

**MSSM Board of Trustee
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2015
Wells Conference Center
Orono, Maine**

Board Members and Officers present were: Dr. J. Pieh, Chair; Mr. J. Judd, Vice-Chair; Mrs. K. deLutio, Ms. D. Gordon, Dr. D. Haines, Dr. C. Kesselheim, Mr. D. King, Mr. M. Lambert, Treasurer; Ms. R. Lyons, Mr. G. Ostermann, Dr. L. Schott, Mr. L. Shorty, Secretary; Dr. B. Sullivan, Dr. W. Specht and Dr. C. Wray.

Board Members and Officers (present via phone): Ms. S. Lowry.

Board Members and Officers absent: Ms. C. Voyer and Mr. F. Woodman.

Others present were: Mr. T. Blatt, Ms. B. Brusila, Ms. L. Costello, Mr. M. Grillo, Dr. A. Haines, Ms. M. Howard, Mr. M. McCartney, Mrs. M. McGuire, Mr. G. Ramey, Dr. N. Richardson, Ms. L. Smith, Mrs. E. Symonds, Mr. S. Symonds and Mr. A. Thompson.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm by J. Pieh, Chair. Quorum was established by L. Shorty, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.
- II. Reports
 - a. Faculty: Dr. Sullivan delivered the faculty report reiterating many of the concerns expressed in his December 6, 2014 management report. Much discussion took place on those points especially morale, communication and growth.
 - b. Mr. Ostermann delivered the Student Senate report. He indicated that students supported the faculty in their concerns outlined by Dr. Sullivan.
 - c. MSSM Foundation: Mr. Thompson delivered the Foundation report. He reported on the progress for funding the greenhouse project and asked for assistance in recruiting more donors. He congratulated Ms. Smith on her recent acceptance into medical school.
 - d. Parents' Association: Ms. Brusila delivered her report.
 - e. Five Year Plan: Mr. Shorty noted that several key objectives on the current 5 YP had been met and suggested it was time to update the plan for the next 5 years.
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. On a motion by Mr. King and seconded by Ms. Gordon, the Trustees voted to accept the Management Report as submitted.
 - b. On a motion by Dr. Wray, seconded by Ms. Gordon, the minutes of the December 6, 2014 meeting were approved.
- IV. Dr. Pieh opened the floor to public comments:
 - a. He thanked Dr. Schott, Mr. Shorty and Dr. Richardson on their effort and success on completing the recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Maine at Presque Isle and MSSM that allows MSSM courses to be awarded credit by UMPI and allows UMPI to award an Associate's Degree to MSSM students who earn enough credits to qualify at a very low cost to the students (approximately \$1,000 for the equivalent of 2 years of college).

- b. Mr. Blatt expressed concern with the school's admission of freshmen would force the school to shift its emphasis from higher level courses to lower level courses for their incoming freshmen. The net effect would be to reduce the number of high level courses to upper classmen, many of whom come to MSSM because they cannot get these curriculum choices at their sending school.
- c. Ms. Costello read a statement concerning teacher frustration, fatigue and morale, RI's being overworked, students being bullied by administrators. Her statements were joined by discussion from Ms. Brusila and Mr. Ostermann.

V. Action Agenda

- a. Governance Committee – Dr. Haines presented the policy work for review:
 - i. On a motion by Dr. Specht with a second by Ms. Gordon, the Trustees approved the second reading of the following policies:
 - AACC – Trafton Housing Policy
 - GCBD – Room and Board Waiver
 - GDB – Vacations
 - ii. On a motion by Ms. Gordon with a second by Dr. Specht, the Trustees approved the first reading of the following policies:
 - GCFR-Instructor Qualification Procedure
 - GPDS – Paid Holidays

Dr. Haines presented the name of Ms. Maeghan Maloney as a recommendation to Governor LePage for appointment to fill the position he currently occupies “parent of a student/alum of MSSM” on the Board of Trustees. Ms. Maloney currently serves as District Attorney for Kennebec and Somerset Counties and is the mother of Atticus Christopher Maloney, a sophomore at MSSM.

Dr. Haines reminded the Trustees that the Governor nominates the candidates for the Board to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee of the Legislature who must ratify the appointment.

On a motion by Dr. Haines and seconded by Mr. King, the Trustees forwarded the recommendation to the Governor’s Office for consideration.

Dr. Haines reminded the Trustees that they were required annually to elect officers and it had been done inconsistently in the past. Dr. Haines stated that the Governance Committee felt elections should be done in May for new officers to be seated for the October meeting. The Governance Committee would provide a slate for consideration and it would include nomination for Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer. The Clerk’s office is held by the MSSM’s Executive Director, ex-officio.

The committee continues to work on a self-assessment tool.

He also gave an update on the meeting with the Board of Visitors. The next meeting of the BOV is scheduled for April 2016.

- b. Program: Dr. Kesselheim discussed the need to have approximately one hour breakout session to split in two groups to discuss the future growth, demographics, class size issues as well as a timeline to get goals accomplished.

- c. Advancement: Ms. Gordon presented the report for the advancement committee. It appears that we will easily get to our 156 student goal for this fall's enrollment. She also discussed the positive press we've been receiving for example the MOU with UMaine Presque Isle, Science Fair, Open Houses, etc. Also the Bangor Daily News will be doing an insert in May for our 20th anniversary. She reminded interested parties that they meet the 2nd Thursday at 4 pm by phone.
- d. Finance: The report was presented by Mr. King who asked if there were any questions about the report.

On a recommendation by the COO, Mr. King moved and seconded by Dr. Haines that the Trustees vote to keep the room and board fee at \$8,450 for the school year '16.

In the absence of sound revenue data to set the budget, Dr. Wray moved with a second from Ms. Gordon to authorize the finance committee to set the tuition rate for non-resident students after the revenue information is available from the State and a final draft of the budget is ready. This was passed by the Trustees.

The Board recessed at 3:20 pm to accommodate the request of the Program Committee for a breakout session. The Board reconvened at 4:20pm so that each group could report on the discussion that took place during the recess.

Dr.Kesselheim reported for the program group and Mr. Judd reported for the other groups with general discussion following.

VI. With no further business before it and at 4:49 pm, on a motion by Dr. Specht with a second by Mr.King, the meeting was adjourned by the Trustees in peace and harmony.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke C. Shorty
Executive Director/Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Sunday, May 31 at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics

Approved: Sunday, May 31, 2015