

MassArt Board of Trustees

Academic and Student Affairs committee

September 17, 2021 9:00-10:00am

Meeting Minutes

Committee members present: Denise Korn (Chair), Daren Bascome, Elisa Hamilton, Ella von Huene, Mary Grant (ex-officio), Lyssa Palu-ay (Ad-Hoc.)

Committee members absent: none.

Other Trustees present: Greg Stone.

MassArt staff present: Maureen Keefe, James Mason, Lauren Wilshusen, Jamie Costello, Marjorie O'Malley, Robert Chambers, Ernie Plowman, Ellen Carr, Kate Russell, K. John Ashworth-King, Katie Westerlind (Secretary to the Board.)

Call to Order - *Chair Denise Korn*

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Korn at 9:05am.
- She welcomed the group, thanked everyone for gathering in this way, and reminded everyone that this was a public meeting during which all votes will be taken by roll call.
- Chair Korn is the new chair of the Academic and Student Affairs committee, so she introduced herself and her work outside of and with the MassArt board.
- Chair Korn also introduced new student trustee Ella von Huene, '23.

Approval of the Minutes: May 26, 2021 - *Chair Korn*

- In order to consolidate procedural matters, roll call vote on minutes will also be considered attendance of the trustees.
- Attendance of other trustees will also be taken to inform the public who is on the call.

On a motion duly made and seconded, by a vote of four in favor, none against, none abstaining:

VOTED: to 1) acknowledge attendance, and 2) approve the minutes of the May 26, 2021 Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting.

Roll call: Bascome, yes; Hamilton, yes; von Huene, yes; Korn, yes.

Reports

Enrollment Update - *Lauren Wilshusen, Dean of Enrollment Management*

- Graduate programs have 60 new students, 15 of which are international students.
- Undergraduate programs:
 - New students: 488 total new students
 - 394 first time college students, 30 foundation transfers, and 64 upper level transfers.
 - 28.4% of the incoming students are ALANA; 24.3% are First Generation.
 - Geographic breakdown:
 - 345 MA students (70.6%); 57 New England students (11.6%); 87 out-of-state students (17.8%) (includes international students)
 - 31 international students (6.3%)
- The trustees asked clarifying questions around the post baccalaureate degrees, ALANA, and FTE credits.

Return to campus - *Maureen Keefe, VP of Student Development*

- COVID Update
 - High volume of testing, and only 11 positive cases since August 16, 2021
 - Biggest challenge will be addressing students without vaccine records or exemptions after the add/drop period ends
 - COVID tactical group meets weekly, representing many constituency groups on campus
 - Dashboard back up and running
- Orientation
 - Virtual orientation programming saw 95% completion before coming to campus and higher attendance/less drop off than previous years
 - Smaller group approach to orientation was well received
 - International students participated in a supplemental orientation to specifically address the circumstances of being an international student
- Residence Halls
 - Move-in was a seamless and smooth process despite staffing vacancies in Student Development
- Student Engagement
 - Programs and events every day and night to reengage students with the campus and each other

Classes for FA21 - James Mason, Provost

- Face-to-Face/Hybrid/Remote breakdown
 - Faculty and students are both happy to be back on campus
 - Remote courses - 37%
 - Face to face courses - 30%
 - Hybrid courses (combo of remote and F2F) - 33%
- The trustees had a question about the committee being formed to assess moving forward with different course offerings; was that committee still happening? Provost Mason is on that committee, which was not able to do the work over the summer that they wanted to, so the group is being reshaped and reformed to continue that work. One of the goals is to look at policies and form policies that the institution can consider once we are out of the pandemic and looking to the future.

The year ahead - VP Keefe and Provost Mason

- There are many faculty searches taking place across the campus - 6 departments are currently holding searches
- Last semester started many temp 01 faculty mini searches were conducted in order to diversify the faculty: out of 19 positions, 9 were POC
- For tenure track faculty, the goal continues to be diversifying the faculty, exploring the needs of the departments rather than replicating what already exists, and expanding the global presentation of the curriculum
- VP Keefe is excited for the students to be back on campus, but mental health remains a concern for students.
- The staffing needs are also a concern in Student Development.

VOTE: To approve the sabbatical request for Jeanette Eberhardy for SP22 - Provost Mason

Provost Mason presented the sabbatical request for Jeannette Eberhardy, Liberal Arts, for the Spring 2022 semester.

On a motion duly made and seconded, by a vote of four in favor, none against, none abstaining:

VOTED: to approve the sabbatical request for Jeannette Eberhardy for SP2022.

Roll call: Bascome, yes; Hamilton, yes; von Huene, yes; Korn, yes.

New business

There was no new business presented to the committee.

Adjournment

Chair Korn adjourned the meeting at 10:01am.