

**McMaster Association of Part-Time Students
Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
Thursday March 25, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.
Room 214, McMaster University Student Centre**

PRESENT Jeanette Button, Elaine Marion (Chair), Rose O'Connor, Kate Pratas, Violet Wakeman-Ajandi, Ian Walker, Candace Waterkamp

BY PROXY Min-Ju Evans (via Elaine Marion)

ABSENT Eric Siu

STAFF Sam Minniti (Executive Director)

CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING

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

ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE MINUTES

- Executive Director's Report
- MAPS 2010 Draft Budget
- MAPS Bylaw (Proposed Amendment noted via tracked changes)

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by O'Connor to adopt the agenda.
Carried Unanimously.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Of particular note for the minutes from the Executive Director's report, Minniti highlighted that in drafting his spoken remarks for MAPS' \$1,000,000 gift to the proposed Liberal Arts Building at the celebration held for retiring University President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Peter George, Minniti discovered that the University Student Fees Committee (USFC) was planning on eliminating free tuition and supplementary fees for seniors (students aged 65 and over). Minniti clarified that he was in the process of confirming that students no longer pay tuition and supplementary fees at age 65 for a brief joke about Dr. Peter George becoming a MAPS member and enrolling in courses for free.

Wakeman-Ajandi inquired if that would apply to her given that she is over 65 to which Minniti confirmed that it would if the USFC proposal was ultimately approved by the Board of Governors.

Button inquired as to who specifically on the USFC was proposing this change to which Minniti indicated that he was not sure given that MAPS is no longer allowed to attend USFC meetings along with the McMaster Students Union (MSU) and the Graduate Students Association (GSA). Minniti clarified that this happened when Dr. Peter Smith replaced Dr. Fred Hall as Associate Vice-President (Academic) and chair of the USFC.

O'Connor inquired as to how many seniors are currently enrolled at McMaster University to which Minniti responded by indicating that there were 34 seniors.

Marion indicated that this was such a small number compared to the over 20,000 full-time students.

Minniti explained that the impetus is more than likely not a financial one but rather one of trying to increase administrative efficiencies.

O'Connor asked if the USFC was considering the possibility of ramping up to full tuition and supplementary fees for seniors after a reasonable period of advertising to which Minniti indicated that the intention of the USFC is to start charging seniors full tuition and supplementary fees in September 2010.

Wakeman-Ajandi expressed great concern regarding the USFC's desire to charge seniors like her full tuition without any warning or grandfathering. She indicated that there would be a myriad of problems for low-income seniors.

Minniti explained that he had already started researching implications on seniors, especially low-income seniors as well as which post-secondary institutions within Ontario have free tuition and supplementary fees for seniors and that this information would form the basis of a lobby campaign.

Walker inquired as to what supplementary fees were to which Minniti explained they were non-academic related fees, such as MAPS fees or MSU fees.

Button indicated that she was shocked at the lack of student consultation.

Marion concurred and indicated that when Minniti made his joke at the formal event for Dr. Peter George, there was a mixture of laughter and surprise in the audience. Marion congratulated Minniti for strategically yet sensitively raising this issue with such a captive audience of over 1,000 students, staff, faculty, alumni, and donors.

Minniti indicated that he would undertake a formal advocacy campaign involving writing letters to the USFC, the Finance Committee, and if need be, the Board of Governors. He added that he would be raising awareness within the local media as well and that he was confident MAPS would be successful in its advocacy given the rather odd and foolish public relations battle that the USFC was picking

Minniti asked Wakeman-Ajandi if she would be willing to join him in attending the Board of Governors meeting if the proposal was not pulled before being presented to the Board of Governors so as to place a real face and name to the students they would be detrimentally affecting.

Wakeman-Ajandi confirmed that she would be very interested in attending the Board of Governors meeting.

Minniti next highlighted the proposed closure of the Art History department and the meeting that he and Marion attended with the Provost, Dr. Ilene Busch-Vishniac, the Dean of Humanities, Dr. Suzanne Crosta, and the Associate Dean of Humanities, Dr. David Wright. Minniti expanded that he and Marion had inquired if the Provost, Dean, and Associate Dean would be open to the possibility of fundraising to save Art History to which the Provost and Dean made it perfectly

clear that they would turn down prospective funds – even as high as \$10,000,000 (the amount cited by the Dean in a previous meeting with Minniti required to establish an endowment to hire three additional faculty members) – and instead would encourage prospective donors to fund graduate programs in the Humanities.

Marion added that the Provost was quite adamant that she would turn down such funding and boasted about how she had turned down an amount as high as \$100,000,000 at a previous institution that she had worked at within the United States.

O'Connor asked how the Provost and Dean could grow graduate studies with the faculty of Humanities and not the undergraduate programs to which Minniti confirmed that the graduate programs in Humanities would grow at the expense of the undergraduate programs in Humanities.

Marion added that Art History, her very own program of study, was just the recent area within the liberal arts to come under attack.

Minniti concurred and indicated that Gerontology, Modern Languages, Italian, German, and Women's Studies had all been either drastically scaled back or cut all together. He added that this issue was particularly critical for MAPS given that the overwhelming majority of MAPS members are enrolled in the liberal arts, namely Social Sciences and Humanities, and that the Art History program had a disproportionality higher number of part-time students than other programs.

Marion indicated that Minniti would be quarterbacking a group of concerned groups on campus including the McMaster Students Union (MSU), the Humanities representatives on the Student Representative Assembly (SRA), the McMaster Humanities Society (MHS), the Humanities undergraduate student representative on the Senate, the undergraduate representative on the Board of Governors, and most importantly a group of Art History students who convened on their own accord to stop the closure.

Minniti concluded by indicating that this issue would more than likely result in a showdown at Senate.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Marion presented her verbal report.

4. VICE-PRESIDENT EXTERNAL REPORT

Waterkamp presented her verbal report.

Of particular note, Waterkamp highlighted her work in observing the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) with a particular emphasis on the Lobby Conference held in Ottawa in March of 2009. She added that although she had spent a year observing CASA, given a myriad of communication problems where the National Director of CASA, Arti Sharma, did not return phone calls or respond to e-mails, Waterkamp expressed a desire to continue observing CASA for one more year before making a decision on whether or not to recommend to the MAPS Board of Directors formally join.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Button presented the MAPS 2010 Draft Budget (a copy annexed to the master copy of the minutes). She thanked Minniti for his assistance and indicated that the budgeting process was very straightforward in that she and Minniti looked at projected revenue for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010 as well as the actuals from the year ending December 31, 2009.

Button highlighted that the projected revenue for 2010 would be higher given that the new MAPS membership fee of \$7.00 per unit (up from \$5.00 per unit) would take effect in September 2010.

Button and Minniti went through each expense line in the budget.

Walker inquired about the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) Graduation line going to \$5000.

Minniti explained that the event was moving off campus in 2010 given the continued CCE enrolment growth and that CIBC Hall on campus was becoming too small. Minniti added that the increased expense reflected projected costs of catering and venue rental and that the MAPS Board of Directors should be mindful of increasing their funding for CCE in light of the MAPS membership fee increase.

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Pratas to approve the MAPS 2010 Draft Budget.
Carried Unanimously.

6. MAPS BYLAW AMENDMENT

Minniti indicated that each year the MAPS Board of Directors reviews the MAPS Bylaw to determine any areas that need changing. He added that procedurally, the MAPS Board of Directors must first endorse any amendments followed by approval from the general membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Minniti highlighted the tracked changes version of the MAPS Bylaw which was circulated to the MAPS Board of Directors. He noted the proposed changes included striking Section 5.b) to remove Honourary Membership within MAPS, striking the latter part of Section 13.: "In addition to the 16 directors normally elected at the AGM, a maximum of 2 additional individuals may be elected to the Board of Directors", removing the Executive Councillor position(s) in Section 25.a)i), formatting corrections, a correction to the Bylaw Index, and changing the footer to April 2010 to reflect the date when the general membership would be amending the MAPS Bylaw.

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Button to endorse the amendments to the MAPS' Bylaw as per the tracked changes handout to the general membership at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).
Carried Unanimously.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Button to move into Closed Session.
Carried Unanimously.

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Button to exit Closed Session.
Carried Unanimously.

8. UNFINISHED / OTHER BUSINESS

There was no unfinished or other business.

9. TIME OF NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

Minniti indicated that this was the final meeting of the 2009-2010 MAPS Board of Directors and that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) where the 2010-2011 MAPS Board is elected will take place on Friday April 23, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Gilmour Hall, Room 111. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at d at 8:30 p.m.

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Wakeman-Ajandi to adjourn.
Carried Unanimously.

UNAPPROVED / "AS IS" (see Important Notice at end)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

During the years 2008 through 2012, the taking of minutes, recording of decisions of the Board, and other normal meeting procedures do not appear to have been followed or in accordance with best practices. However, various documents that appear to be unapproved minutes were found.

In August 2013, the Board of Directors (which was elected in February 2013 as part of a complete Board changeover) instructed that these unapproved minutes be made publicly available in order to advance the current Board's commitment to transparency and improved governance. However, these minutes may not be fully representative of the deliberations or subsequent actions of prior Boards, and the current Board is unable to determine their accuracy as none of the current members were present during these past meetings.

These minutes should thus be read with the following caveats:

1. Unless otherwise indicated, no record exists of these minutes being appropriately reviewed or approved. The minutes' contents are thus provided "as is" for information purposes only.
2. These minutes may accordingly not provide a full or accurate record of prior board decisions. These minutes should thus not be relied upon as authoritative or conclusive.
3. As none of the 2013 members were present, these minutes have not and will not be approved by the 2013 Board. The 2013 Board does not automatically agree with or accept any decisions or discussions that may be in these minutes.
4. For reference, as of 2013, minutes are now reviewed and approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting, and signed by the presiding officer and corporate secretary.