

## BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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May 5, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

### Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Higher Education (BHE) was held virtually on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 on the web-conference platform Zoom.

#### **The following Board Members were present:**

Chris Gabrieli, Chair  
Sheila Harrity, Vice-Chair  
Ann Christensen  
Veronica Conforme  
Alex Cortez  
Patty Eppinger  
Paul Mattera  
JD La Rock  
Jim Peyser, Secretary of Education  
Judy Pagliuca<sup>1</sup>  
Mike O'Brien  
Paul Toner  
Abby Velozo, Student Member, Community College segment

Anna Grady, non-voting Student Advisor, State University segment  
Kush Patel, non-voting Student Advisor, UMASS segment

Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner and Secretary to the Board

#### **The following Board Members were absent:**

None

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

Chair Chris Gabrieli called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and announced that this meeting is being held remotely and in accordance with Governor Baker's recent Executive Order which suspended certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law for the purpose of authorizing public bodies to allow remote participation by all members while the state of emergency is in effect. Chair Gabrieli announced that Board members and select Department of Higher Education (DHE) staff would be participating remotely, via Zoom; that the meeting is being livestreamed and recorded; and that members of the public who signed up for public comment would be allowed to join the Zoom meeting to provide comment. DHE Chief of Staff, Elena Quiroz-Livanis, then took roll call attendance (see above for attendance roster).

## **II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Chair Gabrieli reported that requests for live public comments were received from the Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) with Max Page as their representative. Chair Gabrieli stipulated the time allotted for sharing comments as three minutes with a signal provided if comments exceeded the time.

After resolving technical difficulties, Dr. Page joined the meeting and offered public comment. He talked about the virus of austerity and shared concerns about budget implications as a result of COVID-19, mentioning layoffs at a number of community colleges. He also discussed the MTA's Fund Our Future campaign and how it could potentially be aligned with the Equity Agenda. He stated that rather than threatening to violate collective bargaining laws by refusing to bargain with faculty and staff unions, the Board should join the MTA in advocating for a major investment in public higher education at this very moment as public higher education is the best investment that the state can make in the short and long-term.

## **III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Chair Gabrieli asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the last BHE meeting, which was held on April 08, 2020. The motion was duly moved and seconded, with no discussion, and then proceeded to a roll call vote:

- Alex Cortez - Yes
- Patty Eppinger - Yes
- Sheila Harrity, Vice-Chair - Yes
- Patty Eppinger - Yes
- Paul Mattera - Yes
- JD La Rock – Yes
- Michael O'Brien
- Jim Peyser, Secretary of Education - Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo - Yes
- Chris Gabrieli, Chair - Yes

## **IV. REMARKS & REPORTS**

### **A. Chairman's Remarks**

Chair Gabrieli thanked DHE staff and the campuses for continuing to work and teach in remote work environments. He acknowledged the challenging times and expressed appreciation for the hard work underway to adapt to the challenges posed by COVID-19, and then shifted his comments to focus on a discussion of the next steps as the campuses look towards repopulating in the Fall. Chair Gabrieli stated that we need to prospectively assess the fiscal condition of the Commonwealth's public higher education system, stating that it is important to

ensure that as a board we all have a good understanding of the nature, in particular, of the financial risk and the potential impact of COVID-19 on institutional finances. The push behind this is three significant variables: 1) student enrollment; 2) the public health challenge of COVID-19; and 3) uncertainty of federal recovery aid and support from the state. He then announced a data project among BHE, DHE, and the 9 State Universities and 15 Community Colleges. The plan is to build on the annual spring budgeting and forecasting of every Community College and State University over the next 4-6 weeks with the support of a consultant, EY- Parthenon. The objective, according to Chair Gabrieli, is to ensure there is a system-wide view of the unique financial challenges posed by COVID-19. To further this work, he stated that he and the Commissioner would be organizing a steering committee to work with the consultant, and to help collect and analyze the data. That working group would include representatives of the State Universities and Community Colleges, and DHE staff, including Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance Tom Simard. The project will culminate in a public report that he anticipated would be shared with the BHE at a special meeting in early to mid-June.

## **B. Commissioner's Remarks**

Commissioner Santiago welcomed members to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending during these very difficult and troubling times. He then acknowledged the campus presidents in attendance: President Cevallos of Framingham State University, President Clark of Bridgewater State University, President Douglas of Bristol Community College, President Eddinger of Bunker Hill Community College, President Glenn of Northern Essex Community College, President Glickman of Massasoit Community College, President Keenan of Salem State University, President Kennedy of Berkshire Community College, President Maloney of Worcester State University, President McDonald of Massachusetts Maritime Academy, President Nelson of Massachusetts College of Art and Design, President Royal of Holyoke Community College, and President Salomon-Fernandez of Greenfield Community College; as well as segmental representatives Tom Sannicandro and Vincent Pedone.

The Commissioner stated that he wanted to focus his remarks on two key issues: The DHE Equity Agenda, and the COVID-19 developments since the last Board meeting. He shared the importance of moving the Equity Agenda forward despite COVID-19 since data shows the impact of the virus disproportionately falling on the least advantaged and the most vulnerable. He then provided an example, as noted in the following data: FAFSA completion in the Commonwealth is down 16% compared to this time last year. That represents a total decline of approximately 40,000 in student completions. He further added that historically underserved students tend to complete the FAFSA late in the process, and these are the very students that are being most impacted. Therefore, to provide students and their families more time to complete the required process for state financial aid, the Commissioner extended May 1, 2020, FAFSA deadline to July 1, 2020. Lastly, the Commissioner offered a prelude to a later discussion featuring the DHE Research and Planning team and the goals formulated to move the Equity Agenda forward.

Commissioner Santiago then provided an overview of COVID-19 response and planning, as the

public higher education system shifts to the next phase of pandemic response and looks towards the fall. He acknowledged that institutions are preparing for a variety of possible scenarios and the financial implications of what else transpires. He stated that we can agree that there is uncertainty on how best to prepare and execute as a successful fall opening. The Commissioner then added that returning to campus as before, entirely remotely, or some hybrid combination of the two, or something altogether different remains unclear. He then referenced the Governor's Re-Opening Advisory and noted the higher education working group. Lastly, the Commissioner reiterated that the safety of faculty, staff, and students remains of paramount importance, and the DHE will continue to work with the Department of Public Health and MEMA, and their advisories to guide decisions.

### **C. Secretary of Education's Remarks**

Secretary Peyser discussed the Governor's Reopening Advisory Board (RAB), and announced that a Higher Education Working Group has been established and it will be chaired by Laurie Leshin, President of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The Higher Education Working Group is an ad-hoc committee that would provide recommendations to the Governor's RAB. He stated that a set of announcements, plans and recommendations would be made on May 18. Secretary Peyser added that primary consideration continues to be the public health considerations of the Commonwealth. In addition, data will be the driving force behind decisions made to reopen. Secretary Peyser thanked the BHE, the Department, the campuses and all of those who did what was needed to help respond to the pandemic.

### **D. Reports from Presidents**

#### Community College Segmental Report

President Gentile opened her remarks, highlighting first responders and their unique position within public higher education. She stated these are the middle-skilled workers the Community College sector has focused on for decades. The more familiar term "essential workers" has become a household name, and it is in our national and regional socio-economic interest to invest public funds to ensure we have a sufficient supply to meet the demands of the front lines. Representing the Community College segment, she provided insight into the impacts of COVID-19 on Community College students, and referenced the CARES Act funding received to assist spring semester students with financial aid. President Gentile also shared the challenges in making the transition from response to preparation. She added that even with alternative scenarios created for Academic Year 2020-2021, they still depend heavily on state appropriations for their success.

President Gentile closed her remarks with advice on the changing the workforce dynamic through high quality, short-term workforce developments. She stated that she believed it is pivotal as transitions are made across the Commonwealth during the months ahead. She retired her post as Chair of Community College Council of Presidents and thanked the Board for their dedication. Dr. James Mabry is the president of Middlesex Community College and takes over

responsibility in early June.

For a copy of President Gentile's full remarks, please see:

<https://www.mass.edu/bhe/lib/documents/2020-05-05%20Report%20from%20CC%20Presidents.pdf>

#### State University Segmental Report

President Lapidus offered remarks which included post-COVID-19 recovery updates on State University students and institutions. President Lapidus provided detailed information regarding MA public higher education, strengthening its' financial position, and the analysis needed to facilitate a safe return to in-classroom instruction. He addressed the need to begin planning in advance, and sits alongside President Javier Cevallos on the Higher Education Working Group to the Governor's Reopening Advisory Board.

In addition, he thanked both DHE and EOE Staff for assistance in the accrediting and licensing agency requirements needed to assist in their remote academic programs. The collaboration kept students on track to graduate, with nearly 12,000 on record to receive a college degree. The campus will recognize students with virtual celebrations in late May but will celebrate with students more traditionally next year. President Lapidus closed his remarks by reiterating the shift to economic recovery and the essential role of the MA public higher education system.

For a copy of President Lapidus' full remarks, please see:

<https://www.mass.edu/bhe/lib/documents/2020-04-08%20Report%20from%20SU%20Presidents.pdf>

#### **E. Report from Student Advisory Council**

BHE Member Abby Velozo shared the importance of open communication between campuses and their students. She also expressed advocacy for lower tuition rates for students should classrooms revert to being "online-only" during the fall. UMass Segmental Advisor Kush Patel then addressed the petition for student emergency funding, in addition to transparency with regard to the CARES Act spending. Mr. Patel also noted the struggle of international and DACA students in need of financial support. Segmental Advisor Anna Grady also provided an update from the perspective of State University students, requesting timeliness in decision-making to ensure adequate provisions are available to determine the best career path for students before the fall. BHE Member Velozo closed the Student Advisory Council's remarks by highlighting the need for communication between campuses and their students.

Chair Gabrieli thanked the Student Advisory Council, proceeded with the next section of the agenda, and turned the meeting over to the Commissioner.

#### **V. PRESENTATION**

The presentation for the meeting can be viewed here: [Equity Minded Goal Setting](#).

#### **A. Equity Minded Goal Setting**

Commissioner Santiago presented on the DHE's work relative to the Equity Agenda and the Lumina Foundation. In his presentation, the Commissioner provided an overview of the DHE's initiative towards MA becoming the fifth TIE (Talent, Innovation, Equity) state in partnering with the Lumina Foundation. In particular, the setting of clear goals to ensure equity attainment is met in moving the Equity Agenda forward. He acknowledged that while establishing goals in this new environment has its challenges, it is essential to give continuity to the work started over a year ago following the Board's decision to make equity attainment its highest priority.

Senior Associate Commissioner Jonathan Keller and Assistant Commissioner Sarah Mealey lent their support to the discussion and led a PowerPoint presentation. Both shared applicable data forecasts to bring a visual aspect to the collaboration with Lumina. Senior Associate Commissioner Keller invited BHE Members to provide individual comments and pose questions.

Vice-Chair Harrity acknowledged the importance of this topic, especially now during the pandemic. Regarding our underserved population, she said she did not know what could be done to help support students, but as an educator, she said she found it very challenging to deliver remote learning in the best of circumstances, never mind to students that could be potentially struggling with having only the remote access, and not the campus ability to have that one or one or group learning environment. Chair Gabrieli expressed support for the Equity Agenda approach and the desire to have thoughtful goals for the state to look at things from a "top down" point of view and a metrics point of view, while connecting to the "bottom up" ideas from both campus leadership and students. He supported pressing forward with continuing improvements and innovation and saw opportunities through changes in policy and changes in practice.

#### **VI. MOTIONS**

##### List of Documents Used

*PowerPoint Presentation, BHE Meeting May 5, 2020*

*BHE Motions 20-11 through 20-22*

#### **A. BHE 20-11 AUTHORIZATION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE LUMINA FOUNDATION AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMISSIONER MOVED:**

Following the discussion on equity-minded goal setting, the Chair stated the motion before the Board is to authorize the Commissioner to advance a partnership with Lumina Foundation and to become a Talent, Innovation, and Equity state and adopt the presented goals. The following motion (BHE 20-11) was then duly made and seconded:

**VOTED (BHE 20-11):** In December 2018, the Board of Higher Education (BHE) adopted a

vision statement to guide the work of developing a statewide equity agenda. Pursuant to recommendations in the Board's FY19 Evaluation of the Commissioner to seek additional resources and develop partnerships with outside stakeholders, including philanthropic organizations, to advance the equity agenda the Department of Higher Education seeks to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Lumina Foundation. Lumina Foundation has identified the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as qualifying for designation as a Talent, Innovation, and Equity (TIE) State Partner. Should both Lumina Foundation and the Department move forward with the Commonwealth's designation, the BHE hereby delegates to the Commissioner the authority to finalize and execute the TIE MOU with the Lumina Foundation, consistent with the framework and goals outlined in the attached background statement.

The motion passed unanimously, by all Board members present. Votes were recorded by roll call as follows:

- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Veronica Conforme – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes
- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes
- Paul Mattera – Yes
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo – Yes

**B. BHE 20-12 Approval of Letter of Intent and Authorization for Fast Track Review of Bachelor of Science in Photonics at Bridgewater State University**

Chair Gabrieli introduced the next motion, adding that it is the second time that we will be approving an institutional letter of intent and authorization for the "fast track" review through the new program approval process where institutions come to us early on, not when the final approval on all of the details have been ironed out. Chair Gabrieli added his impressions, stating that the supporting documentation for this motion was consistent with that kind of direction. He added that he had a couple of constructive critiques that he could suggest on an offline basis on the staff memorandum, but that he thought it overall was a nice form.

With that, he asked for a motion of approval of BHE 20-12. The following motion, BHE 20-12, was moved and duly seconded:

**VOTED (BHE 20-12):** The Board of Higher Education (BHE) has evaluated the Letter of

Intent of Bridgewater State University to award the Bachelor of Science in Photonics and has determined that the proposal aligns with BHE criteria. Accordingly, the BHE authorizes the Commissioner to review the program and to make a final determination on degree granting authority pursuant to the Fast Track review protocol.

The motion passed unanimously by all Board members present. The votes were recorded by roll call as follows:

- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Veronica Conforme – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes
- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes
- Paul Mattera – Yes
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo – Yes

**C. BHE 20-13 Approval and Adoption of Final Amendments to 610 CMR 12.00: Operation of Massachusetts Degree-Granting Institutions Under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)**

Chair Gabrieli introduced the next motion, recalling that earlier this year, the Board discussed the draft amendments to 610 CMR 12.00, which is aligning the Board's SARA regulations with changes to national SARA policy. The Department's SARA Coordinator Alex Nally provided background and context in support of the Motion. Mr. Nally stated that the proposed changes will ensure that as the Commonwealth's renewal application proceeds next month, our regulations and policies are in compliance. The regulations have now gone through the required public comment process, and those regulations are before the Board today for approval and promulgation.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Nally's presentation, Chair Gabrieli called for a motion on BHE 20-13, which was duly made and seconded:

**VOTED (BHE 20-13):** The Board of Higher Education, in accordance with MGL c. 15A, § 9 and c. 69, § 31A, and having solicited and reviewed public comment in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, MGL c. 30A, § 3, hereby adopts the following amendments to existing regulation 610 CMR 12.00: Operation of Massachusetts Degree-Granting Institutions Under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).

The motion passed unanimously by all Board members present. The votes were recorded by roll call as follows:



- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes
- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes
- Paul Mattera – Yes
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo – Yes

#### **D. BHE 20-14 Approval of Greenfield Community College Mission Statement**

Senior Associate Commissioner Hagan proceeded with an introduction and background , on BHE 20-14, stating that Greenfield Community College's (GCC) began a review of its mission statement at the meeting on October 7, 2019, at which all community members were asked to consider the current mission statement; 72 attendees participated. Subsequent to that, and over the next several months, multiple dialogues and surveys ensued and included all of Greenfield's various stakeholders. Eventually, the college community endorsed the mission statement, and on February 24, 2020, it was ratified by Greenfield's assembly in a unanimous action. The mission was approved by the Greenfield Community College Board of Trustees on February 26, 2020.

Chair Gabrieli called for a motion on BHE 20-14, which was duly made and seconded:

**VOTED (BHE 20-14):** The Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Greenfield Community College revised mission statement to read as follows:

Greenfield Community College provides a high-quality education to all who seek the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive and effect positive change in their lives, communities, and the world. With excellence, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to teaching and learning together in an inclusive and caring environment, we empower all learners to reach their full potential. The Board further authorizes the Commissioner to forward the same to the Secretary of Education, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 7.

The motion passed unanimously by all Board members present. The votes were recorded by roll call as follows:

- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes

- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes
- Paul Mattera – Yes
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner<sup>ii</sup> -- no vote
- Abby Velozo – Yes

#### **E. BHE 20-15 Delegation of Authority for Collective Bargaining**

Chair Gabrieli introduced the motion and provided historical context. The Board is the employer of record for collective bargaining purposes for the state universities and the community colleges. As such, the Board is the entity authorized to enter into collective bargaining with the exclusive representatives of union members. Historically, this authority has been primarily delegated to the Commissioner who in turn has sub-delegated this authority to college and university presidents and their designees. As the BHE enters into a new three-year bargaining cycle, the purpose of this motion is to clarify and specify this delegation of authority regarding the collective bargaining process, in accordance with recent historical practice and the provisions of MGL c. 150E, § 1. Deputy Commissioner Tom Simard will provide background.

Deputy Commissioner Simard stated that as the employer of record, the Board of Higher Education has formal authority as the employer of records to negotiate with the exclusive representatives of collective bargaining members through their unit representatives. This motion is intended to clarify the process, as the BHE enters into a new three-year contract phase beginning on July 1, with talks beginning six months prior. The purpose of the motion is to formally codify and convey the Board's formal authority in this area to the Commissioner and to specify the terms and procedures under which collective bargaining should be carried out. Deputy Commissioner Simard summarized the processes and then opened the floor for questions.

Board Member Pagliuca asked whether the Board ever sees the criteria before the negotiations, noting that, based on the last slide presented, the Board does not seem to be able to see anything until the process concludes. Deputy Commissioner Simard stated that negotiations are typically conducted in accordance with whatever the parameters established by the administration through the Office Employee Relations (OER). Director of Employee Relations Mike Murray added that the parameters usually relate to economic offers, especially those that involve incremental costs and those generally tend to include salary increases and other payments for covered compensation. He stated that the Department also receives guidance as to the extent or scope of the application of those parameters and we are in constant communication with OER to ensure that the negotiations going forward stay within those parameters, noting that this approach is really in the interest of all the parties to avoid any rejection of the contract. Chief Legal Counsel Papanikolaou added that the Department, from time to time, provides updates to the Board on contractual negotiations during FAAP Committee meetings. However, there are Open Meeting Law considerations. Negotiations with a union in particular, and contract negotiations or lease negotiations in general, are not

subject to Open Meeting Law. Accordingly, Department staff tend to not bring those matters to the Board in public session, but may proceed through an Executive Session briefing.

Board Member Toner asked whether Deputy Commissioner Simard or Director Murray could address the status of layoffs and furloughs. He said he was curious on how widespread layoffs or furloughs were on our campuses, and whether CARES Act funding could be used to help hold off or prevent some of that.

Director Murray stated over the last three weeks, four Community Colleges (Bristol Community College, Middlesex Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Springfield Technical Community College) have laid off a number of part-time, non-benefited employees (known as "03" employees). Many of these individuals work less than 10 hours per week, and all had duties that did not lend themselves to remote work; many were also on short term contracts that ended in May. While these four colleges paid these 03 employees for no work for six weeks this approach became unsustainable when it became clearer that it would be an indefinite period of no-campus activity this semester. Director Murray added that both Middlesex and Bristol, in addition to 03 employees, did also layoff a number of MCCC part-time, non-benefited employees that performed duties very similar to the 03's. He added that However, there have been other reorganizations and reductions across the Community College system as a result of enrollment shifts, organizational shifts, and the like. Director Murray said it was his understanding that most of the Community Colleges and some State Universities are looking down the road at potential furloughs or layoffs, depending on what funding looks like, and depending upon how campus operations appear.

Deputy Commissioner Simard added that with respect to the allowable uses of the CARES ACT funding, approximately \$12.5 billion was appropriated generally to institutions across the country, of which \$130 million was slated to be allocated to Massachusetts public higher education institutions. Approximately \$65 million was initially made available as pass-through grant assistance dollars from institutions directly to students. The other half, which is what we generally refer to as the discretionary pool of funds (\$65 million across the 29 public campuses), was recently made available. To his understanding, those dollars are being used to at least partially or fully offset COVID-19 related costs, whether that be in the form of stipends, training, technology, and the like.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, Chair Gabrieli called for a motion on BHE 20-15, which was duly made and seconded:

**VOTED (BHE 20-15):** The Board of Higher Education (the Board), as the employer of record authorized pursuant to Chapter 150E of the Massachusetts General Laws to negotiate collective bargaining agreements with certain employees of the State Universities and Community Colleges, hereby delegates its authority to negotiate such collective bargaining agreements to the Commissioner for (3) years effective January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023, consistent with the following procedures:

1. The Commissioner is authorized to delegate to the State University and Community College Presidents and their designees authority to negotiate a tentative agreement, with the participation of Commissioner's representative.
2. In negotiating a tentative agreement, the Presidents, their representatives, and the Department's representative shall ensure that the agreement is within economic parameters established by the Executive Office of Administration and Finance (ANF), and with technical assistance from the Department, the Office of Employee Relations, and ANF as needed to confirm that such agreement is within economic parameters.
3. When a tentative agreement is reached, the Commissioner shall brief the Chair of the Board of Higher Education, the Secretary of the Executive Office of Education, and the Office of Employee Relations on the terms of the Agreement.
4. The Agreement shall be submitted to the union for ratification subsequent to confirmation that the Agreement is within economic parameters.
5. The Agreement is signed by Commissioner.
6. In accordance with Section 7c of Chapter 150e of the Massachusetts General Laws, and within thirty days after the date on which the collective bargaining agreement is executed by the parties, the agreement shall be submitted to the Governor with a request for an appropriation necessary to fund such incremental cost items contained therein as are required to be funded in the then current fiscal year.

The motion passed unanimously by all Board members present. The votes were recorded by roll call as follows:

- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes
- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes
- Paul Mattera – Yes
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo – Yes

**F. BHE Motions 20-16 through 20-22**

Chair Gabrieli introduced the next set of motions, stating that these motions are all regarding the approval of tuition rates for the upcoming academic year. These rates, as proposed, are the same as the current academic year. As a reminder, student charges are comprised of tuition and fees. Fees are set by the individual institutions' Board of trustees and are generally considerably higher than tuition rates, which are set by the Board, as required in statute. He stated that typically these

votes are brought before the full Board on a consent agenda after being considered by the FAAP Committee, and the votes are typically bundled for approval. Before moving to whether or not to bundle these for approval today, he asked Deputy Commissioner Simard to provide background information

Deputy Commissioner Tom Simard stated that each year the Board of Higher Education takes up the responsibility to set tuition rates for the Community Colleges and State Universities, except for the two special mission institutions (Massachusetts College Art and Design and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy) which have separate tuition and fees setting authority, subject to the Board's approval of their respective strategic plans. Similarly, the University of Massachusetts has retained tuition authority. That change was made about 4 or 5 years ago. Slide one in the PowerPoint presentation, regarding BHE 20-16 to BHE 20-22 includes a very general description of how tuition fits within the context of overall revenues to support higher education. In addition, tuition is remitted to the Commonwealth to the general fund.

Each year, the Commonwealth appropriates dollars to subsidize or defray the cost of public higher education through the General Appropriations Act, and each campus receives a direct appropriation. In addition, when collective bargaining agreements are finalized, supplemental funding is authorized to add additional supports for those costs. Then, indirectly, the Commonwealth supports the cost of fringe benefits for individuals who are compensated through state-appropriated dollars. There are other appropriations, including the capital appropriations, to support capital projects such as typical repairs, which are not described here. He shared that there are also dollars for financial aid that help with tuition discounting and other supports, but this a general review describing tuition and fees and appropriated dollars.

Deputy Commissioner Simard continued, stating that the State Universities and Community Colleges have both remitted and retained tuition depending on the nature of the tuition. Out-of-state tuitions are retained. Fees are retained and each institutional local board approves the mandatory and special program fees each year for the upcoming academic year. Students are responsible for both the tuition, which is set by the Board of Higher Education, and the fees as set by each State University and Community College.

In the interest of time, Chair Gabrieli proposed to bundle motions BHE 20-16 through BHE 20-22 for approval, and to also approve BHE motions 20-16 through 20-22 though one vote. Hearing no objection, Chair Gabrieli called for a motion to bundle BHE motions 20-16 through BHE 20-22 and to approve BHE Motions 20-16 through 20-22. The bundled motion was moved, duly seconded and approved unanimously. The votes were recorded by roll call as follows:

- Anna Christensen – Yes
- Alex Cortez – Yes
- Patty Eppinger – Yes
- Chair-Chris Gabrieli – Yes
- Vice-Chair Sheila Harrity – Yes
- JD LaRock – Yes

- Paul Mattera
- Michael O'Brien – Yes
- Judy Pagliuca – Yes
- Secretary Peyser – Yes
- Paul Toner – Yes
- Abby Velozo<sup>iii</sup>-- no vote

**BHE 20-16 COMMUNITY COLLEGES RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education adopts the following resident tuition rates at the community colleges for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Rate Per Credit</b>	<b>Annual Resident Tuition</b>
Berkshire Community College	\$0	\$26	\$780
Bristol Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Bunker Hill Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Cape Cod Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Greenfield Community College	\$0	\$26	\$780
Holyoke Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Massachusetts Bay Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Massasoit Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Middlesex Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Mount Wachusett Community College	\$0	\$25	\$750
North Shore Community College	\$0	\$25	\$750
Northern Essex Community College	\$0	\$25	\$750
Quinsigamond Community College	\$0	\$24	\$720
Roxbury Community College	\$0	\$26	\$780
Springfield Technical Community College	\$0	\$25	\$750

**BHE 20-17 COMMUNITY COLLEGES NON-RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education adopts the following non-resident tuition rates at the community colleges for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Rate Per Credit</b>	<b>Annual Non-Resident Tuition</b>
Berkshire Community College	\$0	\$260	\$7,800
Bristol Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Bunker Hill Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Cape Cod Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Greenfield Community College	\$0	\$281	\$8,430
Holyoke Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Massachusetts Bay Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900

Massasoit Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Middlesex Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Mount Wachusett Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
North Shore Community College	\$0	\$257	\$7,710
Northern Essex Community College	\$0	\$266	\$7,980
Quinsigamond Community College	\$0	\$230	\$6,900
Roxbury Community College	\$0	\$247	\$7,410
Springfield Technical Community College	\$0	\$242	\$7,260

### **BHE 20-18 State Universities Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education adopts the following resident undergraduate tuition rates at the state universities for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Annual Resident Undergraduate Tuition</b>
Bridgewater State University	\$0	\$910
Fitchburg State University	\$0	\$970
Framingham State University	\$0	\$970
Massachusetts College of Art and Design	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$0	\$1,030
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	N/A	N/A
Salem State University	\$0	\$910
Westfield State University	\$0	\$970
Worcester State University	\$0	\$970

### **BHE 20-19 State Universities Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education adopts the following non-resident undergraduate tuition rates at the state universities for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Annual Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition</b>
Bridgewater State University	\$0	\$7,050
Fitchburg State University	\$0	\$7,050
Framingham State University	\$0	\$7,050
Massachusetts College of Art and Design	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$0	\$9,975
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	N/A	N/A
Salem State University	\$0	\$7,050
Westfield State University	\$0	\$7,050
Worcester State University	\$0	\$7,050

**BHE 20-20 State Universities Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the following resident graduate tuition rates for state-supported programs at the state universities for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Annual Resident Graduate Tuition</b>
Bridgewater State University	\$0	\$1,675
Fitchburg State University	\$0	\$1,675
Framingham State University	\$0	\$1,675
Massachusetts College of Art and Design	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$0	\$1,675
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	N/A	N/A
Salem State University	\$0	\$1,675
Westfield State University	\$0	\$1,675
Worcester State University	\$0	\$1,675

**BHE 20-21 State Universities Non-Resident Graduate Tuition Rates for FY2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the following non- resident graduate tuition rates for state-supported programs at the state universities for Fiscal Year 2021:

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Annual Non-Resident Graduate Tuition</b>
Bridgewater State University	\$0	\$7,050
Fitchburg State University	\$0	\$7,050
Framingham State University	\$0	\$7,050
Massachusetts College of Art and Design	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$0	\$9,975
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	N/A	N/A
Salem State University	\$0	\$7,050
Westfield State University	\$0	\$7,050
Worcester State University	\$0	\$7,050

**BHE 20-22 Berkshire Community College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates for FY2021**

**VOTED:** The Board of Higher Education adopts the following alternative tuition rates and enrollment caps for new, non-resident, undergraduate students at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College for Fiscal Year 2021:

**Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates**

<b>Change</b>	<b>Rate Per Credit</b>	<b>Alternative Tuition</b>
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Massachusetts College of Liberal Art	\$0	-	\$1,545
Berkshire Community College	\$0	\$39	\$1,170

**Enrollment Caps for New Students**

	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Change</b>
Massachusetts College of Liberal Art	306	0
Berkshire Community College	100	0

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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

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<sup>i</sup> Judy Pagliuca joined the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

<sup>ii</sup> Paul Toner’s vote on the Greenfield Mission Statement was not recorded during roll call due to technical difficulties, but he subsequently confirmed that he wished to record a “yes” vote.

<sup>iii</sup> Abby Velozo did not vote on the Delegation of Authority for Collective Bargaining motion due to technical difficulties