MASSART

Board of Trustees Minutes
April 14, 2026, 4-6pm
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Huntington Room

Trustees in Attendance: Chair Bascome; Vice Chair Korn; Trustees Ramapriya, Sherman, Giraldo, Bump, Keane, and Saragoni

Trustees Absent: Trustees McCreary and Bhattacharya

1. **Call to Order**

   Chair Bascome called the meeting to order at 4:07pm.

2. **Action Item: Approval of the minutes: February 3, 2026**

   On a motion by Trustee Saragoni and a second by Trustee Ramapriya, it was then unanimously **VOTED: to approve the Feb. 3, 2026 meeting minutes.**

3. **Report of the Chair**

   Chair Bascome congratulated the Institutional Advancement team on the past weekend's MassArt Auction and shared how proud he is to be affiliated with the College. He also congratulated the sparc! The ArtMobile team on receiving a national Campus Compact Excellence in Civic & Community Engagement Programming Award and President Grant on receiving the Award for Presidential Leadership from Campus Compact. Chair Bascome also shared that President Grant would be receiving an honorary degree from her alma mater, MCLA and noted her accomplishments and thirteen years of service there as President, and offered his congratulations.

   He also expressed his enthusiasm about MassArt's slate of honorees for this year's Commencement.

4. **Report of the President**

   President Grant shared bright spots at MassArt amidst the current times, including a vibrant and busy Accepted Students Day and MassArt Auction and congratulated those teams on their work. She also thanked the Human Resources team for their work on a recent event celebrating employees hitting milestone years of service, the first time this has been done since the pandemic. Other highlights included a talk with alum, honorary degree recipient, and former faculty member Steve Locke and Evan Garza in celebration of Steve's first career monograph, the All School Show, and the announcement of this year's commencement honorees. She also thanked Vice Chair Korn for helping make the Fashion Show Party Kickoff such a

success, and Trustee Keane for key role as MassArt's auctioneer in making that event such a booster for the College.

5. **Presentation: Design Innovation Program**

Dean of Professional, Graduate, and Continuing Education Mariah Doren, Design Innovation Program Director Ben Little, and graduate student Neri Gonzalez presented on the Design Innovation Program. Ben discussed the Program's approach, a blend of business and design thinking. They shared that the Program has a focus on connecting students with industry and community. It includes students of many professional backgrounds, from everything from engineering to psychology. There were discussions about the positions that alumni go on to and the skills of storytelling and design thinking.

6. **Reports of the Standing Committees**
   a. **Advancement Committee**
   Trustee Saragoni noted the energy at the Auction and thanked everyone that worked on it. At the Advancement Committee meeting in March, Interim Chief Marketing and Communications Officer Temple Gill presented Marketing and Communications updates, including MassArt's Digital Accessibility Project, working toward Title II ADA compliance by the April 24 deadline. VP of Institutional Advancement Emily Foster Day updated the committee on FY26 fundraising progress, which had reached approximately 92% of the $3.8M annual goal at the end of February. Emily also provided information on alumni engagement and the launch of MassArt Alumni Connect, an online alumni community platform. Trustee Saragoni shared that she is impressed with the work of the Marketing and Communications and Institutional Advancement teams.
   b. **Executive Committee**
   Chair Bascome reported that at the Executive Committee meeting, Director of Government and Corporate Relations Brendan O'Bryan gave the Committee an overview of the latest on the state budget process and the BRIGHT Act. The Committee also discussed Campus Master Planning and the Board Self Assessment, which will be distributed to trustees in May before the results are discussed in June.
   c. **Administration & Finance Committee**
      i. **VOTE:To Approve the FY25 Single Audit**
      Trustee Bump shared that the Administration and Finance Committee meeting had acted favorably on the two items in front of the full board for votes. VP Robert Perry went over the findings and corrective action plans that are being put into place and shared that Withum, the College's audit firm, had met with the A&F committee.
      On a motion by Trustee Ramapriya and a second by Trustee Sherman, it was then unanimously **VOTED:to approve the FY25 Single Audit.**

ii. **VOTE:To Approve FY27 Graduate Programs and Professional & Continuing Education Tuition and Fees**
VP Perry presented the breakdown of the proposed rate changes for the FY27 Graduate and Professional and Continuing Education (including Youth Programs) programs that have not already been approved by the Board.
On a motion by Trustee Giraldo and a second by Trustee Ramapriya, it was then unanimously **VOTED:to approve the FY27 Graduate and Professional and Continuing Education Tuition and Fees.**

Chair Bump shared that the A&F Committee meeting also discussed a FY26 Fiscal update. The budget is on track and the team anticipates wrapping up the fiscal year with a small fund balance. VP Perry also shared an FY27 Budget Process update. VPs submitted flat budgets and have been asked to plan for a 3-5% reduction in anticipation of potential state and federal budget decreases. The meeting also covered Campus Master Planning. The process is now in phase 2:Assessment of Future Needs. Lastly, AVP Jim Kane gave a facilities update on a number of DCAMM projects that are underway, and Capital Projects that have been approved and will be starting soon.

There was a short break from 5:03-5:08pm, as the meeting was running ahead of schedule.

d. **Academic & Student Affairs Committee**
   i. **VOTE:To Approve the Candidates for Tenure and Promotion**

Trustee Giraldo shared that the VP of Student Success and Enrollment Management Corey Zink had provided the Committee with updates on Accepted Students Days, the search for a strategic enrollment firm, and the fall pilot of a new advising tool with first-year faculty and students. Susannah Hogan, Program Coordinator of Student Engagement, presented on MassArt's Pathways to Leadership Program, a 7-week program to help students build leadership skills.

VP of Civic and Community Engagement Lyssa Palu-ay provided highlights from several events and initiatives, such as the Thriving Classrooms sessions supporting first generation students. Trustee Giraldo congratulated President Grant on receiving the Campus Compact Richard Guarasci Award for Presidential Leadership and the sparc! the ArtMobile team on the Campus Compact Excellence in Civic and Community Engagement Programming Award.

Pres. Grant acknowledged former VP for Student Development and Special Assistant to the VP for Institutional Advancement

Maureen Keefe's last board meeting. The Board and attendees gave a round of applause and standing ovation.

Pres. Grant also honored retiring SIM faculty Dana Moser, who has been with SIM since 1986 as the longest serving faculty member in SIM's history. He also received a standing ovation. Provost Molife then went through the background and body of work of each candidate for promotion and tenure:

For promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor:
Alan Jennings, Animation
Marjee-Anne Levine, 3D Arts
Ana Mouyis, Animation

For promotion from Associate Professor to Professor:
Stephanie Cardon, Studio Foundation
Joshua Hart, Studio Foundation
Lisa Kennedy, Illustration
Robert Maloney, Illustration
Anjali Srinivasan, 3D Arts

For tenure:
Emily Cobb, 3D Arts
Simonette Quamina, Fine Arts 2D
Amani Willett, Photography

On a motion by Trustee Saragoni and a second by Trustee Bump, it was then unanimously **VOTED**:**to approve the candidates for promotion and tenure.**

7. **New Business**
   There was no new business.

8. **Adjournment**
   Chair Bascome adjourned the meeting at 5:38 pm and invited everyone to raise a toast to the newly tenured and promoted faculty.

Meeting materials:

- *Feb. 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes*
- *Powerpoint slides*
- *Chairs Report*
- *Fiscal Ops Report*
- *Grad PCE Fees Memo*
- *Single Audit memo*
- *Single Audit*
- *Budget Update Memo*
- *Promotion and Tenure memo from President Grant*
- *Promotion and Tenure memo from Provost Molife*
- *Promotion and Tenure candidate materials*