

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 9, 2019 - 4:15 pm Huntington Room

MINUTES

Trustees Present: Jan Saragoni (Acting Chair), Elisa Hamilton, Karen Keane, Denise Korn, Bill McQuillan, Linda Snyder, David Nelson (Ex-Officio).

Trustees Absent: Pamela Parisi (Chair), Hazel Afamefuna, David Lee, Peter Nessen,

Staff/Faculty Presenting: Don Arpino, Maureen Keefe, Kym Pinder, Marjorie O'Malley, Bob Perry, Dan Serig and Susana Segat (BOT Secretary).

Call to Order

Acting Chair Saragoni called the meeting to order at 4:30pm. She noted that Chair Parisi sent her regrets for being unable to attend due to illness as well as her congratulations to the candidates seeking promotion and tenure.

Public Participation

Chair Saragoni opened the meeting to the public for their comments. She explained that allowing for public participation on the agenda is a new tradition for the board and then asked the public to offer comment. Hearing no requests, she resumed with the rest of the agenda.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Saragoni requested that the agenda order be revised to accommodate a couple of time sensitive presentations. She asked that the A&F committee's votes be moved to the top of the agenda and that the votes on promotions and tenure follow the A&F votes. She offered that the rest of the agenda remain as proposed.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt the revised agenda, moving the A&F votes and the promotion and tenure votes to the top.

Report of the Standing Committees: Administration and Finance Committee

FY2019 fiscal operations report through 2/28/2019

Committee Chair Snyder thanked trustees for allowing these votes to be taken up earlier than expected. She asked trustees to accept the fiscal operations report through February, noting that the A&F Committee had spent a lot of time considering the details of this report. She explained that since trustees were concerned about the \$700,000 deficit in Housing, committee members agreed to have the A&F Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee jointly explore Housing's plan for future success.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-23: To accept FY2019 fiscal operations report through 2/28/2019, with the proviso that the housing deficit be studied over the coming months.

FY2020 undergraduate tuition and fees

Chair Snyder asked trustees to consider the recommended FY2020 undergraduate tuition and fees. She said that the conversations at the board's annual retreat raised excellent questions about how the college should consider tuition and fees as well as what changes we would propose in our upcoming application for a renewed partnership plan with the Commonwealth. She said that today's recommended vote would increase in-state tuition by 4%, out-of-state tuition by 5.5%, and New England tuition by 8.7%. Chair Snyder explained that if this increase is approved, it would provide the college with \$1.3m-\$1.7m in new revenue. She cautioned trustees that with the housing deficit resting at \$700,000, the salary increases projected to cost \$800,000, and the potential for unpredicted costs (such as utilities, etc.), then this new income would not be extra money.

Trustees compared costs with those of peer institutions and discussed different ways to evaluate costs. If it costs \$26k-\$36k to educate a student, and if in-state eligible students pay \$13k, then it is clear that the state appropriation does not bridge the gap. Trustees agreed that MassArt delivers good value, but that this value comes with budget costs.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-24: To approve the FY2020 undergraduate tuition and fee increases as shown by the asterisks on pages 6 and 7 of the recommendations.

FY18 audit on (A-133) federal programs

Chair Snyder asked trustees to accept the annual audit on federal programs, which evaluates our financial aid systems and what happens when an average of 10-15 students withdraw each year.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-25: To accept the FY18 audit on (A-133) federal programs, with the proviso that non-compliance items be dealt with.

Report of the Standing Committees: Academic and Student Affairs

Promotions

Committee Chair Hamilton asked AVP Serig to present the candidates for promotion, effective 9/1/2019. AVP Serig discussed the process and criteria for promotions and presented this year's candidates.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-19: To approve candidates for promotion, effective 9/1/2019

- **From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor: Jesse Strauss, Animation; Jeanette Eberhardy, Liberal Arts; and Juan Obando, SIM.**
- **From Associate Professor to Professor: Amber David Tourlentes, Studio Foundation; Adriana Katzew, Art Ed; James Mason, Fashion; Saul Nava, Liberal Arts; Soon-Mi Yoo, Film/Video; and Margot Zurakowska, Illustration.**

Tenure

Chair Hamilton asked AVP Serig to present the candidates requesting tenure, effective 9/1/19. AVP Serig read the section of the collective bargaining agreement describing the importance of tenure, thanked the tenure committee for their deliberations, and presented the two candidates warranting this honor.

President Nelson thanked trustees for their consideration of these tenure recommendations. He said that both of these tenure-approved candidates fulfill the qualifications, are active members of the MassArt community, and continually make the institution better.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-20: To approve candidates for tenure, effective 9/1/2019: Lisong Liu, Liberal Arts; and Kathryn Riel, Library.

Chair Saragoni asked for a brief recess and invited everyone to participate in a celebratory toast to the newly-approved candidates for promotion and tenure.

AT 5:09pm, Chair Saragoni asked trustees to resume their meeting.

Consideration of the Minutes of Prior Meetings: 2/5/19 Board Meeting, 3/15/19 Annual Board Retreat

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the 2/5/19 BOT meeting and the 3/15/19 retreat.

Report of the President

President Nelson provided an update on campus events, faculty projects, and alumni gatherings around the country.

Report of the Chair

Chair Saragoni reminded trustees that AVP LaRosee provides detailed and entertaining tours of the renovations in the galleries every Thursday morning. She told trustees that Trustee Afamefuna had a conflict in her schedule and was unable to attend tonight's meeting to provide a report from the student body.

Report of the Standing Committees: Academic and Student Affairs Committee (Con't)

Honorary Degree

Committee Chair Hamilton reminded trustees that this year's commencement ceremony would be held on Friday, May 24th. She told trustees that the committee had received a recommendation last week to honor Elizabeth Lowrey for this year's honorary doctorate degree. VP O'Malley reported that Ms. Lowrey is a leading architect in Boston who has been generous to the auction and to the fashion department and who embraces the MassArt mission. Trustees thanked VP O'Malley for her recommendation.

Trustees discussed MassArt's general process for awarding honorary degrees. Chair Hamilton noted that the committee would be creating a BOT special committee on the honorary degree granting process. President Nelson described the current process and said that since an honorary degree recipient had already been approved for May 2020, there would be time to improve the process.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-21: To approve Elizabeth Lowrey as the honorary doctorate degree candidate for 2019 commencement, with the caveat that the process be overhauled before the next honorary degree recipient recommendation to the board.

Enrollment Report

Chair Hamilton asked Dean Wright to provide an update on admissions and enrollment. Dean Wright distributed his data charts for undergraduate and graduate applications, admissions, and deposits to date, as well as his 2019 enrollment forecast estimates. He confirmed that enrollment was strong, on pace or better than last year. Trustees thanked Dean Wright for his team's terrific work.

Report of the Standing Committees: Executive Committee

Delegation of authority

Chair Saragoni asked trustees to delegate authority to the committee so the Board of Higher Education (BHE) would be able to approve an updated MassArt strategic plan at their June meeting.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED 19-22: To delegate authority to the Executive Committee so they may approve the final version of the strategic plan at their May 31, 2019 meeting for it to be available for the BHE to approve at their June 18, 2019 meeting

Performance report

President Nelson noted that as part of MassArt's partnership plan with the Commonwealth, MassArt is committed to providing annual data metrics (called 'the Performance Report') every April 1st. This year's annual report was distributed. President Nelson reminded trustees that the Partnership Plan is up for renegotiation in 2020.

Report of the Standing Committees: Development Committee

In Committee Chair Nessen's absence, VP O'Malley distributed the new MassArt auction catalogue. She told trustees that the college had exceeded its sponsorship goal by \$52,000 and has reached its 770-guest capacity. Trustees congratulated VP O'Malley on this success.

Report of the Standing Committees: External Affairs Committee

Chair Saragoni told trustees that the revitalized BOT External Affairs Committee was launched today. She expressed the committee's desire to re-engage with the community on external issues, develop alliances with target audiences, recruit advocates and ambassadors, and commission the development of concrete data-based talking points. She welcomed all wishing to provide ideas or support.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded at 5:30pm, it was unanimously
VOTED: To adjourn.