

**McMaster Association of Part-Time Students
Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday September 23, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.
52 Church Street, Stoney Creek, Ontario**

PRESENT Hasnat Ahsan, Carole Armstrong, Min-Ju Evans, Darlene Hayward, Rose O'Connor, Eric Siu, Kate Pratas, Violet Wakeman-Ajandi, Candace Waterkamp, Allan Wong (chair)

BY PROXY None

ABSENT Jeanette Button, Jim Huff, Elaine Marion, Cassandra Pohl,

STAFF Sam Minniti (Executive Director), Terri Jones (Office Administrator)

GUESTS None

CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING

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

ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE MINUTES

- President's Report
- Executive Director's Report

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Hayward, seconded by Evans that the agenda be adopted.
Carried Unanimously.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Wong presented his written report (a copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes).

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Minniti presented his written report (a copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes). Of particular note, Minniti informed the Board that he had received resignations from Anna Marinelli (citing personal reasons) and Sean Spratt (citing a lack of availability given increased employment responsibilities). As such, the total number of Board members is now 16 instead of 18.

4. ON-LINE LEARNING ROUNDTABLE

Minniti expressed a desire to recruit key individuals to an on-line learning roundtable whose goal would be to foster a discussion about lobbying McMaster University to seriously consider implementing on-line and distance education. Minniti expressed a desire to have individuals from around the McMaster University community including faculty, staff, students, administration, representatives from the McMaster Students Union (MSU), the Graduate Students Association (GSA), and McMaster MBA Association, as well as members of the MAPS Board of Directors. Minniti indicated that he would spend the next few months gauging the interest and recruiting individuals for such an on-line learning roundtable, but wanted to make

sure that the MAPS Board was supportive of the idea. Everyone in the meeting expressed support for the idea.

5. MAPS BURSARIES FOR CCE STUDENTS

Minniti indicated that applications for MAPS bursaries from CCE students have been steadily increasing, while the supply has remained essentially the same. Minniti also indicated that such an increase in bursary applicants will more than likely continue given that CCE is planning enrolment growth coupled with MAPS aggressively advertising bursaries for CCE students via the e-mail distribution list (EDL). Minniti added that the timing may be right for MAPS to inject additional funding for CCE students.

Wong added that he was very supportive of this idea and that MAPS should reach out and do more for CCE students.

Minniti indicated that with the organizations 30th anniversary approaching in 2009, and with continued healthy surpluses and retained earnings, the organization may wish to add to the existing endowment for bursaries for CCE students. Consensus existed for Minniti and Wong to follow-up with Elizabeth Seymour, Director of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships as well as University Advancement, with regards to exploring bursary the expansion for MAPS.

6. 30th ANNIVERSARY OF MAPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Minniti shared his desire to highlight the organizations 30th anniversary at the Annual Awards Dinner by inviting as many past Board members as possible dating back to MAPS' inaugural year of 1979. Minniti indicated that if the Board was supportive of the idea, he would work with the McMaster Alumni Association to track down as many former Board members who have kept their address updated with McMaster University. Depending on the number of MAPS Board alumni that RSVP, Minniti indicated that the event would more than likely take place off campus, and that guest speakers throughout the past three decades would share their experiences of MAPS. Consensus existed for Minniti to proceed with a "celebrating 30 years of Board leadership" theme.

7. BYLAW REVIEW

Minniti indicated that it would be a good idea for the MAPS Board to undertake a review of its bylaw, and noted that the last time this occurred was in 2006. Minniti indicated that the impetus for such a review centred on the confusion associated with associated membership and proxy forms at the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM). There was consensus on proceeding, and it was noted that Minniti and Armstrong, in her capacity as Executive Councillor, would lead such a bylaw review.

8. GORDON RAYMOND AWARD

Minniti explained that the Gordon Raymond Award is a community contribution award specifically for part-time students. The award also has a corresponding bursary in the event the recipient demonstrates financial need as determined by Student Financial Aid & Scholarships (SFAS). Minniti indicated that SFAS has only one criteria that would deem a student in financial need and that is if the student is receiving, or is eligible to receive, loans via the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP) and Ontario Student Assistance Plan (OSAP). However, the overwhelming majority of part-time students are deemed ineligible to receive funding via CSLP or OSAP, and as such, it would be extremely rare for part-time students that receive the Gordon

Raymond Award to also receive the corresponding bursary. That is, their unmet need would not be recognized by SFAS' criteria.

Hayward asked if SFAS would consider other factors besides receiving or being eligible to receive OSAP or CSLP in order to determine financial need.

Minniti indicated that at this time, SFAS has no intention of doing so. As such, Minniti indicated that MAPS should consider funding the corresponding bursary when it is awarded to a part-time student who does not meet the eligibility requirements as per SFAS, but that does have financial need nonetheless.

Wong asked what the amount of the bursary would be and if a recipient has been selected for this year.

Minniti indicated that, like many bursaries, the value of the bursary in any given year is dependent on the interest generated from the respective bursary endowment. Minniti also indicated that a recipient had been identified for this year.

Motion: Moved by O'Connor, seconded by Pratas that MAPS Board of Directors provide funds for the recipient of the Gordon Raymond Award based on the value of the bursary should the Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships grant the bursary.
Carried Unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED/OTHER BUSINESS

There was no unfinished or other business.

10. TIME OF NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

Minniti indicated that the next meeting of the MAPS Board of Directors would be scheduled for Tuesday October 21, 2008 at 5:30 pm at the Center for Continuing Education (CCE), Room 210. There being no further business, the board adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Motion: Moved by Armstrong, seconded by Pratas to adjourn.
Carried Unanimously.