

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Tuesday, August 23, 2005; 1:30 p.m.

Alumni Lounge – Campus Center

University of Massachusetts

100 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair Austin; Vice Chair Cassel; Trustees Armstrong, DiBiaggio, Hyppolite, Kennedy, Longo, Louis, Makrez, Sheridan, Silver and White (arrived late); Chair Karam

Committee Members Absent: Trustees Boyle and Pearl

University Administration: President Wilson; General Counsel O'Malley; Senior Vice President Williams; Associate Vice President Harrington; Vice Presidents Chmura, Gray, Julian, Lenhardt and Motley; Chancellors Lombardi, Collins, MacCormack, Hogan and Lazare; Provosts Seymour, Fonteyn, Esposito and Wooding; Vice Chancellor Scheid

Faculty Representatives: Professors May and O'Connor, UMASS Amherst; Professor Tirrell, UMASS Boston; Ms. Gibbs, UMASS Dartmouth; Professor Carter, UMASS Lowell

Guests: Frank Hugus, Associate Provost and Director of International Programs, UMASS Amherst; Winston Langley, Associate Provost, UMASS Boston; Mick Godkin, Professor and Director of International Medical Education, UMASS Worcester; Jane Baran, Professor of Communications Disorders, UMASS Amherst; Eileen Breslin, Dean, School of Public Health and Health Sciences, UMASS Amherst

Chair Austin convened the meeting at 1:29 p.m. and welcomed the new Student Trustees: Valerie Louis from the Amherst campus; Fritz Hyppolite from the Boston campus; Brian Silver from the Dartmouth campus; Heather Makrez from the Lowell campus; and Craig Longo from the Worcester campus.

Chair Austin also welcomed Marcellette Williams, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and International Relations.

Chair Austin then asked for a motion to **Consider the Minutes of the Prior Meeting of the Committee.** Trustee Sheridan had some concerns with the minutes and asked for clarification on the 75% enrollment figure of students of color at the University, and the 42%-83% of undergraduates graduating with some debt. Associate Vice President Harrington will review the figures and report her findings to Trustee Sheridan.

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Trustee Armstrong asked for clarification on the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on Research and Technology. Chair Karam indicated that there was some discussion on the possibility to form an ad hoc committee and asked that the minutes be amended.

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 24, 2005 meeting of the Committee, as amended.

The next item was the **President's Report**. President Wilson reported that last December the Times of London Higher Education Supplement ranked the University among the top 50 research universities in the world, in a list that contained only 19 U.S. universities. In reframing the scope of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Marcellette Williams was recruited as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and International Relations.

During the last week in June, at the invitation of Udo Corts, Minister of Education in the state of Hessen, Germany, President Wilson led a delegation of faculty and administrators to visit the universities in the state of Hessen. Members of the delegation visited nine universities and met with members of Parliament in the capital city of Wiesbaden. Each member of the delegation was impressed with the academic quality of these institutions and the level of interest in engaging collaborative research projects.

The new System exchange agreement executed last year is quite favorable for UMASS. The University is able to send up to four UMASS students to Germany for every one that we enroll. In addition to the favorable ratio, we are able to access the growing number of summer programs offered in Hessen. Former student trustee Tuan Pham studied at Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University in Frankfurt this summer.

President Wilson then reported on recent accomplishments from the campuses:

At UMASS Amherst, the Center for International Education is playing a key role in designing and providing health education and literacy training for women in Afghanistan through its Learning for Life program, funded with a \$4.3 million dollar grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Professor Tom Russell of Polymer Science and Engineering received the American Physical Society High Polymers Prize (GE Prize). This is the highest award given to a polymer physicist.

The Amherst campus will continue its role as lead institution in an alliance of 15 colleges and universities using a five-year, \$9 million NSF grant to help recruit, mentor, educate and retain underrepresented minority graduate students in the sciences and technology field.

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Professors Tuomenon, Watkins and others have obtained a \$3.1 million Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship grant funding graduate education in nanoscience and nanotechnology.

At UMASS Boston, Professor Jean Rhodes, Professor of Psychology, received one of six new fellowships from the William T. Grant Foundation to further her groundbreaking research in mentoring. As a Distinguished Fellow, Professor Rhodes will spend the upcoming year at Big Sister of Greater Boston and Big Brother of Massachusetts Bay, working one semester at each organization on her project: Getting to the Heart and Soul of Mentoring.

On July 18th UMASS Boston hosted an announcement by Governor Romney of a new capital projects plan, which included \$200 million for the University of Massachusetts system, with \$50 million earmarked for repairs to UMASS Boston's mega structure foundation.

The Pilgrim Foundation, a Middleborough-based charitable organization formed by area doctors, has donated \$500,000 to the UMASS Dartmouth College of Nursing to advance research and teaching related to chronic illness care. The contribution will be matched by \$250,000 in state funds to create a \$750,000 endowment.

UMASS Dartmouth will be breaking ground on a new \$9 million, two-story, 20,000 square foot research building in September. The research building is scheduled to open in August 2006. The facility is critical to the University's strategy to play a role in the development of the innovation economy in southeastern Massachusetts.

Professor John Warner, Director of the Center for Green Chemistry at UMASS Lowell, was among nine individuals and five institutions nationwide who received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring at a White House ceremony for his efforts to increase participation of minorities, women and people with disabilities in science, mathematics, and engineering. He was the only individual recognized in the Northeast.

At UMASS Lowell the 50th anniversary celebration of the Plastics Engineering Department marked the conclusion of a five-year fundraising campaign for the department that raised \$10.6 million, including \$8.4 million in cash and equipment for laboratory space and \$2.2 million in cash for 13 new endowed scholarship funds.

Nancy Tulathimutte is the first UMASS Medical School student selected by the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship as a 2005 Lambaréné Schweitzer Fellow; she will serve from August 1 to October 31. Since 1978, the ASF has chosen four medical students to spend three months working as junior doctors at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Lambaréné, Gabon in pediatrics and internal medicine.

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The ability to silence genes by RNAi, co-discovered by Dr. Craig Mello, the Blais Chair in Molecular Medicine and Dr. Andrew Fire of Stanford University, has posed a conundrum. This discovery is now under scrutiny by a UMASS Medical School research team, led by Professor Tariq M. Rana. Their work has made the genes in question more susceptible to making the messages more readable by the RNAi machinery. RNAi is emerging as one of the most important advances in biomedical research in recent decades. Professor Rana's team's work was recently published in the journal *Nature Structural & Molecular Biology*.

Overall enrollment at the University is up 6%. At UMASS Amherst enrollment is up 4%; at UMASS Boston 5%; at UMASS Dartmouth 11%; at UMASS Lowell 6%; and at UMASS Worcester 9% from 896 to 980 students. Applications are also up across the board as each campus is seeing an increase in applications. We believe that enrollment and applications are up as students and parents recognize the quality and affordability provided by the University of Massachusetts.

Chair Austin then thanked Chancellor Collins and his staff for their hospitality.

The next item was the **Vice President's Reports**. Senior Vice President Williams thanked Associate Vice President Harrington for maintaining the Office of Academic Affairs. As Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and International Relations, she looks forward to working collaboratively and cooperatively with President Wilson, the Board of Trustees, colleagues and campus connected constituencies.

Senior Vice President Williams reported that UMASS Amherst officials along with Bill Cosby and regional school district representatives from Athol and Orange visited the Ralph C. Mahar Regional High school in Orange on June 2nd to celebrate the highly successful first year of the school's education bridges to the future: teacher preparation and community service.

Professor John McCarthy in the Linguistic department at UMASS Amherst was recently elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The academy was founded in 1780 by Peter John Adams and has since been based in Boston and Cambridge.

UMASS Boston's Center for Women in Public Politics at the McCormack Graduate School for Policy Studies and its Graduate Certificate Program received an honorable mention from the American Association of University Women during the 2005 Annual Convention. The Center was awarded an honorable mention for the progress in equity awards in recognition of the access and opportunity the one-year Graduate Certificate Program provides diverse women in their leadership roles, and the success for which the center for women in policy and public policy have had in mentoring women, students, faculty, and in undertaking sexual initiatives.

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UMASS Dartmouth's Charlton College of Business has reached out to the south coast region community by instituting the first summer entrepreneurship program for high school students in grades 10 through 12 this summer. The program is sponsored by the Global Learning Charlton School and the Charlton College of Business.

UMASS Lowell's first Graduate Certificate Program was launched 10 years ago to retrain out of work engineers for employment in the growing field of biotechnology and bioprocessing. Today the campus offers 50 specialized four-course, 12 credit graduate programs that address the emerging of engineering workplace needs. Nineteen of the 50 programs are multi-disciplinary. The new Integrated Engineering Systems Program was developed with the input of senior engineers at Raytheon Corporation and measures faculty expertise in mechanical plastics and electrical engineering and computer science to prepare managers effectively to direct projects that bring together multiple complex engineering systems to reduce an integrated project.

In May, UMASS Medical School served as host for the National 2005 Council on the Advancement in Support of Education (CASE). This was managed by the Office of Public Affairs and sponsored by the Office of Research. The fellowship brought Health and Science reporters to the campus for a three-day intensive program to provide insight into the growing complexities of biomedical science and its implication for clinical care.

Senior Vice President Williams congratulated the campuses for ongoing efforts to advance the University's priorities.

Chair Austin introduced the next item for discussion, **International Relations**. Senior Vice President Williams reported that during the Summer, Trustee Heather Makrez from the Lowell campus worked with each campus to identify all of the study abroad and international opportunities and engagement for students and faculty. Efforts are underway in the Information Technology office to set up a searchable online database for access by students and faculty across the system.

Today's discussion will focus on study abroad opportunities for students. The November meeting of the Committee will focus on international research of faculty.

Senior Vice President Williams introduced and thanked the panel for their cooperation and participation. Professor Mick Godkin, Director of International Medical Education, UMASS Worcester; Provost Wooding, UMASS Lowell; Provost Esposito, UMASS Dartmouth; Winston Langley, Associate Provost, UMASS Boston; and Frank Hugus, Associate Provost and Director of International Programs, UMASS Amherst.

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Professor Mick Godkin from the Worcester campus reported that 40% of students at the Medical School study abroad in language training or community service projects. Students learn cultural competence for languages that are prevalent in Massachusetts such as Spanish, Brazilian, Swahili, Vietnamese, Portuguese and Creole. The Medical School also offers special programs such as a four-year pathway on serving multicultural and underserved populations which combine international and domestic cross-cultural experiences throughout the four-year experience.

Provost Wooding from the Lowell campus reported on the interdisciplinary program led by Professor John Duffy from the College of Engineering to Peru to help underdeveloped villages. Over 70% of students from both the campus and Peru have been exchanged over the past five years. Understanding different cultures, social structures and politics, and understanding it in ways which build social consciousness is critical for student learning.

Provost Esposito reported that the Dartmouth campus offers programs in Portugal, Spain, Italy and Australia. The Dartmouth campus also offers public service or community service trips that are led by faculty to engage students in some form of community service.

Associate Provost Langley reported on the Oxford program, a program with Oxford University in Britain which allows students to participate in a wide range of academic exposure. Since its inception 45 students have participated in the program. The Boston campus has a number of study abroad programs to help students understand the complexities of world culture.

Associate Provost Frank Hugus from the Amherst campus reported on the Trinity College Program at Oxford University and the Isenberg School of Management program in China. The Isenberg School of Management program concludes with a two-week trip to China to visit businesses in Beijing and Shanghai. The Amherst campus also offers programs in Costa Rica, Brazil, and Europe. Every year 800-900 students study abroad. There needs to be more of a focus for study abroad programs in Asia, South America and Africa.

Trustee DiBiaggio indicated that to properly prepare students for study abroad the campuses must address incentives for courses taken abroad, the need to bring exchange students from other countries to study in the U.S., and focus on the Fulbright program and the exchange of faculty. He indicated that the University has a responsibility to actively engage in international relations and international research.

Trustee Armstrong indicated that the state of foreign language instruction and the utility and importance that is assigned to it is very dismal among all colleges and universities in the country. When considering international programs the University must also focus on the issue of addressing programs which are conducted in the language of the place of study.

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Trustee Makrez from the Lowell campus then reported on her compilation of data on student study abroad and exchanges, faculty exchanges, faculty and student research abroad, and UMASS resources available for faculty abroad. Efforts are underway with the Information Technology office to set up a searchable database of study abroad programs.

Chair Austin thanked the participants for the discussion.

The first item for action was the **Doctorate of Audiology (Au.D.) Degree, University of Massachusetts Amherst**. Senior Vice President Williams reported that 10% of the U.S. population has a hearing impairment and this number is expected to increase as the proportion of older individuals in the population continues to rise. An external review supports the proposal noting the strong national and international reputation for academics, research and clinical excellence at the Amherst campus and the Department of Communications Disorders.

Provost Seymour reported that the standards for certification in audiology will change in 2007. The new standard will require a doctorate degree. Currently the department offers a masters degree for students desiring to become professional audiologists. The audiology curriculum has been revised to meet the standard of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The standards were reviewed externally, by the appropriate campus committee, and by the faculty senate.

Dean Eileen Breslin from the School of Public Health and Health Sciences reported that the Audiology Program meets the University's mission of providing a well-educated healthcare workforce. Currently Northeastern University is the only other institution in Massachusetts offering the program.

Professor Jane Baran from the Department of Communications Disorders reported that this is an important program for the Commonwealth as hearing loss will become an issue for the citizens of Massachusetts. The Amherst campus is the only public supported institution offering the program. We anticipate that ten students will participate in the program.

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the Doctorate of Audiology (Au.D.) Degree at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as contained in Doc. T05-043.

The next item for action was **Appointments to Named Professorships, University of Massachusetts Amherst**. Provost Seymour briefly reviewed the Amherst campus criteria for Distinguished Professorship. Each individual goes through a very rigorous internal and external review process. Provost Seymour then reported on the two individuals for consideration: Dr. Jay Demerath and Dr. Sonia Alvarez.

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Dr. Jay Demerath is a professor in the Department of Sociology. He has published over 12 books and more than sixty articles. Professor Demerath is described as a brilliant and distinguished sociologist. An external reviewer also concluded that Professor Demerath is “a distinguished scholar regardless of whether he is labeled as such by the University. But such recognition would be well-deserved and cap a singularly productive career.”

Dr. Sonia E. Alvarez is new to the Amherst campus and will arrive in September. She will serve as the Leonard Horowitz Professor in Latin American Politics and Studies. She was one of three finalists selected as the result of a national search. Dr. Alvarez has national and international distinction as a scholar in her field and has strong leadership characteristics. She brings a strong sense of interdisciplinary knowledge to the position.

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the appointment of Sonia E. Alvarez to the Leonard Horowitz Professorship in Latin American Politics and Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further,

To concur with the President in the appointment of Jay Demerath as a Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.
(Doc. T05-044)

The next item for action was **Delegation of Authority for Appointing the Roy J. Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership Chair.** Senior Vice President Williams reported that the first holder of the Chair will be named this year. President Wilson asked for an opportunity for the donor, Mr. Roy Zuckerberg, to be present for the awarding of the honor. This vote grants the President the authority to appoint the Zuckerberg Chair.

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To delegate to the President of the University the authority to appoint the Roy J. Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership Chair. (Doc. T05-054)

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The next item for action was **Resolution on Student Government Agencies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst**. Chair Austin indicated that this issue related to Student Government Agencies on the Amherst campus and the Report from the Commission on Campus Diversity was brought before the May 24 meeting of the Committee. Associate Vice President Harrington provided the Committee with a compilation of materials on this issue.

Trustee Louis thanked Chair Austin for allowing this item on the agenda. This concerns two agencies of the Student Government built 30 years ago; the Office of ALANA Affairs and the Commuter Services Housing Resource Center. The Office of ALANA Affairs deals with African, Latino, Asian, and Native American issues on campus. Students are concerned about the Commission on Campus Diversity recommendations that the administration respect the student agencies and allow them to run accordingly.

Mr. Pavel Payano, President of the Student Government Association provided a brief history of the establishment and purpose of student agencies created by the Student Government Association. He addressed the Committee on the proposed removal of the Office of ALANA Affairs and the Commuter Services Housing Resource Center.

Mr. Uri Strauss President of the Graduate Student Senate addressed the Committee on issues related to the Commission on Campus Diversity recommendations.

General Counsel O'Malley then explained the legal background and the implications of the resolution. The Board of Trustees adopted the University Governance document which recognizes the special status for student groups and faculty organizations within the University. Faculty and students have a right to make recommendations in areas of direct interest. This resolution does not raise a question on legal authority. It raises the question of organizing university departments which is a matter that is left to the discretion of the Chancellor. Students may organize, apply for funding and conduct their activities under the interest of the Student Affairs Division and have a right to advocate and to argue for various issues on the campus.

Chancellor Lombardi reported that while that the Amherst campus has long been an active and effective agent in trying to improve diversity, the Commission on Campus Diversity was appointed to study diversity and climate after a number of serious incidents on campus.

The following motion was moved and seconded:

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

Whereas, freedom of speech and association are the hallmarks of a vibrant public university;
and

Whereas, pursuant to these principles, the Board of Trustees has established a system of shared campus governance in Trustee Policy T73-098 (the so-called Wellman Document),

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which assigns primary responsibility for services and programs that primarily affect students to student government; and

Whereas, pursuant to that policy, the Constitution of the Student Government Association has been approved by the student body and ratified by the Trustees as Trustee Policy T94-060

Whereas, pursuant to the SGA Constitution and Trustee policy, the Office of ALANA Affairs and the Commuter Services and Housing Resource Center were created by student government as agencies to address the interests and concerns of, and advocate for, students of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds and commuter students and their families; and

Whereas, pursuant to these policies, these agencies have been governed by student-controlled boards since their inception, whose roles include establishment of the agencies' missions, programs and priorities and approval and funding of their budgets, and

Whereas, the staff of these agencies are recognized by state law as advocates for students, and

Whereas, the Commission on Campus Diversity, created by the Amherst campus administration, insisted that the integrity of student government be respected during the process of implementing its recommendations, and

Whereas, the campus administration, in rejecting its own commission's recommendations, has assumed control over the Office of ALANA Affairs and the Commuter Services and Housing Resource Center over the objection of duly elected student leaders; and

Whereas, the missions of these agencies have been changed by the Amherst campus administration without student input, which is tantamount to eliminating the agencies and creating different ones in their place, and

Whereas, students are not opposed to the administration creating its own agencies, but view unfavorably the assumption of control of student agencies by the campus administration against students' wishes, and voted overwhelmingly in favor of student retention of these agencies in a referendum that conformed to Trustee standards, and

Whereas, the Amherst campus administration's assumption of control of these agencies is in violation of the SGA Constitution and Trustee Policy T94-060 and T73-098;

Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees reaffirm its own applicable policies and state law by returning programmatic control and oversight of the Office of ALANA Affairs and the Commuter Services and Housing Resource Center be returned to the duly elected student governments on the Amherst campus.

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The motion was defeated.

Chair Austin then announced that the Committee would enter into **Executive Session** to consider **Appointments with Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell** and **Awards of Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell** and **Transfers of Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dartmouth.**

He indicated that the Committee would not reconvene in open session.

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of considering **Appointments with Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell** and **Awards of Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell** and **Transfers of Tenure, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dartmouth.**

Chair Austin and Vice Chair Cassel voted for the motion as did Trustees Armstrong, DiBiaggio, Hyppolite, Kennedy, Louis, Sheridan, Silver, White and Chair Karam.

The time was 3:55 p.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Staff Associate