

MassArt Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
September 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Zoom

Committee members in attendance: Chair Denise Korn, Trustee Sunand Bhattacharya, Board Chair Elisa Hamilton, President Mary Grant (ex-officio), Trustee Nick Thompson

Committee members absent: Trustee Daren Bascome

Other Trustees in attendance: Trustee Jan Saragoni

Others In Attendance: Karen Abbott, K. John Ashworth- King, Robert Chambers, Jamie Costello, Chief Deborah Crafts, Tim Cusack, Vice President Maureen Keefe, Provost Brenda Molife, Lyssa Palu-ay, Kate Russell, Lauren Wilshusen, Hannah Voit (Board Secretary)

1. Call to order

Chair Denise Korn called the meeting to order at 9:03am.

2. Approval of the minutes: June 03, 2022

It was then **VOTED: to accept the minutes from the June 3, 2022 Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting.**

Yes: Chair Denise Korn, Trustee Sunand Bhattacharya, Board Chair Elisa Hamilton, Trustee Nick Thompson

3. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Korn introduced and welcomed Nick Thompson, who was elected as MassArt's Student Trustee, and is now a member of the committee. Also welcomed were Tim Cusack, who recently started as the Assistant Director of Student Development, and Chief Deborah Crafts, who recently started as MassArt Chief of Public Safety.

4. Academic Affairs Report(s)
Start of the Academic Year

Chair Korn introduced Provost Brenda Molife who spoke to how the start of the academic year has gone for the Academic Affairs division. It has been a very busy start of the year with recently renovated spaces, new murals and artwork up on the walls, and a renewed energy. She mentioned several recent academic programs and events including the annual Academic Departmental Chairs Retreat, department open houses, and a new employee orientation for faculty and staff.

5. Student Development Report(s)
Start of the Academic Year

Vice President Maureen Keefe and Dean of Students Jamie Costello then briefed the committee on the start of the academic year from a Student Development perspective. They highlighted move-in, new student orientation, and Colleges of the Fenway, Student Government Association, and MassArt Activities Council student programming. They noted the importance of engaging students in the first 3 to 5 weeks of the semester to strengthen their sense of belonging, and how student engagement programming impacts retention. Student Development conducted seven concurrent job searches this summer, and they thanked the many staff who chaired and/or participated on the various search committees. Upcoming initiatives include developing a Student Success Center, a

more formal family engagement platform, and addressing student mental health needs.

6. JET Report

JET Dean Lyssa Palu-ay provided a brief overview of Compass, MassArt's student readiness and retention program. Engagement and relationship building with Compass students begins in the summer and continues throughout their transition to college to make them feel welcomed. Compass continues to support them while they navigate their experience at MassArt, and they build lifelong relationships through their connections with each other, faculty, and graduate mentors.

7. Presentation of Clery Report

Next, Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Engagement Robert Chambers introduced Chief Deborah Crafts. Chief Crafts provided background information on the Clery report, its importance, and why it is shared with the board. Committee members received the Clery report in advance, the Chief presented highlights from the report and noted that there were no significant changes in reporting data from previous years.

8. Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Nick Thompson shared that he also has seen an increase in student involvement and high energy on campus. He noted that he had three concerns that he wanted to speak about on behalf of students. First was regarding Sodexo, the college's new dining and catering vendor, and its new meal swipe system, citing unclear communication and price changes. The second concern was regarding student input into curriculum matters, which he will be working with the administration through governance on. The third concern was regarding student employee payroll concerns.

Chair Korn thanked Trustee Thompson for presenting these concerns from students, emphasizing that this group welcomes him presenting these types of concerns to the committee. President Grant also thanked him and noted that members of MassArt's administration are working with Sodexo to improve service delivery, that students are being recruited for the migration committee, and that the payroll office is eager to work with the students to address concerns.

9. Vote to Refer Student Community Standards to the Board for Approval

Dean Costello spoke to the changes made to the Community Standards to eliminate redundancy, remove deficit language, and reorganize sections for better flow.

It was then **VOTED: to refer MassArt's updated Student Community Standards to the full board for approval.**

Yes: Chair Denise Korn, Trustee Sunand Bhattacharya, Board Chair Elisa Hamilton, Trustee Nick Thompson

10. New Business

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment

Chair Korn adjourned the meeting at 10:35am.

Documents:

June 3, 2022 meeting minutes

Clery Report

MassArt's Community Standards