



**Student Success Committee
Board of Trustees
Massachusetts Bay Community College
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Wellesley Hills Alumni Room**

Minutes

Board Members Present: Diane Schmalensee, Chair; Tim Clifford, Dan Juliani, Pam Lassiter, Sandra Lish, Tom Peisch, and Lily Silva

Staff Members Present: Courtney Jackson, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Initiatives; Lynne Davis, Dean of Health Sciences; Lynn Hunter, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Chitra Javdekar, Dean of STEM; Elizabeth Kinsman, Executive Assistant to VP for Academic Affairs & Provost and recording secretary; Nina Keery, Interim Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences; David Podell, President; and Richard Williams, Associate Dean for Student Success

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODCUTIONS

After establishing a quorum, Chair Schmalensee called the meeting to order at 9:59 AM. Trustee Juliani's motion, seconded by Trustee Lassiter to approve the April 4, 2019, minutes was adopted.

EQUITY AGENDA

State-wide data show that White students in our community colleges are scoring better than Black and Latinx students, and the gaps are too big to ignore. We need to address this challenge vigorously.

President Podell reviewed the equity agenda and discussed some of the ways in which MassBay is already addressing it. For instance, the staff and faculty Professional Day in September will focus on increasing equity in the classroom and the MassBay community.

Searches

We are also working on improving our searching and hiring of new faculty and staff and make sure they are more representative of the student population. MassBay ads make it clear that we are open to diverse candidates. Searches are posted on a wide range of sites because we are in competition with other colleges for the same candidates. We have introduced training of search committee members to ensure they are knowledgeable about how to conduct a search that is more likely to produce a diverse set of candidates.



OneBook

Although we had hoped that the OneBook Committee would select a book focused on race (in alignment with the Equity Agenda), the Committee in fact selected Steven Pinker’s recent book, *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined*.

Artwork

Students should see things that reflect their artistic sensibility in order to promote a sense of belongingness. We will use the next 18 months to tackle this. It was asked if we could post the Lumiere artwork and stories on walls.

Workshops

We are adding more workshops to address race and mindfulness to help educate faculty and staff.

Wakanda Cultural Event

The Wakanda Cultural Event, held in February as part of Black History Month, was the most attended event.

COACHING

Rhian Waterberg presented our new coaching initiative, which includes the creation of the Coaching Commons. The academic coaches from various programs (Success Boston, Young Men and Young Women of Color, STEM, Perkins, MetroWest College Planning Collaborative) will be housed together in space near the Cafeteria. The purpose of academic coaches is to help students navigate college, including encouraging them to seek, when necessary, tutoring, guidance from their professors during office hours, other services the College provides.

UPDATES

The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2019 at 8:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Schmalensee motioned, seconded by Trustee Lassiter to adjourn the meeting was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:11 AM

Diane H. Schmalensee 11/19/19

David Podell 11/21/19

Diane Schmalensee
Chair
MassBay Community College

Date

David Podell
President
MassBay Community College

Date