

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Tuesday, February 15, 2005; 4:00 p.m.
Board Room, Second Floor, Cumnock Hall
One University Avenue
University of Massachusetts
Lowell, Massachusetts**

Trustees Present: Chair Karam; Vice Chair White; Trustees Armstrong, Austin, Cassel, DiBiaggio, Labrecque, McCarthy, Mahoney, Moseley, Murphy, Pearl and Pham

Trustees Absent: Trustees Boyle, Dubilo, Erving, Fey, Kennedy, King, O’Shea, Rainey and Sheridan

University Administration: President Wilson; General Counsel O’Malley; Vice Presidents Chmura, Gray, Julian and Lenhardt; Ms. Harrington; Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Chancellors Lombardi, Motley, MacCormack and Hogan

Faculty Representatives: Professor O’Connor, UMASS Amherst; Professor Schwartz, UMASS Boston; Professor Carter, UMASS Lowell

Guests: Dr. Hannah Sevian, UMASS Boston; Dr. Thomas Curry, UMASS Dartmouth/ATMC; Mr. Robert Anderson, CEO, Ocean Server Technology; Dr. Carl Lawton, UMASS Lowell; Mr. Mark Trusheim, Mass Biotech Council; Dr. James Watkins, UMASS Amherst; Dr. Thoru Pederson, UMASS Worcester; Dr. Robert Nakosteen, UMASS Amherst

Chair Karam convened the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Under the **Chair’s Report**, Chair Karam indicated that today’s discussion is important for the University – its role is supporting the economic development of the Commonwealth. The five campuses have steadily improved their contributions to the state’s economy since the University system was formed. The University is increasingly being recognized by state government, the business community, and regional leaders for its expansive role in economic development.

A few weeks ago the University received a major award from the Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development as a “State-wide Strategic Asset” in recognition of its many contributions to the state’s economy. In effect, the Alliance recognized UMASS as the most important statewide institution for economic development.

**Committee of the Whole
February 15, 2005**

Chair Karam indicated that President Wilson and his staff organized a program designed to illustrate the wide variety of ways the campuses are contributing to the economy. UMASS is a complex, multi-faced research university making contribution to the economy in a number of ways.

Under the **President's Report**, President Wilson provided an overview on Understanding the Massachusetts Economy; Warning Signs about the Massachusetts High Tech Economy; the UMASS Mission Statement; the UMASS Agenda for the Commonwealth: Building the Innovation Economy Across Massachusetts; Role of the President's Office; and Growing Research: 2004 President's S&T Fund.

Highlights included:

- Massachusetts is an Innovation Economy whose success depends on highly-educated people, great universities, innovative research and effective collaboration;
- Massachusetts can no longer assume that it will be the leader in Science and Technology;
- The state is losing market share of U.S. Research and Development;
- Two key Research and Development centers are threatened with closure – the Hanscom and Natick centers;
- Massachusetts has not done well in the area of strategic alliances and collaboration;
- Individuals without a high quality 4-year degree can not get good jobs;
- A new Mission Statement for the University has been proposed to the Board for approval;
- The UMASS Agenda includes focusing on Science and Technology, developing the workforce, and capturing the economic benefits;
- The Role of the President's Office includes advocating for Matching Funds; advocating for UMASS' role in Science and Technology proposal with the Governor and the Legislature; securing support from Industry and Tech Councils; establishing a High Tech Executive Council, establishing a Mass Tech Transfer Center, co-sponsoring the Science and Technology Roadmap Report; launching the CVIP Fund and Science and Technology Initiative Fund; supporting Massachusetts Taxpayers Study of UMASS Policy; and developing a campaign to market UMASS.

The presenters then reported on the **Overview of the University's Role in Economic Development**.

Dr. Hannah Sevian from UMASS Boston and Director of the Boston Science Partnership (BSP) reported on Workforce Development issues. The Boston Science Partnership received a \$12.5M NSF grant in partnership with UMASS Boston, Northeastern University and Boston Public Schools. Goals of the BSP include raising Boston Public School student achievement in science, improving the quality of Boston Public School teachers, and increasing the number of students who succeed in higher level courses in science.

Committee of the Whole
February 15, 2005

Dr. Thomas Curry from UMASS Dartmouth, and Robert Anderson, CEO of Ocean Server Technology at the Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center (ATMC) in Fall River reported on Regional Development. The ATMC's mission is to leverage University resources for Regional Economic Development. Priorities at the ATMC include engaging in research, and partnering with industry, government, and academia, supporting Tech Venture companies, and providing educational and research opportunities for students and faculty.

Dr. Carl Lawton from UMASS Lowell and Mark Trusheim from the Mass Biotech Council, for the Massachusetts Bio-Manufacturing Center reported on Industry Support. The mission of the Massachusetts Bio-Manufacturing Center (MA BMC) is to bridge biotech research to product manufacturing.

Dr. James Watkins from UMASS Amherst and Co-Director of Mass Nanotech reported on University/Industry Collaboration.

Dr. Thoru Pederson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, UMASS Worcester reported on Technology Transfer and Commercialization. He reported on licensing to existing Massachusetts companies, research funding by Massachusetts companies, stimulation of new Massachusetts companies, and patented technology with broad enablement.

Dr. Robert Nakosteen from UMASS Amherst, and Executive Editor of Massachusetts Benchmarks reported on Benchmarks. Massachusetts Benchmarks is the cornerstone of the University's economic and public policy research.

Chair Karam and President Wilson thanked Vice President Chmura, and the participants for their presentations.

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Staff Associate