

MassArt Board of Trustees Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting

March 25, 2021 9:00am-10:15am

Meeting Minutes

Trustees present: Denise Korn (Chair), Sunand Bhattacharya (arrived at 9:47am), Elisa Hamilton, Ella von Huene, Jan Saragoni, Mary Grant (ex-officio)

Trustees absent: Daren Bascome

Other Trustees present: Pamela Parisi

MassArt staff present: Karen Abbott, K. John Ashworth-King, Robert Chambers, Katie Duvernay, James Mason, Maureen Keefe, Bob Perry, Kate Russell, Lauren Wilshusen, Hannah Woit

Call to Order - Chair Denise Korn

Chair Denise Korn called the meeting to order at 9:05am. She welcomed the group, noting that this is a public meeting, and that all votes will be taken by roll call.

Approval of the Minutes: January 21, 2022 - Chair Korn

To consolidate procedural matters, roll call vote on minutes will also be considered attendance of the trustees.

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

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the January 21,2022 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Roll call: Bascome, absent; Bhattacharya yes; Hamilton, yes; von Huene, yes; Korn, yes; Saragoni,yes; Attendance of other trustees was also taken to inform the public who is on the call.

Report of the Student Trustee - Student Trustee Ella von Huene '23

Student Trustee von Huene began by discussing the first week of the All School Show. It's been a great time for students to come together and have the opportunity to bring family on to campus to view the exhibition. Ella also mentioned the 4-hour courses that are running in Liberal Arts that have been a part of discussion with SGA. While the full council is in agreement that these courses are something to try, they want faculty to be mindful of how the courses are working for students and that they hope not all courses go to that mode of teaching.

SGA will be holding a community building event on April 6th to address social injustices. They are looking ahead to organize a "plain clothes" meeting with Public Safety officers to have an opportunity for students and staff members to connect and get to know one another. Ella also mentioned SGA will be creating a subcommittee to address the Ukraine crisis. They hope this committee can address not just Ukraine, but allow SGA to be proactive in acknowledging and supporting similar refugee situations as a whole.

Denise thanked Ella for her leadership and all SGA students for making the room for these important conversations and extended the support of the trustees.

Migration - Interim Provost James Mason

James first acknowledged what a great experience it was to be a first time judge of the All School Show. It was a difficult selection to make, but a testament to the work of our students.

James spoke about Migration, a process the school went through in 2007 to look at studio courses, contact hours and review schedules across the curriculum. At this time studio courses went from 3 hours, to 4, 5 or even longer hour courses. This impacted faculty differently and we are currently looking into the equity of the teaching workload across all areas. President Grant said that she and James are committed to keeping the conversation going, with the focus being on prioritizing the student experience first, everything else will flow from there. A governance committee will be formed to review the contents of Migration and include input from faculty, students and staff.

Promotion, Tenure & Just-Cause - Interim Provost James Mason

James gave a brief description of just-cause status: a part-time benefited faculty member is reviewed for just-cause in their twelfth year of teaching at the college. Upon receiving this status, a part-time faculty member can only be terminated for just cause. He then gave a synopsis of each faculty and librarians up for these personnel actions along with a presentation of their work. Denise thanked James for his presentation and encouraged everyone to review the additional materials for these candidates. Mary echoed what a rewarding experience it has been to delve into materials and learn about the extraordinary things our faculty are doing. Denise called for a vote to recommend these candidates to the full board.

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

VOTED: to forward all candidates for promotion, tenure, and just-cause to the full board for final approval.

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

New Business

There was no new business presented to the committee.

Adjournment

Chair Korn adjourned the meeting at 10:04am.