



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
March 27, 2019
87 Blackinton**

Committee members in attendance:

Lisa Chamberlain, Chair
Robert Reilly
Susan Gold

Others present:

Denise Marshall, Board Chair (telephone)
James F. Birge, President
Emily Williams, VP of Academic Affairs
Theresa O'Bryant, Dean of Student Success and Engagement
Deborah Foss, Dean of Academic Operations
Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk

Trustee Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Bachelor of Arts, DHE Approval

On March 14, 2019, MCLA was notified by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education of the approval of MCLA's application to award the Bachelor of Arts in Communication. This degree will begin to be offered in fall 2019 with the first graduating class anticipated in 2020.

DESE Ruling on MCLA Department of Education

Vice President Williams provided an overview of DESE's formal review report of MCLA's PK-12 Education Preparation Programs, a copy of which was provided with the materials for this meeting. Trustees discussed the state's report and findings at length. VP Williams specifically reviewed the key areas for improvement, actions taken to-date, and stated management's and faculty's commitment to address and correct all concerns.

Faculty Reappointments and Promotions

The following faculty have been recommended to the President for fifth, fourth, third, and second year reappointment:

Reappointment to a 5th year

David Cupery, Department of History, Political Science, and Public Policy
Shawn McIntosh, Department of English and Communications
Ruby Vega, Department of Psychology
Kebra Ward, Department of Physics

Reappointment to a 4th year

Eric Doucette, Department of Biology
Anna Jaysane-Darr, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Erin Kiley, Department of Mathematics
Samantha Pettey, Department of History, Political Science, and Public Policy

Reappointment to a 3rd year

Tara Barboza, Department of Business Administration and Economics
George Hamaoui, Department of Biology
Hannah Noel, Department of English and Communications
Victoria Papa, Department of English and Communications
Nicole Porther, Department of Biology

Reappointment to a 2nd year

Travis Beaver, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Caren Beilin, Department of English and Communications
Guangzhi Huang, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Mohamad Junaid, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Amanda Kleintop, Department of History, Political Science, and Public Policy
Jerome Socolof, Department of Fine and Performing Arts
Sara Steele, Department of Psychology
Guodong Wang, Department of Computer Science
Qian Wang, Department of English and Communications
Jeremy Winchester, Department of Fine and Performing Arts

Dr. Williams reviewed the above and responded to questions from the Trustees.

The committee then reviewed the list of faculty for promotions and had no questions. The following faculty have been recommended to the President for promotion:

Promotion to Full Professor

Chali Nondo, Department of Business Administration and Economics
Daniel Shustack, Department of Environmental Studies
Nicholas Stroud, Department of Education
Jennifer Zoltanski, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Ely Janis, Department of History, Political Science, and Public Policy
Peter Hoyt, Department of Biology

Promotion to Associate Professor

Kerri Nicoll, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Jenna Sciuto, Department of English and Communications

Faculty Tenure

VP Williams provided a summary of the three professors applying for reappointment with tenure, and noted that the Committee on Tenure supports all three applicants. Each of these applicants met with the Academic Affairs Committee in the fall.

Kerri Nicoll: Social Work, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Chali Nondo: Economics, Department of Business Administration and Economics
Jenna Sciuto: English, Department of English and Communications

In response to comments regarding early promotion, President Birge noted that candidates can request early promotion as allowed by contract.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously:

VOTED: to recommend reappointment with tenure for Kerri Nicoll, Chali Nondo and Jenna Sciuto.

Trustee Chamberlain requested that these professors attend the Board of Trustees meeting on April 4, 2019, when tenure will be presented for approval.

New Certificate Programs

VP Williams reviewed the proposals for Principles in Accounting and Network Security certificate programs which will be submitted to the Department of Higher Education if approved by the Board of Trustees at their April 4 meeting.

The courses as outlined in the proposals will be offered at 66 Allen beginning in fall 2019. Both certificate programs have been designed to allow credits to be applied toward a bachelor's degree with MCLA or an associate's degree with Berkshire Community College.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously:

VOTED: to recommend to the Board of Trustees approval of the Certificate in Principles of Accounting and Certificate in Network Security programs as presented.

Academic Affairs Initiatives

VP Williams announced that the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program would be transitioned to North Adams Public Schools systems at the end of AY 2020. With this transition, physical classroom space will be allocated at the North Adams Armory.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.