

**BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

NO.: BHE 25-28

BOARD DATE: January 29, 2024

APPROVAL OF BHE VICE-CHAIR APPOINTMENT

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education (BHE) By-Laws require the BHE to annually review and renew the appointment of the BHE's Vice-Chair.

For the remainder of fiscal year 2025 (AY2024-2025) and for fiscal year 2026 (AY2025-2026) the BHE approves the appointment of Harneen Chernow as BHE Vice-Chair.

VOTED: Motion adopted by the BHE on 01/29/2025

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 4; BHE By-Laws Article I, Section 3(d) and Article III, Section 2 (as amended, June 22, 2021).

Contact: Constantia T. Papanikolaou, Chief Legal Counsel

Background

The Board of Higher Education (BHE) By-Laws establish the BHE's governance and procedural structure and form the foundation of how the BHE functions, to the extent that such matters are not otherwise addressed in the Massachusetts General Laws.

During its June 22, 2021 meeting, the BHE amended its By-Laws to require the BHE to, among other things, annually review and renew the appointment of the Vice-Chairperson, and all committee and advisory council¹ membership. *BHE Motion 21-49*.²

With regard to the Vice-Chair of the BHE, the BHE By-Laws provide that the Chairperson of the BHE has the authority to appoint and remove the Vice-Chair, subject to Board annual review and renewal. *BHE By-Laws, Article I, Section 3(d)*. For fiscal year 2022 (AY2021-2022) Chair Gabrieli recommends that the BHE approve the appointment of Harneen Chernow as BHE Vice-Chair.

¹ Sunsetting the Advisory Council structure is the subject of companion motion (BHE 25-XX) which is also on the agenda for the BHE's January 29, 2025 retreat.

² The BHE amended its By-Laws on June 22, 2021. [BHE Motion 21-49 \(June 22, 2021\)](#); and further amendments to the BHE's By-Laws is the subject of a companion motion (BHE 25-XX) which is also on the agenda for the BHE's January 29, 2025 retreat.