



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Academic Affairs Committee
Wednesday, April 27, 2011
Admissions Office Conference Room**

Members in attendance:
Dick Lamb, Chair
Jane Allen

Educator Recognition Award

President Grant reported that as a reflection of MCLA's history in educator preparation, the College has launched an educator recognition award program for educators in Berkshire County. Nominations and applications are in process, and honorees will be recognized at a ceremony to be held at MCLA in June. In addition to recognition as members of an educators hall of fame, honorees and their districts each will receive a cash award. Educator alumni will be invited to this event as well.

Student Fees FY 2012

The FY 2012 budget process is underway. The House Ways and Means Committee budget recommendation provides level funding relative to last year's state appropriation. However, the budget recommendation does not fund collective bargaining for FY 2012, and federal stimulus dollars that were available in FY 2010 and 2011 will not be available for the coming year.

While the College continues to budget conservatively, an increase in student fees will be part of MCLA's FY 2012 budget plan. With any fee increase, the goal will be to ensure that MCLA remains affordable to the maximum number of students. In addition, scholarship dollars continue to be a fundraising priority in order to provide support to students.

President Grant noted that setting fees is an important statutory function of the Board of Trustees. Each committee of the board will receive a briefing on the FY 2012 fee recommendation, but it is the Fiscal Affairs Committee that will carry the motion to the full board for approval at their May meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED to support the recommendation that President Grant be authorized to increase the MCLA Campus Support Fee by an amount not to exceed \$500 for the academic year beginning September 2011.

