

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•MEDICAL•LAW•ONLINE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Thursday, December 8, 2022; 10:00 a.m.

Remote Meeting via Zoom

**Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020**

Committee Members Present: Chair Paris Jeffries (joined at 10:27 a.m.); Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Epstein, Lam, Lechowicz, Lewis, Maguire Keches, Peyser, White; and Chairman Karam

Other Trustees: Trustees Burns

Committee Members Absent: Trustees Okwara and Scheibel

University Administration: President Meehan; General Counsel Leone; System Chancellor Newman; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Suárez-Orozco, Fuller, Chen and Collins; Provosts Serio, Berger, Hartman and Flotte

Faculty Representatives: Professors Hoagland, UMass Amherst and Kim, UMass Boston

Guests: Dr. Nance Roy, Clinical Director of the Jed Foundation

Documents Used:

- Meeting Minutes: September 21, 2022 (Open & Executive Session)
- Appointments to Named Professorships and Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Boston, Doc. T22-060
- Amendment to Student Government Constitution, UMass Lowell, Doc. T04-007, as amended
- Student Legal Services Office (SLSO) Reauthorization Request, UMass Amherst, Doc. T93-059, Addendum 3
- Appointment of Chancellor Emerita, UMass Lowell, Doc. T22-067
- 2021-2022 Academic Quality Assessment and Development (AQAD), Doc. T22-045
- 2021-2022 Periodic Multi-Year Review (PMYR), Doc. T22-046
- Fall 2022 Preliminary Admissions & Enrollment Report, Doc. T22-059
- The Impact of the Pandemic on Mental Health, Doc. T22-057

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi convened the meeting at 10:09 a.m. and stated that the Committee continues to meet remotely under the Governor's executive order issued on March 12, 2020 and extended until March 31, 2023. The Committee will address all necessary and required Action Items for Board vote in open session and where required in Executive Session.

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Any member of the public wishing to address the Committee regarding an agenda item or issue related to the agenda, or to make an audio or video recording of the open public session of the Committee meeting, was provided notice by the Secretary of the Board through a posting indicating that such written requests needed to be received no later than 24 hours prior to the Committee meeting. Under the law, the Chair has complete discretion in granting or denying the request to speak, and may limit the duration that the public has to address the Committee.

She reminded the Committee members to unmute themselves and state their name when moving or seconding the action items.

Consideration of Minutes of the prior meeting of the Committee

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi stated that the Committee was provided with the draft minutes of the September 21, 2022 meeting's Open and Executive Session and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi announced the meeting's agenda: four action items, three information items, a discussion item, two items for action in Executive Session, and reports from President Meehan and System Chancellor Newman.

President's Report

President Meehan extended his gratitude to System Chancellor Newman for her service to the University as she returns to the West Coast to serve as Provost of the University of California System. He noted that two initiatives launched by System Chancellor Newman will be discussed during the meeting. The Commonwealth Collegiate Academy, the University's early college initiative, and the Inter-campus Course Exchange (ICX).

President Meehan provided highlights of the impact the University of Massachusetts is having. He noted the Offshore Wind Conference held at UMass Boston last night, WindSTAR, a National Science Foundation-supported Industry/University Cooperative Research Center lead by UMass Lowell, offshore wind research being conducted by UMass Dartmouth, and wind-energy policy studies produced by UMass Boston's Urban Harbors Institute. He highlighted the University's rankings released on October 25 according to the 2023 Times Higher Education World University Rankings. He highlighted the Retention Summit held on September 29 to discuss the student retention issue universities across the country are facing.

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi extended her thanks to System Chancellor Newman for her service and pledged to continue the work on initiatives she begun to advance the UMass system.

System Chancellor for Academic Programs Report

System Chancellor Newman thanked the Board, University leadership, President Meehan, her colleagues throughout the UMass President's Office, and her team in Academic Affairs and Economic Development. She noted her report would focus on two initiatives. First, the Early College Program, the Commonwealth Collegiate Academy (CCA) of the University of Massachusetts where the Dartmouth and Lowell campuses lead as pilot programs. She called on

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Dr. Judy Evans, Acting Director of the program, to present on its accomplishments and plans for its expansion.

Dr. Evans noted that the Commonwealth Collegiate Academy website (cca.massachusetts.edu) was now live. She began her presentation with a video of an overview of the program. She discussed the Elements of the pilot program which included the program being funded by a renewable Incubator Grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). She highlighted synchronous “live” online courses; the partnership with 7 high schools, with an 8th being added in the spring; discussed enrollment challenges; reviewed course work for the Dartmouth and Lowell campuses and the projected enrollment for the spring.

The Committee viewed a second video on first-generation students. Dr. Evans discussed planning efforts underway that include on campus visits and activities as part of the experience to connect students to UMass Dartmouth and Lowell, the implementation of a summer residential program. She noted the program’s 2022-2023 goals. System Chancellor Newman thanked Dr. Evans for her presentation and the communications team for the videos that will serve to promote the program. She noted the opportunity the program presents for the campuses to encourage enrollment.

System Chancellor Newman spoke to the second initiative, the Intercampus Course Exchange (ICX), which enables students to take courses on other UMass campuses. She called on Associate Vice President Gorzkowicz to present on the program’s financial modeling.

Associate Vice President Gorzkowicz noted that the ICX course offerings by the campuses are available online. He discussed the ICX Financial Model Principles agreed on in collaboration with the provosts. The model system would be simple, establish a per-credit reimbursement rate, and have a separate rate for the undergraduate courses and the graduate courses. He discussed the analysis of instructional costs across the four undergraduate campuses (\$174 per credit for undergraduate students and \$550 per credit for graduate students). He reviewed the ICX financial cycle. He spoke to stakeholder engagements to review and gather feedback on the ICX Financial Model.

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi thanked Dr. Evans and Associate Vice President Gorzkowicz and commented on the potential the CCA and ICX initiatives hold for the University, particularly around enrollment and retention.

Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi turned the meeting over to Chair Paris Jeffries.

Action Item #1: Appointments to Named Professorships and Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Boston, Doc. T22-060

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for a motion to approve the Appointments to Named Professorships and Endowed Chairs at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Boston. The motion was moved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

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To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Senay Solak for the title of John F. Smith Memorial Professorship in the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Steve Granick for the title of Robert K. Barrett Chair in Polymer Science and Engineering in the College of Natural Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Shirley Tang to the title of Distinguished Professor for Asian American Studies at University of Massachusetts Boston.

Provosts Serio and Berger spoke to the appointments. Having been a student of Professor Tang, Chair Paris Jeffries expressed his support for appointment.

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for questions or comments. With none, the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peysers; and Chairman Karam. Trustee Epstein's vote was not heard.

Chair Paris Jeffries welcomed the new Trustees to the Committee.

Action Item #2: Amendment to Student Government Constitution, UMass Lowell, Doc. T04-007, as amended

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for a motion to approve the Amendment to Student Government Constitution at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. The motion was moved by Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi and seconded by Trustee Delgado.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the amendments to the Student Government Constitution at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Provost Hartman spoke to the Constitution's amendments.

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for questions or comments. With none, the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peysers; and Chairman Karam. Trustee Epstein's vote was not heard.

Action Item #3: Student Legal Services Office (SLSO) Reauthorization Request, UMass Amherst, Doc. T93-059, Addendum 3

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for a motion to approve the Student Legal Services Office (SLSO) Reauthorization Request at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The motion was moved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Trustee Lechowicz.

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To recommend that the Board take the following action:

WHEREAS, the authorization for limited litigation authority for the Student Legal Services Office, granted by the Board of Trustees on December 1, 1993 in Trustee Document T93-059, Addendum 1 and extended on December 6, 1995, November 8, 2000, December 8, 2010, and May 27, 2020 shall expire on December 15, 2022 unless the Board of Trustees acts affirmatively to continue litigation authority; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 75, Section 11 allows the use of University trust funds, such as the Student Activity Trust Fund, for student-supported or self-supporting activities including but not limited to student-supported legal services.

WHEREAS, the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor have reviewed the operations and conducted a risk review of the office; and

WHEREAS, the Committee pursuant to the Board motion was formed and an external review was conducted to review the operations of the office and to address specific concerns by the Office of General Counsel, pursuant to the May 27, 2020 Board resolution, completed its work and supported the reauthorization of the litigation authority of the office,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

That the authorization by this Board of the Student Legal Services Office on the Amherst campus to provide representation in litigation on behalf of students in certain situations, which is contained in Trustee Document T93-059, Addenda 1 and 2, is hereby extended for a period of ten (10) years, unless and until this Board affirmatively modifies or terminates said authorization.

The Student Legal Services Office may continue to engage in litigation on behalf of students provided that the Office shall not engage in litigation either in court or before administrative agencies, against the Commonwealth or any of its agencies, subdivisions or instrumentalities including the University, or any municipality, or any officer, trustee, agent or employee of any of the foregoing for actions related to their official duties or responsibilities.

The Student Legal Services Office may continue to serve students of the University of Massachusetts and is prohibited from representing, or purporting to represent, the University or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In all printed materials, marketing, promotions and branding, as well as in all oral communication, the office shall be identified as the "Student Legal Services Office". The letterhead of the office shall continue to specify that the office is supported by student fees and serves "the students of the University." All court pleadings filed by the Office shall be clear that the office represents the interests of the individual student(s) and not the University of Massachusetts.

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The Student Legal Services Office shall maintain professional malpractice insurance coverage with commercially reasonable limits, naming the University of Massachusetts as an additional named insured.

The Director of the Student Legal Services Office shall be responsible for the management and supervision of all legal, ethical and compliance operations of the office. The Director shall report to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Campus Life, or their designee, who shall be responsible for managing and supervising the University, non-legal operations of the office. The VC, or designee, may also consult on office management and policy issues through the Student Legal Services Office Advisory Committee. Neither the Vice Chancellor, their designee, nor any other member of the University of Massachusetts shall direct the Director or any legal staff of the SLSO to violate their legal, ethical or fiduciary responsibilities. The Office of General Counsel of the University of Massachusetts cannot, and shall have no responsibility to supervise, manage or otherwise be a part of the operations of the Student Legal Services Office. Similarly, the Office of General Counsel shall bear no responsibility for the actions or non-actions of the Student Legal Services Office. No existing Board policy shall be read as to infer such responsibility by the Office of General Counsel.

Chancellor Subbaswamy spoke to the limited litigation authority of the Student Legal Services Office and Reauthorization Request.

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for questions or comments. With none, the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Epstein, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peyser; and Chairman Karam.

Action Item #4: Appointment of Chancellor Emerita, UMass Lowell, Doc. T22-067

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for a motion to approve the Appointment of Chancellor Emerita at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. The motion was moved by Chair Ramos Gagliardi and seconded by Trustee Lewis.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the award of Emerita Status to Dr. Jacqueline F. Moloney, in recognition of her four decades of service to her alma mater, the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

President Meehan spoke to the appointment in honor of Chancellor Jacquie Moloney. Chair Paris Jeffries and Chancellors Chen and Suárez-Orozco expressed their support of the appointment.

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for questions or comments. With none, the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Epstein, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peyser; and Chairman Karam.

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Consent Agenda

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for a motion to place the Action Items on a Consent Agenda for the Board meeting on December 15, 2022. The motion was moved by Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi and seconded by Trustee Delgado to place the Action Items on a Consent Agenda.

Chair Paris Jeffries asked for questions or comments. With none, the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Epstein, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peyser; and Chairman Karam.

Information Items: Academic Quality Assessment and Development (AQAD), Doc. T22-045; Periodic Multi-Year Review (PMYR), Doc. T22-046; Fall 2022 Preliminary Admissions & Enrollment Report, Doc. T22-059

Chair Paris Jeffries stated that the three Information Items: the annual Academic Quality Assessment and Development (AQAD) Report, the Periodic Multi-Year Review (PMYR) Report, and the Fall 2022 Preliminary Admissions & Enrollment Report were posted to Boardvantage for the Committee's review. He noted that Candyce Carragher in the Office of Academic Programs and Economic Development should be contacted with any questions.

Discussion Item: The Impact of the Pandemic on Mental Health, Doc. T22-057

Chair Paris Jeffries stated that System Chancellor Newman would introduce the discussion item. System Chancellor Newman provided the background for the discussion on the impact of the COVID19 pandemic on mental health noting stories reported by the Chronicle of Higher Education on the issue. She then introduced Dr. Nance Roy, Chief Clinical Officer of the Jed Foundation to lead the discussion.

Dr. Roy provided an historical overview of the JED Foundation and its mission to promote mental health and suicide prevention. She discussed the national trends on mental health (increased anxiety, depression, binge drinking, abuse of prescription drugs, housing/food insecurity, race-based discrimination). She discussed the impact of the pandemic on college student and its lasting impact (financial stress, worries of contracting the virus, not being able access to mental health care, increased anxiety and stress). She spoke to campuses needing to be mindful of the support that is available to students' mental health and help them navigate their way moving forward. She noted that other factors (political divisiveness, climate change issues, school shootings, racial and hate crimes) contribute to mental health issues as well. Dr. Roy highlighted the JED Foundation's work with the undergraduate campuses. Considering the time, System Chancellor Newman asked that questions from the Committee be sent to her for Dr. Roy's consideration. System Chancellor Newman and Chair Paris Jeffries thanked Dr. Roy for her presentation.

President Meehan, Chair Paris Jeffries, and Senior Vice President Newman acknowledged Secretary Peyser's last committee meeting and thanked him for his service and work on the Committee and the University of Massachusetts. Trustee Peyser expressed his gratitude. Chairman Karam thanked the Committee for its work.

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Executive Session Announcement

Chair Paris Jeffries asked the Committee for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 75, Section 4, for the purpose of considering Appointments with Tenure at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an Award of Tenure at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School; AND Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A (a) 7. To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law, and pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 4; Section 7 clause 26 (d), per the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Guidelines and the Public Records Law. In addition to taking votes on the consent agenda, the exploration of student mental health and well-being will continue. He announced that the Committee would not reconvene in open session. The motion was moved by Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi and seconded by Trustee Keches.

The Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Ramos Gagliardi; Trustees Berry, Delgado, Epstein, Keches, Lechowicz, Lewis, Peyser; and Chairman Karam.

Chair Paris Jeffries announced that the Zoom meeting will be closed by the host and instructed those participating in the Executive Session to join that Zoom meeting with the specific link that was provided.

The time was 11:30 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Secretary to the Board of Trustees