

**QUINCY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**MEETING OF MAY 27, 2003**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed in honor of those members of the Quincy College community who have died, and for Governor Charles Sweeny, who is hospitalized.

The member roll then was called. The following members of the Board of Governors were present: Barbara A. Cannon; Simon Chan; John A. Farmer; Elizabeth A. Flynn; William S. Grindlay; Daniel G. Raymondi, Esq.; Theresa M. Lord-Piatelli, Chair. Absent were: Reverend William C. Harding; Geraldine J. Lewis; Dr. Joseph S. Nicastro; Richard A. Nici, II; Peter O'Neill, Esq.; Charles T. Sweeny. Ms. Lord-Piatelli informed the Board of Governors that Reverend Harding and Ms. Lewis had called prior to the meeting to indicate their unavailability and that, as previously stated, Mr. Sweeny was in the hospital.

Also present were: Sean L. Barry, President; Robert E. Baker, Jr., Vice President for Administration; Thomas A. DeSantes, Vice President for Enrollment Management; Patricia A. Gales, Vice President for Educational Services; Christopher Harrington, Vice President and CFO; Stephen J. McGrath, Esq., Executive Assistant to the President/In-House Counsel for Personnel.

The Open Forum portion of the meeting was called by Ms. Lord-Piatelli. Kristin Parks, Chair of the Registered Nurse program, thanked the Board and President Barry for the budget process, describing it as open and exhausting. She was particularly grateful for the support given to Allied Health programs. Martha Sue Harris, Dean of Liberal Arts, expressed gratitude to the Board and President Barry for their leadership in the months-long budget building process. She also praised the adjunct faculty raise to \$1,500.00 as it recognizes their value.

Next to speak was Christine Griffin, Assistant City Solicitor, City of Quincy, on the issue of rent. She stated that she has looked at the issue of rent at the request of Mayor Phelan. She has reviewed budgets of the past several years and believes that there is ample money for the College to pay the increase to \$450,000.00. She did not believe that the rent that the City is requesting would prevent the College from providing any programs. She stated that Quincy College has more excess revenue available to it than any other City department, that the College should accept its responsibility to the City and pay the increase, or determine that the College is independent and stop "receiving the subsidy" from the City of Quincy. Stephen Dooner, Quincy College faculty member, described the College's reserve as a sacred trust to its students, that it guarantees that full-time students will be able to graduate within two years.

As nobody else came forward to address the Board, the Open Forum portion of the meeting was declared closed at 6:22 PM.

Ms. Lord-Piatelli offered comments on the budget. She thanked President Barry and the College's faculty and staff for their hard work on the budget. She agreed that the College does have a sacred trust, as described by Mr. Dooner. Ms. Lord-Piatelli called upon Assistant City Solicitor Griffin to explain what services the City supplies to Quincy College. Ms. Griffin referenced such services as purchasing and auditing. Ms. Griffin said that there is some debate over what the dollar amount is for those services but, since that matter was the subject of negotiation, she was not at liberty to discuss the matter further. She described the services provided and the use of buildings as a subsidy. Ms. Lord-Piatelli stated that the College must follow strict guidelines from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, one of which

is that a reserve equal to two years' operating budget be maintained. Ms. Lord-Piatelli asked Ms. Griffin how the College is to address NEASC requirements and pay increased amounts for rent and services, to which Ms. Griffin replied that it was up to the College to resolve that issue.

Ms. Lord-Piatelli then asked Joseph A. McRitchie, Assistant City Solicitor, to address the Board. He refused and departed with Ms. Griffin. Mr. Raymondi referred to the minutes of the Board's meeting of April 1, 2003, and those items on which Mr. McRitchie was asked to provide information, and stated that the information and responses still have not been provided. Based on the fact that the City has increased spending by almost \$10,000,000.00, the credibility of its request for increased amounts for rent and services given that Quincy College is the only City department charged for services, and that the College is charged high rent while such entities as Beechwood Community Life Center are charged rent of \$1.00 per year, and that the City is demanding increased rent for the use of Saville Hall, which is not owned by the City, Mr. Raymondi asked that the Chair or President Barry forward to Mr. McRitchie a letter once again requesting that he answer those matters that he was requested to answer at the Board's meeting of April 1, 2003.

Mr. Raymondi placed his request in the form of a motion. Ms. Cannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Farmer moved that the minutes of the Board's meeting of April 1, 2003, be approved. Mr. Grindlay seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members voted in opposition or abstained.

President Barry next presented his report. He provided an outline of the budget process and described problems with vendors because bills are not being paid by, and payments being held at, City Hall. He expressed concern that as Quincy College is 100% tuition dependent, there may be an adverse impact on enrollment from the negative publicity generated by the issues with City Hall. A number of payments have been blocked or delayed. There is still inadequate custodial staff, and the move into New Temple Hall was delayed by inaction from City Hall. Employee reimbursement also has been a problem. Because of the concerns of negative environment, revenue projections are down. QEA costs have increased. Salaries of academic deans are being increased to start to rectify their inadequate salaries. Adjunct instructor contracts have increased to \$1,500.00 per three-credit course. Salaries are based on revenue projections, as well. There is no money being socked away, nor is the budget being padded. The budget focused on direct services to students, including: the Student Life position, which directly addresses student issues on campus, and is designed to enhance their experience and chances of success; 1.5 increases in faculty positions; a .5 position within International Student Services to enhance advising. President Barry recommended adoption of the proposed budget as presented this evening, though with regret as several needed items could not be included.

Mr. Raymondi thanked the members of the Board, and the members of the Quincy College community who appeared this evening who spoke about the budget and the future of the institution. He expressed concern with the lack of value that City Hall holds for the College. His take on City Hall's position, based on what Ms. Griffin has said, is that as long as the College has money, that it should pay and pay. He reminded those present that not a penny of taxpayers' money has been received by Quincy College. He gave high marks to those who made the budget a reality. He thanked the members of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee. He expressed confidence that the Board and President Barry will continue to carry out their duties with courage.

Ms. Cannon said that a reason that she attended Quincy College was because of the tuition, and that she is confident that the Board and President Barry will keep tuitions affordable.

Mr. Farmer disputed the notion that there is a revenue surplus, that what exists is merely  $\frac{3}{4}$  of one year's budget. He expressed his appreciation to a dedicated Board.

Ms. Lord-Piatelli expressed sadness at , in years past, having to tell people that they would be losing their jobs, and since then the Board has shown an absolute commitment never to have to do that again. President Barry and his staff have been true to the institution and its students. She stated that it is the Board's duty to keep Quincy College's doors open to provide opportunities for future generations. She explained that there are not cash surpluses, but cash reserves against what has happened in the past. The Board is trying to maintain accreditation by maintaining the recommended reserve.

Mr. Farmer commended President Barry for doing a great job since becoming President, to the Executive Staff who has done an outstanding job, and to Mr. Raymondi, who has been the institution's anchor.

Mr. Raymondi stated that Quincy College pays all of its utilities, snow removal, and City assessments for such things as purchasing and auditing, that other City departments do not pay. He indicated that in years past, the College was subsidized by the taxpayers of the City of Quincy, but the College has since moved away from dependency to paying for all services that the City provides, and now the College faces increased rental demands from the City.

Under the report of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee, Mr. Harrington presented budget to actual expenditure figures. He also presented a series of budget transfers (see attached) for consideration by the Board. Mr. Farmer moved that the budget transfers be approved, and that Quincy College's President be authorized to make other necessary transfers, subject to ratification by the Board at its next meeting. Mr. Grindlay seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members of the Board of Governors voted in opposition or abstained.

At 7:20 PM, Mr. Raymondi moved that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the President's contract, litigation, and collective bargaining, and then to resume in public session. Mr. Farmer seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members voted in opposition or abstained.

Public session was resumed at 7:52 PM.

Mr. Raymondi moved that fees and tuition as proposed by President Barry (see attached) be approved. Ms. Cannon seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members voted in opposition or abstained.

Mr. Raymondi moved that the FY 2004 appropriation budget, absent any items related to Enrollment Services, as submitted by President Barry (see attached) be approved. Mr. Farmer seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members voted in opposition or abstained.

Ms. Cannon moved that the proposed contract for President Barry be approved. Mr. Raymondi seconded the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Cannon; Mr. Chan; Mr. Farmer; Ms. Flynn; Mr. Grindlay; Mr. Raymondi; Ms. Lord-Piatelli. No members voted in opposition or abstained.

At 7:57 PM, Mr. Raymondi moved that the meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned. Ms. Cannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote and the meeting stood adjourned.