

Complying with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30 and 15A, Section 9, and with a quorum present, the Board of Trustees of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts met at 5:32 p.m. in the Room 208 of Murdock Hall on December 12, 2013 with Board Chair

Report of the November 13, 2013, Executive Committee Meeting

Trustee Fairbank presented the following report on behalf of the committee.

Director Charon provided a public safety update. The committee discussed the NEASC accreditation visit held November 3-6. Trustee Fairbank presented an overview of the November 7 conference organized through the Department of Higher Education's (DHE's) Office of Trustee Relations. The committee engaged in discussions around the Board development session scheduled for February 2014; the DHE budget recommendation for FY 2015, the Trustee appointment process, and Commencement.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013, meeting of the Executive Committee and all actions contained therein.

Report of the November 14, 2013, Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Trustee Edgerton delivered the following report on behalf of the committee.

The committee received a presentation on student leadership from members of the Student Government Association (SGA). Director Charon provided a public safety update.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the November 14, 2013, meeting of the Student Affairs Committee and all actions contained therein.

Public Safety Update

Director Charon presented the Board with an update on the arming of MCLA Campus Police officers.

He reminded the Board that the recommendation to arm Campus Police officers was part of a series of 27 recommendation on campus safety and security practices commissioned by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education.

He noted that the February 2012 Board vote to authorize the arming of campus Police Officers required thorough training and certification of the officers prior to the arming. The vote also set a timeframe for the arming no less than six months, and no more than one year from the date of the Board vote. Finally, the Board vote included a requirement that President Grant provide the Board with a review of Campus Police arming within one year of implementation.

Director Charon reported that officers were trained, screened, and certified between February and December of 2012. The director reviewed the implementation process with President Grant who provided authorization for the officers to begin carrying firearms in December 2012.

As part of the implementation report presented as required by the Board, Director Charon noted that discussed the creation of the Campus Police Advisory Group which provided input and review throughout the implementation process. This group continues to be active in campus safety and security and community policing matters. Director Charon also observed that the arming implementation was carried out with professionalism on the part of the department and in an atmosphere of mutual respect with the campus community.

President Grant thanked Director Charon for his professionalism throughout the arming process. The president also thanked the Board for their engagement and leadership with this process.

Trustee Fairbank noted that the process was one that expanded his awareness and demonstrated how topics such as arming can be discussed in a well-thought out manner. Additionally, Trustee Fairbank suggested that there might be an opportunity to share best practices with other Trustees faced with this same issue.

A133 Federal Financial Aid Audit

Trustee Marshall delivered an update on the MCLA A-133 Federal Financial Aid Audit.

In addition to the institution's annual audited financial statements, colleges and universities that receive federal funds also must submit an A-133 Federal Financial Aid Audit of campus accounts. Dave DiIulis from O'Connor and Drew provided a draft of MCLA's A-133 audit for FY 2013, which the Fiscal Affairs committee discussed during a conference call held on December 2.

The audit underscores the good work of MCLA and our Financial Aid Office in following the rules and procedures for the collection and distribution of Federal Financial Aid.

The audit addresses three findings from the A133 audit conducted in FY12, and notes that each was resolved successfully and no similar findings were noted during the FY 13 audit. During the audit an additional finding was noted related to documentation of agreements wiref93u(s)--10(g)1ge3(a)4(l)-2(F

Chair's Report

Trustee Fairbank noted that the College has experienced many highlights and cited the opening of the Feigenbaum Center for Science and Innovation and the NEASC visit as examples. He thanked President Grant for her leadership. He also thanked the Board for their work and offered best wishes to them and the MCLA team.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m.