

**Massachusetts Board of Higher Education
Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy Committee Meeting
January 17, 2017**

The January 17, 2017 meeting of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy (FAAP) Committee was held in Conference Room 3 on the 21st floor of One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

Committee Members Present: Committee Chair Tom Hopcroft; Dani Monroe; Paul Toner; EOE Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning Tom Moreau (for EOE Secretary James Peyser); Student Board Member Jasson Alvarado Gomez

Committee Members Absent: Don Irving; J.D. LaRock; Paul Materra; Board Chair Chris Gabrieli

Special Guests Framingham State University President Javier Cevallos
Representatives from Massachusetts State College Building Authority Karol Ostberg and Ed Adelman

Department Staff Present: Commissioner Carlos Santiago; Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance Sean Nelson; Nate Mackinnon; Dena Papanikolaou; Elena Quiroz-Livanis; Ashley Wisneski; Patricia Marshall; Clantha McCurdy; Winifred Hagan; Joe Wallerstein; Ellen Osborne-Smith

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Hopcroft called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 29, 2016 meeting of the Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy Committee were unanimously approved.

III. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REMARKS

No remarks were offered by Committee Chair Hopcroft. Chair Hopcroft asked Commissioner Santiago if he wished to offer any introductory remarks. Commissioner Santiago declined.

IV. COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS

Commissioner Santiago offered no opening remarks.

V. MOTIONS

A. FAAP 17-22 Building Naming: Westfield State University

Committee Chair Hopcroft turned the meeting over to Deputy Commissioner Sean Nelson for an overview of the proposed Westfield State University building naming. Deputy Commissioner Nelson detailed that the naming proposal received from the Westfield State University Board of

Trustees was in accordance with the current Building Naming Policy, including the approval process, as passed by the BHE. He also noted that the naming proposal will be coupled with a campus fundraising effort to support a scholarship and/or endowment in honor of Dr. Nettie Stevens. The fundraising campaign, while not compulsory under the current policy, is in the spirit of the BHE's proposed amendment to the Building Naming Policy to be contemplated later in the meeting agenda. Deputy Commissioner Nelson then turned the meeting to Westfield State University Ramon Torrecilha for more background and context on the naming request.

President Torrecilha provided the FAAP committee with additional background on the request regarding the naming of the campus' new science building after Dr. Nettie Stevens, a distinguished woman scientist and Westfield State alumna. President Torrecilha also noted that the naming would be tied to a campaign to endow a new scholarship in her name. Committee Chair Hopcroft expressed that the link to a fundraising initiative was an ideal opportunity for Westfield State University to raise awareness to Dr. Stevens' achievements while also supporting students financially. Committee Member Monroe commented that the naming of the building was the appropriate honor to recognize the important contributions of Dr. Stevens.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved unanimously by all board members present:

FAAP 17-22 NAMING OF WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY'S NEW SCIENCE BUILDING IN HONOR OF NETTIE MARIA STEVENS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the request of the Westfield State University (WSU) Board of Trustees to name the college's new science building the "Dr. Nettie Stevens Hall" in honor of renowned scientist and WSU graduate Nettie Maria Stevens.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, §9(m).

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

B. FAAP 17-19 Approval of FAAP Motions 17-12 through 17-18 on a Consent Agenda

Committee Chair Hopcroft asked Deputy Commissioner Nelson to give a presentation of the State University and Community College Tuition Rates for FY2018. Deputy Commissioner Nelson noted that no change is recommended for the FY2018 tuition rates for either resident or non-resident and, further, that no change is recommended in undergraduate and graduate tuition rates. He also recommended that, given the successful implementation of tuition retention for the University of Massachusetts, a review of the viability of tuition retention for the community colleges and state universities should be conducted in FY2018. To that end, the DHE will be recommending that a study of the issue be included in the Governor's FY2018 budget request.

On a motion duly made and seconded, FAAP Motions 17-12 through 17-18 were bundled and the following bundled motion was approved unanimously by all board members present with Student Board Member Alvarado Gomez abstaining:

**FAAP 17-19 APPROVAL OF FAAP COMMITTEE MOTIONS 17-12 THROUGH 17-18
ON A CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- FAAP 17-12 Community Colleges
Resident Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-13 Community Colleges
Non-Resident Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-14 State Universities
Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-15 State Universities
Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-16 State Universities
Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-17 State Universities
Non-Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2018

- FAAP 17-18 Berkshire Community College and Massachusetts College
of Liberal Arts Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate
Tuition Rates for FY2018

Authority: Article III, Section 6, By-Laws

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

C. FAAP 17-20 FY2018 MSCBA Rent Certificate

Committee Chair Hopcroft asked Deputy Commissioner Nelson to introduce Ed Adelman from the Massachusetts State College Building Authority.

Mr. Adelman began by detailing the coordination between the MSCBA and the DHE, and proceeded to discuss the use of rent at residence halls to fund their operations.

Commissioner Santiago asked Mr. Adelman if the cost of rent was lower on average at private institutions as opposed to public institutions. Mr. Adelman replied that the lower number is a weighted average because the cost of older beds is lower.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved unanimously by all board members present:

**FAAP 17-20 FISCAL YEAR 2018 RENT SCHEDULE AND OPERATING BUDGETS
MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the attached Fiscal Year 2018 Schedule of Proposed Rents and Operating Budget for the Authority and State University Residence Halls, effective July 1, 2017, provided that any increase in the rent schedule shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Higher Education.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 73 App., §§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 and Finance

D. FAAP 17-21 MSCBA: Massachusetts Maritime Academy Authorization

Committee Chair Hopcroft asked Mr. Adelman to present on the request to authorize the construction of additional housing at Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA).

Mr. Adelman began by noting that there is a chronic shortage of housing at MMA and that they were currently considering plan to address the shortage that included new housing options both on and off campus. The interim plan called for leasing housing for cadets, and MMA had recently approved a three year lease of space for housing through spring of 2020.

Assistant Secretary Moreau asked Mr. Adelman if any of the other campuses had had similar experiences leasing interim housing. President McDonald from MMA responded that, unlike some of the other state campuses, MMA cannot have students in the community because of the need for dormitory oversight and student inspection. Commissioner Santiago asked whether assignment to the new housing would be selective. President McDonald replied that it would be limited to upper class housing assignments. Committee Member Moreau asked whether it is MSCBA or the institution that typically leases the facility. Mr. Adelman replied with several examples of dormitories leased by MSCBA. President McDonald added that because MMA anticipated the need for a multi-year lease, it had sought assistance from MSCBA.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved unanimously by all board members present:

**FAAP 17-21 APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO LEASE OR LICENSE AGREEMENT
CADET HOUSING, MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY
MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Massachusetts State College Building Authority to enter into a lease or license agreement for Cadet Housing at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, for up to 100 beds, as described in the attached Exhibit A, the lease or license term not to extend beyond the Spring of 2020.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 73 App., §§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 and Finance

E. FAAP 17-23 Building Naming Policy Amendment

Committee Chair Hopcroft turned the discussion over to Deputy Commissioner Nelson to discuss the BHE's Building Naming Policy. After a few remarks about the impact of the naming policy on fundraising, Deputy Commissioner Nelson turned the discussion over to Commissioner Santiago.

Commissioner Santiago began by noting that buildings are public assets and raising money should be part of the culture surrounding building naming, but that there are exceptions to this rule. Deputy Commissioner Nelson commented that there is a need to amend the aggregate donation language to allow donations over time to meet threshold levels. General Counsel Dena Papanikolaou noted that there was a verbal amendment to allow for aggregate donations over time from individual donors to be deemed acceptable for meeting threshold levels. Committee Chair Hopcroft asked whether the naming was to be done prospectively to enable the campus to raise money or if it was to be done in recognition of actual money raised. Committee Member Toner asked whether there has traditionally been any conversation with the BHE before a campus decides to begin the process of naming a building, specifically whether there was particular consideration given to the political correctness of the name or whether it was tied to a political donation. Committee Member Toner also asked how the BHE would handle such situations. General Counsel Papanikolaou replied that the BHE has a specific policy on building naming, and she read the policy to the committee. Commissioner Santiago added that in the case of the Westfield State University building naming discussed earlier, the university had a conversation with the BHE prior to seeking approval. Deputy Commissioner Nelson added that as a body, the BHE could do a better job generating awareness and notifying institutional development stakeholders about its naming policy. With respect to acknowledging aggregate donations over time in the policy, Framingham State University President Javier Cevallos offered that it was a good way to recognize long term donors that have had a continuous relationship with the institution. Committee Chair Hopcroft asked whether language should be added to the motion. Assistant Secretary Moreau asked what process exists to waive the donor threshold requirement. Deputy Commissioner Nelson responded that FAAP has that ability, and General Counsel Papanikolaou added that the requirement could be waived by a simple majority vote. Committee Member Monroe added that this process has been vetted by FAAP for the past three years.

Following the end of discussion General Counsel Papanikolaou noted that FAAP would be voting on both the written amendment and the verbal amendment to be approved as recommended.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved unanimously by all board members present:

FAAP 17-23 APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION BUILDING NAMING POLICY AMENDMENT

MOVED: For reasons set forth in the background document, the Board of Higher Education (BHE) hereby adopts amendments to the Building Naming Policy.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 15A, § 9

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

F. FAAP 17-24 Early Educator Scholarship Guidelines Amendment

Commissioner Santiago introduced Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Student Success Winifred Hagan and Senior Deputy Commissioner for Access and Student Financial Assistance Clantha McCurdy to briefly provide background on the amendment to the Early Educator Scholarship Guidelines. Senior Deputy Commissioner McCurdy spoke of the fifteen year-old program aimed at increasing the number of teachers working with infant and toddlers. She stated that a two-year review of the program had revealed that there were issues with degree completion. It was recommended that the BHE amend the Early Educator Scholarship Guidelines to eliminate the degree enrollment requirement.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved unanimously by all board members present:

FAAP 17-24 APPROVAL OF THE EARLY EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES AMENDMENT

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the recommended amendments to the Early Childhood Educator Scholarships guidelines for students and programs.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 15A, §§ 6, 9, & 15B

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

VI. DISCUSSION

Committee Chair Hopcroft asked Deputy Commissioner Nelson to provide an update on the FY2018 Budget. Deputy Commissioner Nelson replied that the FY2018 Governor's Budget was not scheduled for release until the following week and that an update will be provided at the next FAAP meeting. He ceded the remainder of his time to Senior Associate Commissioner for Research and Planning Jonathan Keller for a brief update on the status and timeline of the Performance Measurement Initiative.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Committee Chair Hopcroft called for a motion to adjourn, which was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:18pm.