

FINANCE and ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
President's Conference Room
Fitchburg State College

Minutes of Meeting Held on April 27, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Martin F. Connors, Jr., David Mullaney, (via telephone and not eligible to vote), Carol Vittorioso, Gregg Lisciotti, ex-officio

Trustees Present: Robert Pontbriand, Eric Gregoire

Also Present: Robert V. Antonucci, Gail Doiron, Michael Shanley, Mary Lynn Leary, Sheila Sykes, Rick McCluskey, Michael Turk, Jay Bry

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Connors at 3:04 p.m.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Gregoire and seconded by Mr. Pontbriand it was

Voted: to approve the minutes of the meetings held on April 28, 2009 and
(5-0) October 13, 2009 as presented.

President Antonucci introduced those in attendance. He informed the committee of the two open forums held with the campus community. He said instead of facing one year of cuts we have more unanticipated cuts. He discussed the Power Point presentation given to the college community. (Attached)

President Antonucci said the house is debating the budget and we did file an amendment. He expressed the need to keep programs and our facilities current. He next discussed the FY10 and FY11 operating budget in detail.

Mr. Connors opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Pontbriand asked about the cap on reserves. President Antonucci responded that it depends upon how much we raise fees and we may need to delay some capital projects.

There was a discussion that included capital funds, reserves and fee increases.

Mr. Gregoire stated we (the students) were very concerned about the fee increases and wanted to keep the programs cutting edge and services maintained.

Mr. Connors explained we need to raise fees because the state support has been significantly reduced.

There was a lengthy discussion on possible scenarios of raising fees, using reserves and capital projects.

Mr. Mullaney was curious about the biggest line items. President Antonucci responded that phase three of the Anthony Building, accessibility compliance issues, Thompson Hall back entrance, making the quad handicap accessible, room replacements and other small projects. The campus accessibility challenges continue to be a huge issue and we have been getting cited on them. He stated we have to finish these projects, to him, that was a top priority. He said they are all interconnected. If you hold off on one, it can affect other projects. An example being finishing the Anthony Building will make room for the Registrar's office to move out of the bottom of the Sanders Building to make way for the start of the New Science Building project.

Mr. Connors stated we need to have a balanced budget. Mr. Pontbriand suggested in order to balance the budget the Board could approve fee increases without a dollar amount.

There was a discussion.

Mr. Gregoire said working students would consider a fee increase a "big pill to swallow" but would do it if they had to.

President Antonucci stated we will have a balanced budget by using reserves and set a cap for fees while waiting for the House and Senate budget to be finalized.

There was a vigorous discussion of raising fees and how much to take from reserves, and reducing some capital projects.

President Antonucci stated the capital improvements are the selling point of the college.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Connors and seconded by Mr. Pontbriand it was

Voted: to approve that on-going capital projects roll forward into the FY2011
(5-0) College Fee Budget. (12-09/10)

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Gregoire it was

Voted: to give authority to the President to transfer funds of \$50,000 or more
(5-0) between line items, for the remainder of FY2010, as necessary to balance the budget. The Board will be notified at the fall Board meeting if any such transfers were done. (13-09/10)

Mr. Connors discussed the fee increase amended vote and the setting of the annual fee cap at \$1,250.00.

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Lisciotti it was

Voted: to increase the following annual student fees, effective for the fall
(5-0) semester 2010.

Day School Student Fee Increase

College Fee Up to \$1,250 for FY2011

Graduate and Continuing Education Student Fee Increase

Undergraduate Educational Services Fee to be determined

Graduate Educational Services Fee to be determined
14-09/10

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Lisciotti it was

Voted: to approve the tentative FY2011 Budget as presented by the
(5-0) President. (15-09/10)

President Antonucci next explained the funding of sabbaticals. There was a discussion.

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Lisciotti it was

Voted: to approve the following:
(5-0)

In accordance with the MSCA Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article XV, S.D., Sabbatical Leave, Application and Approval, the Board grants the President authority to approve such requests. In doing so the President must consider the FY2011 Budget approved by the Governor and the Legislature. The President will notify the Board of action taken.

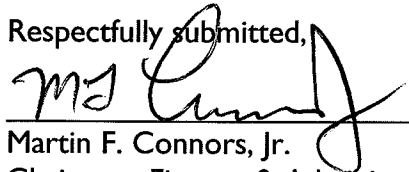
Background

Eight requests have been received for 2010-2011: one full-year, and seven for one semester. In accordance with Article XV, S. D., Dr. Michael Fiorentino, Jr. has provided me a positive recommendation for each request.

In the event any sabbatical is not approved due to fiscal constraints, Article XV, S.F. Deferral, will apply. (16-09/10)

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin F. Connors, Jr.
Chairman, Finance & Administration
Board of Trustees