## Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2014 Akillian Gallery, Canton Campus

Attendees: Peter Asiaf, Jim Barrows, Bonnie Blackler, Mary Brophy, Heather Hilton, Pamerson Ifill, Jeanne Martins, Nelson Ross, Tony Simonelli, Judy Waterston

#### Approval of the Minutes of February 19, 2014

A motion was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Chair Ifill to approve the minutes of February 19, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

Visit by Commissioner, MA Department of Higher Education Richard Freeland and Director, Office of <u>Trustee Relations Jennifer Perkins</u>

Commissioner Freeland addressed the Board of Trustees and expressed his appreciation to Massasoit's leadership and the Board of Trustees for their efforts in keeping with the Patrick Administration's commitment to invest in public higher education, through the Vision Project, to graduate more students and better prepare them for jobs in the Commonwealth.

The Commissioner talked about the challenges we still face in terms of students testing into remedial courses and the efforts needed to retain those students. He noted that 64% of community college students test into remedial courses.

The Commissioner acknowledged Massasoit's strong commitment to Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Programs, and spoke of the College's new math initiatives.

Trustee Barrows stated that Massasoit needs to utilize its Alumni as a resource to get the word out to legislators and the community about the success stories of Massasoit graduates.

Trustee Ross stated that he is deeply concerned with the percentage of Massasoit students testing into remedial courses. He noted that 64% of students at other community colleges test into remedial courses; however, at Massasoit 75% of our students test into remedial courses.

Trustee Ross stated that he would like to commend Jennifer Perkins, director of the Office of Trustee Relations, for the wonderful job she does. He added that he attended the Statewide Trustee Conference and he found it to be extremely informative. He asked the Commissioner if this event will be held again. Commissioner Freeland stated that the Governor sent him a letter, the day after the conference, stating the Statewide Trustee Conference will be an annual event.

#### College Police Report

Trustee Waterston congratulated Chief Cummings on his position as Chief of Police. Chief Cummings explained that since the last meeting, the campus police officers have been trained to administer Narcan, a drug utilized to counteract the effects of a heroin overdose.

Chief Cummings also noted that the College Police participated in the "Tyler's Troops" campaign on March 11, in Rhode Island. He explained that Tyler is a 7-year-old boy who is suffering from leukemia. Tyler's mother sent out a Facebook request to have Tyler's heroes, first responders, send Tyler birthday

cards. The Massasoit Police Department was recognized for being one of the first to respond to this request, and the request went viral via social media. The simple card request turned into "Tyler's Troops," which consisted of 100 plus police agencies and 80 fire departments sending countless cruisers and fire apparatus to deliver gifts to Tyler and to sing happy birthday. Officers Coppage and Hoey participated in this convoy.

Trustee Asiaf asked Chief Cummings what type of weapons the officers carry. Chief Cummings stated that the officers carry Glock 23s, 30 caliber, with 16 rounds.

#### <u>Proposed Board Action on the Educational Alliance</u>

Dr. Wall stated that this proposed action is to continue our agreement with Education Alliance, which is working with Norfolk Agricultural High School to establish our Veterinary Technology Program. He noted that U. Mass Stockbridge with Middlesex Community College is also interested in collaborating with us on programming.

Dr. Wall explained that this request is for two more months of work from the Educational Alliance and that this request will be the final one for this particular project.

A motion was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Trustee Barrows that the Board of Trustees approve a two-month contract not to exceed \$16,000 for the Education Alliance to work on additional academic initiatives between Norfolk Agricultural High School and Massasoit Community College. This contract would be for the period of March 13, 2014 through May 12, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Enrollment Report for Spring 2014**

Mary Lynch, director of Institutional Research, stated that the headcount for Spring 2014 is down 3.5% over the Spring of 2013. She noted, however, that last year was an all-time high in terms of headcount and we are still ahead of Spring of 2011 and 2012. Ms. Lynch explained that the percentage of returning students is down by 4.2%, while our percentage of new students remained consistent with last year. She added that Boston tied Middleborough at number nine on our top 10 feeder cities and towns. The Middleborough Center site currently has 204 students taking the majority of their credits at that location, which is up from 140 students last Spring.

Ms. Lynch explained that for Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS) reporting, a cohort is created of students who are first-time, full-time degree-seeking, or certificate-seeking, students for a particular Fall semester. This population represents only two-fifths of our incoming Fall class, because the majority of our incoming Fall class are enrolled in part-time or non-degree certificate programs. Ms. Lynch explained that our graduation rates after 150% time, or 3 years, for an Associate Degree is at 15%, and 21% of our students transfer before completing their Massasoit program. When the time to graduation for that cohort is changed to 4 years, the graduation rate jumps to 20%. She added that part-time students do better in graduation rates at the 4-year point.

Ms. Lynch also presented the Trustees with information that she and Jennifer May, our former research associate, presented at the Northeast Association of Institutional Research on November 11, 2013 entitled, "Who are we Counting, Who are we Missing?"

Ms. Lynch stated that she is happy to report that the diversity of our Spring credit students is at 40.8%, and that that number has increased steadily over the last 4 years.

Trustee Ross asked if students who test into remedial courses are counted in the cohort. Ms. Lynch explained that they are. Trustee Brophy asked if demographics are taken into consideration in the IPEDS. Ms. Lynch explained that there are no corrections for demographics.

Trustee Ross stated that the College needs to determine how to best tell our story. He noted that if we were a business organization, we would be selling our story.

Chair Ifill stated that in terms of retention he is more concerned with those students who are not making it and the reasons they are not making it.

## Presentation on Massasoit Community College archive project

Joanne Jones, director of Libraries, introduced to the Trustees Patricia Naughton, coordinator of Technical and Archival Services, and Christine Guy, associate archivist.

Ms. Jones stated that the Archive functions as the institutional memory of Massasoit Community College, and this is extremely important with our upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The mission of the Archive was discussed and includes: serving the college community; determining what materials are essential; preserving essential materials; providing information that promotes the mission of the College; supporting education and improving curriculum; assisting in research; and enhancing the culture of the College.

Ms. Jones stated that the Massasoit Library would like a statement from the Board of Trustees regarding the establishment of the Archive. She asked the Trustees to review the Resolution of the Board of Trustees with respect to the Bates College Archives, adopted December 13, 2000, handed out this evening, and perhaps provide similar resolution for the Massasoit Community College Library Archive.

#### Minority Male Mentoring Program Development: update

Dr. Wall stated that Massasoit has developed an internal Male Mentoring Task Force, which include Vice Presidents David Tracy, Lisa Lowery, and others, to come up with an action plan. He added that the task force is looking at mentoring models that have been successful elsewhere.

Chair Ifill stated that we need to address this issue immediately, and if we need to, we should do it with the College's money. He asked Dr. Wall if students or recent graduates have been asked to serve on the Task Force. Dr. Wall stated that they have not, but they will be.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Trustee Barrows. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by:

Elizabeth Burke

Recording Secretary

Certified by

Peter G. Asiaf, Jr.

Secretary, Board of Trustees

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A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by Trustee Barrows. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by:

Elizabeth Burke

**Recording Secretary** 

Certified by:

Peter G. Asiaf, Jr.

Secretary, Board of Trustees

## Meeting of the Full Board of Trustees Wednesday, March 12, 2014 Akillian Gallery

Attendees: Peter Asiaf, Jim Barrows, Bonnie Blackler, Mary Brophy, Heather Hilton, Pamerson Ifill, Jeanne Martins, Nelson Ross, Tony Simonelli, Judy Waterston

## Approval of the Minutes of February 19, 2014

A motion was made by Trustee Ross and seconded by Trustee Hilton that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of February 19, 2014.

VOTED:

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Chairmen's Report**

Chair Ifill stated that he and Dr. Wall met with Brockton Mayor Bill Carpenter to discuss the role that Massasoit plays in the city. He stated that he was surprised to learn that 80% of the students in Brockton public schools are students of color. He expressed that, as a College, we have to do something, and we have to do something quickly, to reach out to minority students and to help them succeed. He noted that we need to work with advisors and with teachers to come up with concrete plans to get this issue resolved. He explained that 70% of our students are taking remedial courses, paying for those courses, and not receiving any credit. He added that the lack of retention from students who take remedial courses is a huge concern. He stated that the Board of Higher Education has indicated that individual community colleges can come up with their own plans and that is what we need to do.

Trustee Barrows stated that he understands Chair Ifill's frustration; however, the College cannot undo 14 bad years in one semester. He added that some students do not learn in the traditional ways schools teach.

Trustee Simonelli stated that before we put money into this, we need to define the problem and then we can start fixing the problem.

Dr. Wall stated that of the 15 community colleges, Massasoit has one of the strongest support systems for our students, including our Latch, Plan, and Choices programs.

Trustee Barrows stated that we need to bridge these services to more people. He noted that there are people who could benefit from this College that are not coming here. He added that young men are seduced by the 2-year private, technical schools, because advertisements for those schools are everywhere, particularly on subways.

Chair Ifill stated that we need to look at the numbers, and we need to implement programs.

#### <u>President's Report</u>

Dr. Wall stated that in May the College will report back to this Board regarding ongoing remedial course studies.

Dr. Wall stated that Massasoit has filed a proposal for the Aspen Prize, for which the College has been nominated. He explained that the Aspen Prize recognizes the leading institutions in terms of student success, and Massasoit was the only community college nominated from Massachusetts.

Dr. Wall stated that he met with Mayor Bill Carpenter, along with individuals from U. Mass. Boston, Bridgewater University, city officials, legislatures, and the DCAM Commissioner, Carole Cornelison, to discuss our presence in downtown Brockton. He stated that this discussion involved utilizing the Ganley Building, which has two parking lots, as a starting point. Dr. Wall stated that we cannot have a presence in downtown Brockton without a capital investment, including financing and startup money. He explained that this group will meet again in 60 days.

## **Requests for Board Actions**

A motion was made by Trustee Barrows and seconded by Trustee Brophy that the Board of Trustees approve a two-month contract not to exceed \$16,000 for the Education Alliance to work on additional academic initiatives between Norfolk Agricultural High School and Massasoit Community College. This contract would be for the period from March 13, 2014 through May 12, 2014.

**VOTED:** 

The motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Trustee Asiaf and seconded by Trustee Barrows that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$128,840.40 with New England Archives Center of Holyoke, MA to transport, scan, and index the College's files and records.

**VOTED:** 

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Barrows and seconded by Trustee Hilton that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$47,652 with Liberty Chevrolet of Wakefield, MA to purchase a 2014 Chevrolet Express Cargo Van and a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado Work Truck for the Facilities Department.

VOTED:

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Brophy and seconded by

**Trustee Barrows.** 

**VOTED:** 

The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by:

Elizabeth Burke

**Recording Secretary** 

Certified by:

Peter G. Asiaf, Jr.

Secretary, Board of Trustees