



Student Success and Academic Affairs Committee

Board of Trustees

Massachusetts Bay Community College

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

by WebEx and Facebook

MINUTES

Trustees Present: Lili Silva (Chair), Teddy Choi, Alfonso Hidalgo, Rebecca Negreli, Ilissa Povich, Diane Schmalensee

Trustees Not Present: Sandy Lish

Staff Members Present: Liz Blumberg, Vice President of Student Development and Dean of Students; Karen Britton, Executive Director and Board Liaison; Debra Crandall, Adjunct Faculty in Health Sciences; Lynne Davis, Dean of Health Sciences; Catherine Gildae, Associate Dean for Institutional Effectiveness; Dejour Hollins, Coordinator of Engagement, Identity, and Belonging; Courtney Jackson, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Thomas Niemi, Business and Social Sciences Associate Professor; David Podell, President; Denise Pruitt, Professor and Program Chair of Health Studies; David Protano, Dean of Automotive Technology and Interim Dean of STEM; Sarah Salerno, Assistant Dean of Advising Resources & Technology; Halye Sugarman, Dean of Business and Professional Studies; Richard Williams, Dean for Student Success and Strategic Initiatives

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chair Silva called the meeting to order and declared that a quorum was present

APRIL 15, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Trustee Schmalensee moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2025, meeting, and Trustee Povich seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Trustee Choi – YES; Trustee Hidalgo – YES; Trustee Negreli – YES; Chair Povich – YES; Trustee Schmalensee – YES; Trustee Silva – YES

STUDENT TRUSTEE CHOI

Committee Chair Silva reported that, because his term as a Trustee is ending, today is Trustee Choi's last meeting. Executive Director Britton will be sending him a citation.

New Associate Degrees in Health Sciences

Vice President Jackson introduced Health Sciences Dean Davis and Professors Pruitt and Crandall, to present two new programs being proposed to expand educational opportunities in the Metrowest region.

Associate of Science in General Studies with a concentration in Health

Professor Pruitt presented the new Associate of Science in General Studies with a concentration in Health. This new program is designed for students to take pre-requisite courses in preparation to apply for admission into a selective health sciences program. Students will be able to develop a “specialization pathway” for their intended major, with courses designed to be taken in any order and as well as online for more flexibility. It was noted that labs will be taken in person and offered in the evenings as well as daytime. Professor Pruitt highlighted some of the core requirements.

HL109 Health Career Exploration gives students an opportunity to live a day in the life of all certificates and degrees offered at MassBay and other colleges’ Allied Health programs. Students spend a day in each of our state-of-the-art labs on campus get to experience the career.

HL103 Medical Terminology is a foundation course that all health care students are required to take, which gives them a foundation of medical language.

HL124 Medical Ethics is a new course developed for the roll out of the new Phlebotomy Technician course to give students a look at law and ethics as they practice under a provider’s license as they are not licensed themselves.

HL117 Soft Skills for Medical Professionals is a required course in which students will learn technical skills but also but life skills to assist them in sustaining their jobs. Practice activities include being a team player, showing up on time, ergonomics to prevent body injuries, and constructive criticism.

MO103 Medical Office Insurance and Billing is a course everyone should take to know the ins and out of their own health coverage.

Dean Davis reported that, according to the MassHire Department of Career Services, the region is “prioritizing healthcare practitioners and technical occupations, with a focus on those that require less than a bachelor’s degree.” She reviewed the Greater Boston FY2024 Regional Planning Blueprint, including labor market data. Following Trustee approval, the next step is notification to the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. Students will be admitted into the program beginning in Spring 2026.

Trustees were impressed with the program. Committee Chair Silva noted how timely and necessary it is to fill the gaps in this field, and how it honors workforce development with a call center, direct care, and essential courses. Students will receive transfer credit for work experience. There will also be a clinical component with industry partners. In addition, the program will be eligible for financial aid, including Pell.

MOTION: Trustee Povich moved to approve the Associate of Science in General Studies with a concentration in Heath, and Trustee Negreli seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Trustee Choi – YES; Trustee Hidalgo – YES; Trustee Negreli – YES; Chair Povich – YES; Trustee Schmalensee – YES; Trustee Silva – YES

Associate Degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Adjunct Professor Crandall reported that one objective in MassBay's 2024-2028 Strategic is to develop new programs and courses to adapt to meet the growing need for health care professionals, including an Associate Degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Professor Crandall reviewed the two-year, 68-credit program that includes some online courses, labs and clinical placements. The labor market data are favorable for this profession. Diagnostic Medical Sonographers with an associate degree earn on average \$98,193. The approval process for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is the same as for the Associate of Science in General Studies with a concentration in Health; however, the College will apply for programmatic accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) through the Joint Review Committee on Accreditation for Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCEDMS).

Committee Chair Silva noted that this is also a very needed and timely program. It was noted that the program is limited to approximately 15 students per cohort, which is similar for most accredited programs with clinicals. MassBay secures clinical placement for students. Trustee Schmalensee noted students will get excellent lab experience on campus because of the new state-of-the-art equipment.

MOTION: Trustee Schmalensee moved to approve the Associate in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Trustee Choi seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Trustee Choi – YES; Trustee Hidalgo – YES; Trustee Negreli – YES; Chair Povich – YES; Trustee Schmalensee – YES; Trustee Silva – YES

Building the Bridge: A Unified Approach to Student Success with EAB Navigate360

Vice President Jackson reported that MassBay has adopted a new technology, EAB Navigate360, designed to retain students and help them succeed. She introduced Assistant Dean of Advising Resources & Technology Salerno and Associate Professor of Business and Professional Studies Niemi, who gave a presentation on the new platform.

Assistant Dean of Advising Resources & Technology Salerno explained her role working with various offices on the implementation and coordination of EAB Navigate360. She also explained the importance of retention, especially in terms of closing equity gaps, obtaining higher degrees, and being prepared for the workforce. She noted that retention at MassBay has increased from 53% for part-time students and 59% for full-time students in 2019-2020 to 59% and 64%, respectively, in 2023-2024, and that we strive to continue growing our retention by removing existing barriers.

MassBay has open-access enrollment and therefore admits a wide range of students. Before MassBay implemented EAB Navigate360, students were accessing over 12 sites to obtain a variety of information related to academic progress, courses, careers, email, meetings, and websites. EAB Navigate360 is a comprehensive student success platform to help colleges improve retention, student support, and increase degree completion. MassBay's program is called Baybridge, and is a unified system providing a coordinated, streamlined network where students, advisors, faculty, and staff can collaborate.

Associate Professor Niemi then reported on the role of the faculty champions with BayBridge. A total of 18 faculty participated to ensure that the platform met the needs of the faculty. They were trained and asked for feedback and to shape the tools. They piloted a Progress Report, a way of identifying students who were struggling in courses and needed support both in and out of the classroom. Feedback regarding BayBridge from both students and colleagues has been positive, as have the outcomes, including first year advising meetings up 52%, 2495 students utilizing, no-show appointments down 83%, and returning enrollment up 33%.

President Podell praised Assistant Dean Salerno and the faculty champions for their work in making this initiative happen. Committee Chair Silva noted that the presentation was an effective way to tell the story and nice way to end the academic year. Trustees commended the way EAB Navigate360 combines many platforms into one, making it much easier for students to access a large amount of information once. It was noted that 11 of the 15 community colleges are using this platform.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Trustee Negreli motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Trustee Povich seconded.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Trustee Choi – YES; Trustee Hidalgo – YES; Trustee Negreli – YES; Trustee Povich – YES; Trustee Schmalensee – YES; Trustee Silva – YES

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 am.

MATERIALS IN BINDER

Agenda

Minutes from April 15, 2025, meeting

Presentations on New Health Sciences Programs

EAB Navigate presentation

2025/2026 Meeting Schedule

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 am.



9/30/25

Lili Silva, Committee Chair Date