

**McMaster Association of Part-Time Students
Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
Saturday, June 23, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.
Canadian Marine Discovery Centre, Hamilton**

PRESENT Anna Marinelli (chair), Carole Armstrong, Lynn Beyer, Vicki Hartley, Darlene Hayward, Joseph McGuire, David Moore, Michael Westcott, Allan Wong

REGRETS Alex Alvarez, Min-Ju Evans, Kyra Machèn, Rose O'Connor, Eric Siu

ABSENT Simon DeAbreu, Rabia Khan, Sean Spratt

STAFF Sam Minniti (executive director)

CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING

A quorum of directors being present, the chair called the meeting to order.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE MINUTES

- Minutes of April 2, 2007
- President's Report, June 23, 2007
- Executive Director's Report, June 23, 2007

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Moore, seconded by Westcott that the agenda be adopted as presented.
Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Hartley, seconded by Hayward that the minutes of April 2, 2007 be adopted as circulated.
Carried.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Marinelli presented her written report (copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes).

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Minniti presented his written report (circulated at the meeting, copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes). He added further comments:

- Dr. Hall was apologetic at the June 14 Board of Governors meeting, acknowledging that the Graduation Fee as originally proposed violated government policy requiring student consultation and consent. He also acknowledged that there had not been consultation with student governments, but rather they were simply advised that the University was proceeding with user fees that did not require student consultation or consent.
- Many university staff resent having to pay the stadium parking garage levy premium (currently \$10 per month, rising to \$12 per month in September) when they will probably never have the seniority necessary to have the option to park there.

It was suggested that MAPS draw the more cost-effective parking options to the attention of our members. Mailman messaging and The Link are options for doing this.

Hartley noted that the HSR has a discounted ticket price for Mohawk students; could a similar arrangement be made for McMaster part-time students? Minniti will investigate and report back.

Moore noted that without an exemption to the University's mid-January fee submission deadline, student governments (MAPS, MSU, GSA) would need to conclude negotiations with the HSR and complete constituency approval processes (e.g. referenda) in the fall term. The MSU's current referendum-authorized fee expires at the end of 2007-2008.

In response to questions from board members, Minniti provided the following information:

- Correspondence has been received from the University regarding the pension plan actuarial valuation, but an assessment of MAPS' share of the liability has not yet been received.
- He will write to Dr. Hall and ask that MAPS be invited to all University Fees Committee meetings until the UFC's terms of reference is formally amended to include appointees of the major student governments. Minniti will also be raising this with Dr. George during his next private meeting with the president.
- Summer session fees have not yet been received from the University. Last year MAPS received a written commitment to transfer of fees no later than February 15, June 15, and October 15. Minniti will follow-up next week. The summer payment is just over half of MAPS' annual fee revenue.
- The Office Administrator salary band re-evaluation (based on the updated job description) has not yet been received from the University's Human Resources department.
- He contact MAPS' webmaster and determine why updates provided several weeks ago aren't posted.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S GOALS

Minniti took the board through his proposed goals, including those which would be eligible for consideration under the performance bonus component of his contract (copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes).

Further consideration was deferred to the next meeting to provide time to review the material. Members were encouraged to forward comments to Marinelli and address questions to Minniti.

6. MAPS-MSU MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERABILITY

Minniti summarized the history of this file. A provision for transfer of students with disabilities from MAPS to MSU is just one of the elements of the agreement.

The 2005-06 and 2006-07 SRAs both approved a MAPS-MSU transferability agreement that provides for implementation without the participation of the University; however, the current MSU president, like his immediate predecessor, seems unwilling to move forward without the University acting as agent (i.e. administer the related fee transfers).

As a follow-up to a MAPS-MSU meeting on May 31, the MSU president sent an email to Dr. Hall on June 18 to determine if the University will facilitate implementation of the agreement on a one-year trial basis, and if not, to receive the specific reasons in writing together with a timetable for working through issues to implement two-way transferability.

Dr. Hall is not prepared to have the University act as agent other than for one way movement (MAPS to MSU) for students with disabilities. Since August 2006, his view has been that other

elements of the proposed transferability agreement are administratively burdensome. He reiterated this view at the Admin-Con meeting on June 19, even though almost all the current draft under consideration was written and approved by the University Fees Committee. If no more progress is made in the next year than in the last 15 months, Dr. Hall will then retire and there will be further delay while a new AVP-Academic becomes familiar with the file.

Members of the board gave clear direction that one-way transferability of any sort would not be acceptable to MAPS because it would be unfair and leave all parties vulnerable to discrimination complaints.

Following discussion, a consensus emerged to proceed as follows:

- Minniti will contact MSU president Ryan Moran and ask for a clear MSU statement, in writing, whether it is prepared to implement it immediately using the provisions to proceed without the University acting as agent.
- If the answer is yes, MAPS and the MSU will move quickly to sign and implement the agreement effective September 2007.
- If the answer is no:
 - The MSU will be asked to set out the reasons [in writing] for refusing to implement the agreement approved twice by the SRA.
 - Minniti will write to the MSU president and the Dr. Hall to advise:
 - As a result of the MSU's decision, transferability will not be implemented in 2007-08. MAPS will suggest a joint MAPS-MSU news release to announce this and explain why (as was done on September 12, 2006).
 - Part-time degree students enrolled in fewer than 18 units who want MSU membership will be directed to the MSU president. The MSU will determine how it will proceed. Options may include, but not limited to: no change to the status quo for 2007-08, or selling MSU membership which would result in "dual membership" with such students becoming fee-paying members of both MAPS and the MSU).
 - Note MAPS' continuing commitment to the two-way transferability agreement that has been approved by both MAPS and the MSU.
 - Note that MAPS looks forward to realization of Dr. Hall's commitment, made at Admin-Con on June 19, to work through the administrative requirements to implement the agreement's provisions.
 - MAPS would post a news release on its web site and include an explanation in the July issue of The Link.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed to defer selection of committee members to the next meeting.

8. TIME OF NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: Friday, July 27, 2007, at 6:30 p.m., at Minniti's residence (57 West 1st Street).

Motion: Moved by Armstrong, seconded by Hartley to adjourn.
Carried.

4:05 p.m.