

Board of Trustees  
**Academic and Student Affairs Committee**  
May 31, 2019 9:30am – 11:00am Alumni Room, Tower 11<sup>th</sup> Floor

**MINUTES**

Members present: Elisa Hamilton (Chair), Hazel Afamefuna, Jan Saragoni. Pamela Parisi and David Nelson (Ex-Officio). Also, Linda Snyder. Members absent: none Also participating: Maureen Keefe and Kym Pinder (Liaisons), Don Arpino, Jamie Costello, Lyssa Palu-ay, Bob Perry, Chris Wright, and Susana Segat (Secretary).

Call to Order

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 9:40am and welcomed participants. On a request from the presenters, Chair Hamilton moved the report on Community Standards to the end of the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes: March 29, 2019

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: To approve the minutes of the March 29, 2019 committee meeting.**

Items Requiring A Vote: sabbatical request for Prof. Ericka Beckman, Spring 2020

Provost Pinder explained the glitch in the original timeline for this request and requested that this sabbatical be approved to accommodate the professor's residency in January.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: To approve the Spring 2020 sabbatical request for Prof. Ericka Beckman.**

Items Requiring A Vote: Dean Emeritus nomination for George Creamer

Trustees discussed the benefits of an emeritus designation.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: To approve the Dean Emeritus nomination for George Creamer.**

Items Requiring A Vote: Professor Emeritus nominations

Provost Pinder reported that Professor Barbara Bosworth would not be retiring this year and asked to remove her nomination from consideration. She then brought forward the nomination for two other faculty members.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: To accept the Professor Emerita nominations for Ellen Shapiro and Ellen Shortell.**

Reports: Housing strategy

Dean Costello presented a slide show titled Housing Overview, which included the headings: importance of living on campus, who is on campus now, making on-campus housing attractive, financial overview, and next steps. Trustees discussed Chartwells and whether dining on campus might be a housing-choice factor and Dean Costello agreed to collect data on this possible variable. President Nelson added that improving the quality of food on campus was a strategic priority.

Dean Costello offered to provide room data by grade. Trustees discussed the benefits of offering housing to graduate students and President Nelson noted that ProArts leaders are considering future graduate and alumni housing collaborations.

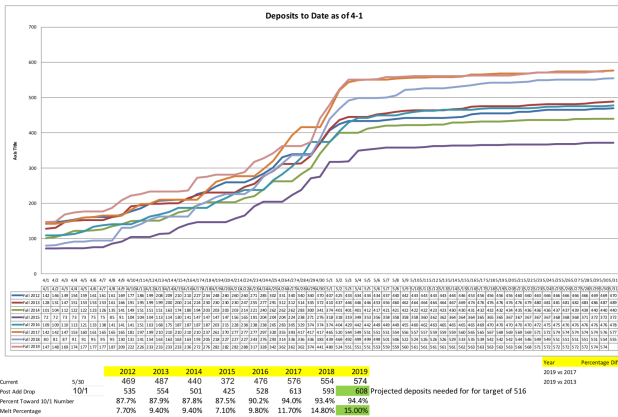
VP Perry reported on the housing operating budget and financial projections. Trustees discussed the fill rate, expected melt, and the 'ghosting' factor. VP Perry noted that the college is looking at non-housing related expenses, such as renting the former Artward Bound space to the Colleges of the Fenway. He said that the parking budget is moving out of the housing budget and into the public safety budget. Trustees discussed possible housing scholarships. On a question about the budget, AVP Arpino that the \$15m total in the college's finance reports comes from the \$12m listed in the housing budget plus \$1m for Rogers and \$2m for the meal plans.

Chair Hamilton thanked the group for their presentation and asked them to keep the housing issue on the trustees' radar.

Reports: Enrollment update

Dean Wright distributed his enrollment report. For undergraduate students, he said that there was a 16% increase in first-year deposits; transfer deposits were flat; and ALANA numbers were 21% ahead of last year. Geographically, all New England states, except New Hampshire, were up; there are many notable states with at least one matriculant; and international deposits were up 27%. He noted that we continue to be on pace to enroll 516 students this year, and that first-year GPA is 3.47.

Trustees discussed historical deposits to date as of 4-1 and the climbing yield rates:



Dean Wright then provided an update on graduate student admissions. He said that there was a 20% increase in deposits, with good numbers for Art Education, DMI, and M.Arch. International admission is at 21%. Provost Pinder added that the new dean for graduate programs, who would be starting at MassArt in August, would be helpful in continuing to move these numbers in a positive direction. Chair Hamilton thanked Dean Wright for his team’s hard work and for sharing valuable data at every meeting.

Report from Trustee Afamefuna on student issues

Trustee Afamefuna reported on the Student Government Association elections and new executive board. She said that students had chosen purple and orange as the colors for SGA spirit and the Mastodon as the mascot. She added that the graduating senior class received \$2,500 from DIMEO and the students donated most of that money to the food pantry.

Items Requiring A Vote: updated Community Standards

Dean Costello said that traditionally, trustees approve an updated Community Standards every three years: this document is due to be reviewed at the June 2019 meeting. She explained that the next edition of our Community Standards would be drafted to be more like the one use by the community colleges, but that this final draft is not ready for distribution.

Trustees discussed possible courses of action and agreed that the current edition of Community Standards should remain in place until trustees vote on a new version at the September 2019 trustee meeting. They also requested that SGA be made aware of the proposed potential changes and given an opportunity to provide feedback.

Other Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded at 11:00am, it was unanimously **VOTED: To adjourn.**