



Maine Community College System

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Maine Community College System, Augusta

May 28, 2014

Board Members Present: Robert Clark, Chair; Joanna Jones, Vice Chair; William Cassidy, Patricia Duran, Beth Ann Lorigan, David MacMahon, Shawn Moody, Jane Sexton

Board Members Absent: Commissioner Jeanne Paquette, Commissioner James Rier, Jean Ginn Marvin, Laurence Grondin, Steven Howe, Kaitlyn Kinsey, Christopher McCormick

Others Present: John Fitzsimmons, Ellyn Chase, Charles Galemmo, Ethel Bowden, Helen Pelletier, Linda McGill

Chair Clark determined that a quorum of Trustees was present. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT

NOTE: The Board of Trustees recognizes its responsibility to hear the views of responsible citizens, within and outside of the System, on issues judged by the Board Chair to be directly related to System policy. Such views are summarized here only in an attempt to reflect the essential points made by the presenter. Inclusion of such summaries in these Minutes does not imply that such points were regarded as factually accurate or endorsed by the Board.

Charles Galemmo addressed the Board. He teaches at YCCC, and is the President of the Maine Community College System Faculty Association. He gave the Trustees a brief explanation of his background, citing 30 years of industry experience in fine dining and national restaurant franchise management, and his procurement of an MBA. He described the community colleges as essentially a service industry, providing a service to students. He explained that the Faculty Association also has concerns over declining funds, and is glad that the Board is looking at a small tuition increase, although they agree on the need to keep tuition low to continue to provide

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people opportunities in Maine's economy. He discussed the operating funds of the system from 2009 to 2013, stating that the money being spent on faculty is actually decreasing, and then citing recent decisions to save money by cutting faculty posts. Mr. Galemmo stated that this cutting of faculty impedes the functionality of the system. He likened the faculty to the front line people in the service industry, stating that if he had restaurants flagging in their sales, the last thing he wanted to do was cut those front line people. They are, he explained, necessary not just for the running of the business, but they are responsible for the experience that the customers take away. He asked that the Board of Trustees and the MCCS in general keep this in mind when seeking to make cuts. From a business standpoint, he asserted, it is a very bad decision. Mr. Galemmo said that you always staff for the level of business you want, and you want students to have a positive experience. Chair Clark thanked him for speaking to the Board.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Resolution to authorize the System President or Designee to enter into a five-year lease for use of space by University College/University of Maine at Augusta at the Midcoast Campus of Southern Maine Community College

President Fitzsimmons noted this was discussed at length in the work session. Southern Maine Community College wants to lease part of the Midcoast Campus Orion building to University College. The University wishes to leave Bath and move to Brunswick, and SMCC has the space available. President Fitzsimmons believes that having two institutions there will help attract more students, and this will obviously contribute financially to SMCC. He described it as a "win-win" situation. He stipulated that the lease agreement is for up to five years, but he hopes that this partnership will go beyond that.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Moody to approve the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

Resolution to set tuition and fee rates effective fall semester 2014

President Fitzsimmons stated that he was coming before the Board with a recommendation to increase tuition by \$2.00 per credit hour. This would increase in-state tuition from \$88.00 per credit hour to \$90.00 per credit hour. This would represent a raise in full-time tuition from \$2,640.00 to \$2,700.00. He stated that there are several financial challenges the System is facing, including the increases for all employees in the new bargaining agreements. President Fitzsimmons said that the tuition hike should generate around \$790,000.00. While this will still leave the MCCS with budgetary challenges, it will help. President Fitzsimmons added that the System has a long track record of not raising tuition, and when it is done, it is at a very low level. He stated that he considers this increase acceptable because it still keeps us affordable for students, and we still have the lowest tuition in all of New England. He also clarified that usually the increase for out-of-state tuition is double that of in-state, and that there would indeed be an extra \$4.00 per credit hour charged for out-of-state students. He also stated that out-of-state students are about 4% of our overall enrollment. He then recommended these measures to the Board.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Moody to approve the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

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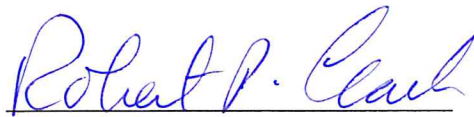
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OTHER BUSINESS

As there was no other business to be presented, Chair Clark requested adjournment. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Cassidy. It was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:15p.m.



John Fitzsimmons, Secretary



Robert P. Clark
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Maine Community College System