeting the needs of the Commonwealth by producing more residents with bachelor's degrees, and advanced degrees, particularly in high demand fields such as STEM, but in order to accomplish this task, the students will need to have the technology, classrooms and infrastructure to support proper preparation for these fields.

IX. REPORT FROM STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Student Board member Owen Wiggins thanked Chairman Gabrieli and members of the Board for their warm welcome and welcomed Student Trustee Jahziel Chase of Bristol Community College. He expressed his appreciation that tuition rates will remain level this year because a small raise in fees can keep students out college. He also said he looks forward to the findings of the Task Force on Campus Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention because it has become a growing issue on campuses.

X. MOTION

List of Documents Used:

AAC 16-21

FAAP 16- 17 through 16-23

March 8, 2016 BHE Power Point

A. Academic Affairs

Chairman Gabrieli turned the meeting over to Committee Chair Nancy Hoffman. Board member Hoffman summarized the motion that was considered by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) and is before the Board today. The committee considered one motion to revoke the degree granting authority of the New England School of Acupuncture, which was merging with another institution. The committee approved. Committee Chair Hoffman then called for a vote on the revocation

The following motion was moved, seconded and approved as follows, with all Board members present voting in favor:

AAC 16-21 Revocation of New England School of Acupuncture Degree Granting Authority

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby revokes the legal authority of **New England School of Acupuncture** to operate and grant degrees in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts effective March 31, 2016.

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

Contact: Winifred M. Hagan, Ed.D.
Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Student Success

B. Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy

Chairman Gabrieli turned the meeting over to FAAP Committee member Paul Toner. Board member Toner provided an update of the FAAP Committee meeting last week.

The following motion was brought forth, seconded and unanimously approved:

FAAP 16-24 Consent Agenda

FAAP 16-17 Approval of Community Colleges Resident Tuition Rates for Fiscal Year 2017

FAAP 16-18 Approval of Community Colleges Non-Resident Tuition Rates for FY2017

FAAP 16-19 Approval of State Universities Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2017

FAAP 16-20 Approval of State Universities Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2017

FAAP 16-21 Approval of State Universities Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2017

FAAP 16-22 Approval of State Universities Non-Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2017

FAAP 16-23 Approval of Berkshire Community College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2017

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6

Contact: Sean P. Nelson, Deputy Commissioner for Administration & Finance

Board Member Toner then provided a brief overview of the next motion, which pertained to rent schedules and operating budgets. The following motion was brought forth, seconded and unanimously approved:

FAAP 16-25 Fiscal Year 2017 Rent Schedule and Operating Budgets Massachusetts State College Building Authority

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the attached Fiscal Year 2017 Schedule of Proposed Rents and Operating Budget for the Authority and State University Residence Halls, effective July 1, 2016, provided that any increase in rent schedule shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Higher Education.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 73 App., Section 1-9 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 for Administration & Finance
Fiscal and Administrative Policy

Next, Board Member Toner provided a brief overview of FAAP 16-26 A motion was brought forth and seconded.

The following motion was brought forth, seconded and unanimously approved:

FAAP 16-26 Approval of Massachusetts State College Building Authority Student Activity Project Massachusetts Maritime Academy

MOVED: MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY
ACQUISITION OF 8 TAYLOR ROAD, BUZZARDS BAY, MA
MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY

1. The Commissioner of the System of Public Higher Education (the "Commissioner") is authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the Board of Higher Education (the "Board") to make a written request to the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (the "Authority") that the Authority initiate the projects described in EXHIBIT A attached hereto.

2. Bonds issued by the Authority to finance the projects for which a request is hereby authorized may be issued together with or separately from bonds issued to carry out other projects of the Authority for which the Board authorizes a request.

3. The Commissioner and all other officers of the Board, each acting singly, are authorized to request the Commissioner of Administration to approve in writing the initiation by the Authority of the projects for which a request is hereby authorized, and to do such other things and to take such other action as the officer so acting shall, as conclusively evidenced by the taking of such action, deem necessary or desirable to be done or taken to carry into effect the matters hereby authorized.

4. The Board and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through the Board, declare their official intent under §1.150-2(d)(1) and (e) of the Treasury Regulations as follows:

The Board reasonably expects that there shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority, expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced by the Commonwealth (including within such term the Board and the State Universities) for the projects for which a written request is hereby authorized, the maximum principal amount of such bonds expected to be issued, all or a portion of the proceeds of which are reasonably expected to be used for such reimbursement purposes, being **\$1,685,000**.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 6

Contact: Sean P. Nelson, Deputy Commissioner for Administration & Finance
Fiscal and Administrative Policy

XI. PRESENTATIONS

Statewide Workforce Planning Update

List of Documents Used:

March 8, 2016 Power Point

Commissioner Santiago introduced David Cedrone, DHE's Associate Commissioner for Economic and Workforce Development and Jennifer James, the Director of the Workforce Skills Cabinet for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Associate Commissioner Cedrone gave an overview of the key outcomes in the workforce development initiative highlighting our industry sector focus in the areas of nursing, allied health-direct care, computer science/IT and advanced manufacturing. He stated that the nursing initiative reflects ten years of sustained collaboration between the BHE and the nursing community. Over the past four years, we have benefitted from \$600,000 in grant support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to advance the education level of nurses and promote increased diversity in the nursing workforce.

Committee Chair Hoffman thanked Associate Commissioner Cedrone for his report and acknowledged that this is terrific work, but wondered if this information could be extended back to high schools and might be a future topic of the joint Boards.

Ms. James provided an overview of the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA). She said that new federal legislation will provide the backbone of the Commonwealth's workforce development system and those new changes will better serve the needs of the business community by prioritizing alignment, partnership and customer oriented design.

Board member Henry Thomas thought this was a good comprehensive outline that gives

some depth and perspectives of what is to come.

Representatives of three college campuses and vocational educational schools presented an innovative collaboration to promote the academic progression of nursing students seeking to advance from LPN to BSN degrees.

Helen Santos, MSN, RN, CNE – Director of Practical Nursing at Assabet Valley Regional Technical School in Marlboro stated that the LPN workforce represents an exciting opportunity to diversify the registered nurse workforce, a key goal of Massachusetts nursing initiative. The LPN program takes 10 months to complete and is very important to their students because of their passion to care for the elderly.

Linda McKay, MS, RN, Chair, Nursing Program at Fitchburg State University stated that there is national interest in the LPN to BSN model and Fitchburg is trying to develop an accelerated program students.

Gloria Harris Carter, Ph.D.,FNP – Associate Professor for Practice, Simmons College & Dean Emerita, Health Science Division at Roxbury Community College. Dr. Harris said finding ways to increase the diversity group in nursing and males will be of great help and she thinks that Fitchburg State University program is designed to help in these areas.

Commissioner Santiago asked what they would like to leave the group with moving forward. Ms. Santos responded that they would like to get the word out so that people can take advantage of these programs. Dr. Carter also stated that she would like to see some replication in the Boston area because there are many capable LPNs who just need the opportunity to move up in the nursing field and this type of model would greatly benefit those individuals.

Chair Gabrieli thanked the group for their comments and encouraged the Department and the presenters to explore different approaches to help scale up efforts such as this.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Gabrieli adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

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