

Dear Chair Medeiros and members of the Board of Trustees,

Thank you for this opportunity to address all of you. My name is Emily Brown, and I am the President of the Bristol Community College Chapter of the MCCC union. I wish to share with you some things that have been happening with the faculty and professional staff union since my last address to you in May.

I am happy to report that there have been a number of positive developments with respect to our union:

1. Union member engagement is higher than it has been in the past. In addition to filling positions on our standing committees, we have developed a number of new teams that are populated by many people who have not previously been as involved in union activities. For example, we have an Adjunct Team, Professional Staff Team, Strategic Action and Planning Team, Public Relations and Communications Team, Watchdog Team, and a Membership Team. This new team approach has allowed more active participation from our members.
2. We have been engaged in the advocacy for support of our college, as well as for the entire public higher education system.
 - a. We organized two rallies for Public Higher Education at Bristol Community College on August 19th and October 22nd. These events were part of larger statewide actions organized simultaneously by MCCC and MTA. Although we are encouraged by Governor Baker's proposal for level funding of public higher education until the end of this fiscal year, we know the battle for state support will continue. We hope that the members of this Board will join with us in our efforts to advocate for better state funding for our college.
 - b. On August 28th, members of our executive committee met with our local legislators to talk about the impact of the decline in state appropriation for our

b. Management has agreed to more opportunities for dialogue with the union leadership through added MACER meetings and the creation of a List Serv for MACER participants.

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