e-newsletter



The Massachusetts Association of Nonprofit Schools and Colleges

Senator Outlines Sexual Violence Bill at MANS&C Annual Meeting

The sponsor of a bill aimed at preventing sexual violence on college campuses shared his insights recently with guests at the Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of Nonprofit Schools and Colleges.

Senate Bill 706 codifies and compliments federal requirements, and establishes new state-level policies for all higher education institutions in the commonwealth. It also includes provisions to change the culture of silence and fear that surrounds sexual violence, according to State Sen. Michael O. Moore.

"It is essential that students know what their options are and get the services they need," Moore, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, told the MANS&C audience.

The measure requires colleges and universities to have a confidential resource advisor who could inform students about their rights and options. It also includes a wide range of requirements on campus safety and security policies, as well as information and training that must be provided to students and staff regarding sexual violence.

The bill received a favorable report from the Higher Education Committee, was redrafted as Senate Bill 2081 and is now with the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.



State Sen. Michael O. Moore

MANS&C Members Elect New President and Board

Gwen E. Pojasek, CFO of Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School, was elected president of MANS&C at the Annual Meeting and Legislative Luncheon in June, succeeding Julaine McInnis.

McInnis served as president for seven years and will remain a board member for the coming year. She also will be serving as interim treasurer after Saul's retirement from Dexter Southfield on June 30.

The board also welcomed a new member, Dean Sidell, associate head of school for Finance and Operations at Tower School.

Officers

- President Gwen E. Pojasek, CFO at Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School
- Vice President Jeanne Finlayson, vice president for Finance at Stonehill College
- Interim Treasurer Julaine McInnis, director of Finance and Business Operations at Ursuline Academy
- Clerk Timothy Parson, director of Finance and Operations at Beaver Country Day School

Board Members

- Alan Clarance, director of Finance and Operations at the Fay School
- Linda C. Deasy, director of Finance and Business Operations at Lawrence Academy
- Meredith L. Mooney, director of Government Policy at Boston University
- Dean Sidell, associate head of school for Finance and Operations at Tower School
- William Stephenson, business manager at Thayer Academy
- Todd A. Vincent, headmaster at Dexter Southfield

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Newly elected MANS&C President Gwen E. Pojasek with former Presidents Bruce T. Amsbary and Julaine McInnis

A few weeks ago I was honored to be elected president of MANS&C for the coming year. This is a time of great challenges for nonprofit schools, colleges and universities, but also of great promise. My colleagues on the MANS&C board and I are looking forward to finding new ways to support our members, while continuing our outstanding work at the State House.

MANS&C Legislative Counsel John J. Spillane has an impressive record in helping to turn back bills on Beacon Hill that would threaten our institutions' historic independence and economic security. John also serves as a highly respected professional resource for legislators, outlining the unintended consequences that even well-meaning bills might have on our institutions.

In addition to our work at the State House, MANS&C provides guidance to members in producing Community Impact Statements, which present the important contributions we make to our state and local communities.

Few of us have the manpower or financial resources to have our own legislative counsel at the State House every day. For these members, MANS&C is a community that legislators listen to and respect. For members that have a legislative counsel representing their interests, MANS&C is an additional voice and powerful ally.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like information on how to join MANS&C, feel free to contact me at any time.

Best Regards, Gwen E. Pojasek MANS&C President 781-314-0836 gpojasek@chch.org

Departing President is Praised for Unwavering Leadership

Julaine McInnis was honored at the MANS&C Annual Meeting for her 20 years of service to the organization as a board member, treasurer, vice president, co-president and president.

"She is passionate about the mission of the organization and cares deeply about what the members need to do to stay on top of legislation on Beacon Hill," former MANS&C President Bruce T. Amsbary said.

Turning to McInnis, he added, "It takes great people like you to make an organization successful."

McInnis spent the past seven years as MANS&C president, having previously served as copresident with Amsbary for two years. She will continue as a board member for the coming year.

Her many accomplishments include:

- Designing the first MANS&C newsletter
- Organizing the first MANS&C Day at the State House
- Improving MANS&C's online presence
- Overseeing a revision of the organization's bylaws, including the creation of a Sponsorship Member category
- Championing the use of Community Impact Statements by members

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

MANS&C Opposes Bills to Tax Nonprofits

MANS&C Legislative Counsel has spoken out against two bills that would allow communities to impose Payments in Lieu of Taxes on nonprofit schools, colleges and universities. In testimony presented at a recent public hearing of the Revenue Committee, Spillane maintained that nonprofits have a constitutional right to tax-exemption on property used for educational purposes.

If the total for its five highest-compensated individuals is more than \$2.5 million, House Bill 3526 would require an institution that acquires formerly taxable property to apply for a real estate tax exemption on it or enter into a PILOT agreement with its local community.

Spillane said the bill fails to recognize that when it comes to compensation packages, nonprofits generally cannot compete with the private sector.

"The only way that educational institutions can continue to attract talented employees is to offer strong salaries," he testified. "In Massachusetts, we want our institutions to continue to be the best in the world. We should not penalize them for wanting to attract the best employees in the world in order to stay competitive on the world stage."

Spillane also opposed House Bill 1565, which would require nonprofit schools, colleges and universities to pay local communities 25 percent of what they



MANS&C Legislative Counsel John J. Spillane confers with guest the speaker, State Sen. Michael O. Moore

would pay in property taxes if they were not tax-exempt.

The required payments would drain vital operational funds that are needed to continue to provide educational resources in pursuit of educational excellence, he told the committee.

Most independent educational institutions do not have unlimited resources, Spillane pointed out. In many cases they have been able to grow and thrive because of their real estate tax-exempt status.

"Payments forced under this bill may offer an immediate cash benefit to communities, but the vision here is myopic because such a mandate will assuredly stifle the overall substantive contributions that educational institutions make to their communities," he said.





MANS&C Board Members Todd Vincent of Dexter Southfield and Meredith Mooney of Boston University with MaryRose Mazzola (center), executive director of the Boston Women's Workforce Council



Former MANS&C Treasurer Rick Saul and Mary Beth Rurode, formerly of Dexter Southfield



Betsy Amsbary and her husband, former MANS&C President Bruce T. Amsbary



From The Rivers School are Dennis J. Marasca, Jr., controller; Richard Stebbins, Payroll and Benefits manager; and Theresa L. Reddish, Business Office manager

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