

MassArt Board of Trustees
Executive Committee
November 8, 2019
1:30 pm, Alumni Room

MINUTES

Members present: Jan Saragoni (Chair), Elisa Hamilton, Karen Keane, Pamela Parisi, Peter Nessen, Linda Snyder
Members absent: David Nelson (Ex Officio) joined the meeting via conference call due to geographic distance for the campus project proposal part of the agenda.
Also participating: Don Arpino, Dwayne Farley, Maureen Keefe, Howie LaRosee, Bob Perry, Kym Pinder, Cam Roberts, Gina Yarbrough, Susana Segat (Board Secretary)

Call to order

Chair Saragoni called the meeting to order a 1:35pm. Hearing no objections, she moved to the top of the agenda the report on the health of the campus climate.

Report: Health of Campus Climate: a comprehensive overview of student well being at MassArt, including yearly reports
VP Keefe began her presentation by noting that the college collaborates across campus to address student needs. She then presented a slide show entitled *Climate Report AY 2018-2019*. Within that report, the conduct data for AY2018-2019 included: 136 reports submitted (27 more than the previous year); 117 reports that included alleged community standard violations (26 more than the previous year); 19 medical transports (one more than the previous year); and 59 responsible student incidents (47 less than the previous year). On questions about the difference in *responsible student incidents* between this year and last year, VP Keefe explained that her department is still reconciling the data and would provide more information when it is available. She also discussed staffing changes and the current use of interim temporary employees.

Continuing with the report, VP Keefe stated that the Assessment and Care Team data for AY2018-2019 included: 90 cases involving 79 students (as opposed to 167 cases involving 143 students the previous year). Discrimination, harassment, and bias incidents data included the following incidents reported for AY2018-2019: 4 students vs. students (6 less than the previous year); 2 students versus staff (versus one the previous year); 3 students versus faculty (the same as the previous year); zero students vs. other (6 less than the previous year): 4 were anonymous (2 less than the previous year). She noted that in order to be better aligned with the system's Equal Opportunity Diversity and Affirmative Action Plan, the bias response team process described in this document no longer exists.

VP Keefe described the ranges of charges on student conduct in general. Last year, there were 20 complaints about incidents, but not all of them were necessarily violations. VP Keefe explained that our Justice, Equity, and Transformation Department would be working on college culture to reduce bias. Trustees discussed the types of incidences, the process used to screen and review complaints, and how the college handles allegations so as to determine the type of screening warranted.

VP Keefe said that the Title IX complaints were not much different from last year: there were 2 sexual assaults and one dating violence. On questions about whether external police become involved, VP Keefe explained that the victim survivor retains agency about whether to file criminally.

Chief of Police Farley provided the highlights of the 2018 Clery Report, including the list of violations: 1 reportable sex offense in residential housing; 1 reportable incident of dating violence; 13 liquor law violations; 29 drug law violations; 2 weapon law violations; and no hate crimes reported nor fires/arson: 70% of the violations were related to drug (marijuana) or alcohol use. He said that the public safety department deals with about one medical call per day. The top larceny concern is bicycle theft.

President Nelson joined the meeting via conference call due to geographic distance.

VP Keefe listed current trends, which included: social issues for neuro-diverse students; marijuana use on and off-campus; increase in vaping; use of the food pantry and emergency housing options; mental health issues remain steady and we use a collaborative approach to addressing these issues; students bringing forward concerns about faculty behavior in the classroom; faculty bringing forward concerns about the behavior of other faculty. Trustees discussed the new housing option for homeless students and the positive impact created by focusing on one person at a time.

Approval of the minutes:

September 13, 2019 Regular Executive Committee Meeting

October 11, 2019 Special Executive Committee Meeting on the Audit

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the September 13, 2019 committee meeting and of the October 11, 2019 special meeting on the audit.

Items requiring a vote: Approval of capital project proposal

President Nelson said that DCAMM's Sarah Felton and Commissioner Gladstone agreed that the submission due in the middle of December would not be the final say on college requests: the need is great and the Secretary of Education as well as the Commonwealth's Administration and Finance need to help with a solution. He added that this submission would be the best route to get about \$25m for critical infrastructure needs and to make a case for a bigger request by including a narrative describing the big scope of the problem. President Nelson said that DCAMM has already released more readiness funds so that Rawn Associates may continue to develop MassArt's long term strategy for recladding Tower and developing Kennedy. President Nelson recommended that the college submit a capital request for \$25m for critical Tower infrastructure repairs.

Mr. Roberts discussed the asset maintenance assessment of Tower created by Sightlines in 2017. He explained that the top priorities for fixing the failing items would include those systems that provide heating in winter, cooling in summer, electrical systems, and piping. AVP LaRosse detailed the critical needs for piping and wiring within the walls, the cracking rain leaders, and the decaying pipes. Trustees noted that the Sightlines plan didn't include overhead costs and suggested that the true exposure costs should be listed. President Nelson agreed that the college should provide the real budget numbers and should show the full extent of the problem. He said that the most DCAMM would allow us to request would be \$25m, but that would not prohibit us from adding the total numbers. Trustees discussed the board's 2018 submission to DCAMM for the Tower study and link repairs. Trustees agreed that the submission should include the total needs of the campus in a coherent narrative that turns into a request specifying the most urgently important needs to prevent failure and possible life safety problems. Trustees discussed strategically approaching MassArt's needs in the upcoming Partnership Plan renewal submission.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve a capital project proposal as per DCAMM and BHE requirements that outlines all of the urgent emergency and failure prevention needs in the context of the overall capital needs of the college and explains that MassArt would be fixing the highest priority items with the money provided by the state through this submission.

Other business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded at 3:15pm, it was unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn.