



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
BOARD OF TRUSTEES STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 9, 2017
87 Blackinton Street**

Members in Attendance:

Brenda Burdick, Chair
Eva Weeks, Student Trustee

Members Absent:

Frederick Keator
Mohan Boodram

Others in Attendance

James F. Birge, President
Denise Marshall, Board Chair
Cathy Holbrook, Vice President of Student Affairs
Celia Norcross, Assistant Dean, Student Engagement
Jenn Labbanca, Director, Student Activities
Michael Obasohan, Assistant Director, Multicultural Education Resource Center (MERC)
Giovanni Arana, Men of Color Chapter Head
Declan Nolan, President, Student Government Association
Robert Ziomek, Vice President of Institutional Advancement
Daniel Colonno, MCLA Campus Police Chief
Spencer Moser, Director, Center for Service

Chair Burdick called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2018 Clery Report

Chief Colonno provided an overview and reviewed the statistics of MCLA's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (Clery Report). This federally mandated report includes safety and crime statistics for campus areas, as well as off-campus areas for which the College is responsible, i.e. Gallery 51 and the Advancement Office. This year's report includes statistics from 2015, 2016,

and 2017. Overall report data show that MCLA is a very safe campus and is reflective of the College's commitment to keep the MCLA campus community safe.

A discussion of the report and the data followed.

Student Government Association Goals

Student Government President Nolan provided an overview of the SGA's goals for AY 2018/19 including efforts to determine why clubs disband, and ways to strengthen the connection between SGA and administration. The SGA held an event recently to promote student involvement in SGA which was attended by over 200 students. The SGA will review comments, questions and concerns brought forward at that session.

Men of Color Initiative

Mr. Obasohan presented an overview of the Men of Color Initiative. This initiative was started to address the participation of men of color in leadership roles on campus. He discussed the importance of role models, membership requirements including academic standards, and membership numbers.

Mr. Arana noted that the group continues to grow and is currently at 21 members. The program focuses on achievement and establishing men of color as leaders on campus. He discussed the group's interest in expanding their mentorship program to include students in the local middle and high schools; and conversations with administration are in process to explore how to make this type of community outreach happen.

Mr. Obasohan then discussed exploring a Women of Color initiative.

MCLA Food Pantry

Mr. Moser provided an update on MCLA's campus food pantry. Over the past year the demand for the pantry has grown and the location has been moved to a shared space near the campus center kitchen. Students are made aware of this resource during orientations and First Days events.

Mr. Moser then reviewed the use of the meal card program and changes made with ARAMARK to help eliminate any stigma associated with use of the meal card. He also discussed the discreet tracking of usage of both the food pantry and meal card usage. He also discussed the desire to

create a space that is safe for students to come to as necessary to address food needs and to develop relationships to create plans to address long term food security.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.