

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER

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

Thursday, September 17, 2009; 12:00 p.m.
Amherst Room
225 Franklin Street – 33rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair Thomas; Vice Chair DiBiaggio; Trustees Carlin, DeSisto, Koffman, Osterhaus-Houle and Young; Chairman Manning

Committee Members Absent: Trustee Braceras, King-Shaw, Pearl, Reville and Tocco

University Administration: President Wilson, Senior Vice President Williams, General Counsel Heatwole; Vice Presidents Chmura, Connolly and Smith; Dr. Udas, CEO; UMassOnline; Chancellors Holub, Motley, MacCormack, Meehan and Collins; Provosts Staros, Langley, Garro and Abdelal; Executive Deputy Chancellor/Provost Flotte; Associate Vice President Harrington; Deputy Chief Operating Officer Lenhardt; Executive Vice Chancellor Moloney; Ms. Connolly, Director of Student Development and Campus Conduct, UMass Lowell

Faculty Representatives: Professor May, UMass Amherst; Ms. Gibbs, UMass Dartmouth; Professor Carter, UMass Lowell; Dr. Weinstein, UMass Worcester

Guests: Professor Padraig O'Malley, The John Joseph Moakley Chair for Peace and Reconciliation, McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, UMass Boston; Ms. Peterson, Ms. Plokhii, Mr. Range

Chair Thomas convened the meeting at 12:09 p.m. and welcomed the students back from their summer vacation. The Committee has two new student members: Tara DeSisto from UMass Boston and James Young from UMass Worcester. Chair Thomas indicated that there was a full agenda and requests to speak should come through the Chair.

Chair Thomas then asked for a motion to **Consider the Minutes of the Prior Meeting of the Committee.**

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 27, 2009 meeting of the Committee.

Chair Thomas then provided an overview of the agenda which included three action items, a panel discussion with Professor Padraig O'Malley and an informational item on the H1N1 flu.

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The Committee will also enter Executive Session to consider Tenure cases and Honorary Degrees.

The next item was the **President's Report**. President Wilson began his report by thanking the Chancellors and Provosts for their leadership in providing the highest academic quality for students under the current financial circumstances. He welcomed James Staros to his first meeting as Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost at the Amherst campus. Other highlights included:

- The University system has been awarded a \$124,200 grant from the Sloan Foundation to develop 10 Life Science Professional Science Master Degree programs;
- Private funds will be matched by \$150,000 from the University and in-kind work;
- A system-wide steering committee led by Provost Abdelal from UMass Lowell will develop programs in Biotechnology, Biomedical engineering, Bio-safety, Medical Lab Science, to name a few;
- The University intends to develop PSM degrees in areas critical to the Massachusetts economy.

President Wilson then congratulated Jacqueline Moloney, Executive Vice Chancellor from the Lowell campus; she has been named Online Educator of the Year.

President Wilson announced there would be a press release today announcing that the University has received \$73 million in licensing funds and has received \$47 million in grant funding from stimulus funds. The Amherst campus received a \$7.1 grant for renovation of the Lederle labs.

Chair Thomas complimented President Wilson and the leadership team for navigating in perilous waters.

The next item was the **Senior Vice President's Report**. Senior Vice President Williams welcomed new and returning faculty and students. Our distinctive UMass mission enables richer fuller experiences for faculty, students and staff. She welcomed the new CEO of UMassOnline, Ken Udas. We are at a watershed moment in our nation's history that calls for research-intensive universities once again to demonstrate a return on the nation's investment. The faculty of UMass are scholars, innovators and problem-solvers. They inculcate in students habits of mind for exploring new knowledge and problem solving. Efforts in classroom address global as well as local issues.

Provost Staros then introduced the **Appointment of Professor William L. Mitchell to the Alpha Tau Gamma Fred P. Jeffrey Professorship and Directorship of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass Amherst** and **Dr. Christopher Donovan Salthouse to the Dev and Linda Gupta Professorship on Electrical and Computer Engineering at UMass Amherst.**

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At the last meeting Trustee Carlin had asked for information about these appointments relative to costs. He reiterated that if the appointments are not budget neutral we need to know that information in advance of these kinds of votes.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor William L. Mitchell to the Alpha Tau Gamma Fred P. Jeffrey Professorship and Directorship of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further,

To concur with the President in the appointment of Dr. Christopher Donovan Salthouse to the Dev and Linda Gupta Professorship in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. (Doc. T09-043)

Provost Staros then asked for approval of the **Appointment of the First Holder of the Dean Thomas O'Brien Endowed Chair, Isenberg School of Management, UMass Amherst**, contingent on the establishment at the September 25th Committee on Administration and Finance of the Dean Thomas O'Brien Endowed Chair, Isenberg School of Management.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Mark A. Fuller as the first holder of the Dean Thomas O'Brien Endowed Chair, Isenberg School of Management, contingent on the establishment at the September 25th Committee on Administration and Finance of the Dean Thomas O'Brien Endowed Chair, Isenberg School of Management. (Doc. T09-044)

The next item was **Revisions to the Student Conduct Code and Discipline Process Alcohol/Drug Policy, UMass Lowell**. Ms. Connolly reported on the revisions to the Policy that were made to ensure that the University and the campus codes were in agreement. Vice Chair DiBiaggio said it was important to know what the student codes were on the campus. President Wilson noted that before coming to the Board, changes are also approved by the General Counsel of the University.

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It was moved, seconded and

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

To approve the revisions to the Student Conduct Code and Discipline Process Alcohol/Drug Policy at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as contained in Doc. T93-116, as amended. (Doc. T93-116, as amended)

Chair Thomas then moved to the **Discussion Item, Panel Discussion with Students and Professor Padraig O'Malley: Unlocking Doorways to Understanding.**

Senior Vice President Williams introduced to the Committee a distinguished group, led by Professor Padraig O'Malley, the John Moakley Professor of Peace and Reconciliation at UMass Boston's McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. Last December, Professor O'Malley received the 23rd Liberal International Freedom Award in Brussels at the European Parliament. The award recognized Professor O'Malley's outstanding contribution in support of peace and democracy throughout the world. Many of the 22 past recipients subsequently received the Nobel Prize for Peace.

Professor O'Malley has played a crucial role in negotiating talks for a political reconciliation in Iraq by bringing the Sunni, Shia, and Kurd factions together for discussions with veteran peace negotiators from Northern Ireland and South Africa. There were two rounds of secret meetings in Helsinki as well as a third round in Baghdad, which culminated with the signing of the Helsinki II Agreement in July of last year. (a copy was distributed).

Professor O'Malley's work since then has been with the people of deeply divided societies to help them understand and reconcile their grievances. The unique strategy he has designed to accomplish this feat of reconciliation involves using as facilitators those who have suffered from similar brutal divisions—for example, taking leaders from Northern Ireland and South Africa to work with the Iraqis.

Professor O'Malley has always included students in his efforts as integral to this iterative process; today you will hear from three of these students:

Olesia Plokhii graduated this year, worked for the Mass Media, showing significant journalistic potential. She was born in the Ukraine, then lived with her family in Canada before they came to Massachusetts when her father accepted a position at Harvard. Olesia spent the summer in Kliptown and Soweto, South Africa, working in the one laptop per child program. Olesia was one of the primary note-takers at the Forum for Cities in Transition.

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Jeffrey Range just completed his masters, interning at the McCormack Graduate School. His keen interest in the truth and reconciliation process took him to Guatemala to look at how they managed that process there.

Pat Peterson completed her graduate work at the McCormack Graduate School and is now on the Moakley Chair staff. She was formerly the managing editor of the New England Journal of Public Policy, working while she pursued her degree. She was heavily involved in planning the April conference in Boston and took special care of the Mitrovicans when they were here in April and again in May for commencement.

Our UMass students routinely have opportunities to work and learn with our exceptional faculty, of which Professor O'Malley is one.

Professor O'Malley began by setting a context. He has been working at UMass since 1980 and has always involved students. He believes that students learn better on the ground involving themselves in the experience than in the classroom. Students have the most open minds and are free of the prejudice of established ways of doing things.

Professor O'Malley spoke to the basic viewpoint of his holding the chair of peace and reconciliation. His idea of a good conference is when people go away mad at each other since then they might have learned something. He believes that people in divided societies are best able to help other people in divided societies. There are unique characteristics to these people. On this premise, he approached President Mandela in 1997 about hosting a conference with the chief negotiators from South Africa and the chief negotiators of Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland group came to South Africa for four days. They came to listen to what the South Africans had to share about coming out of conflict and understanding that violence would no longer work, then engaging in the process of negotiations. Those from Northern Ireland were to listen until they found a point that they could understand. Once the understanding occurred, the process of bonding began to occur. The result was that a year later, the same people from Northern Ireland reached the Good Friday agreement. At the time, they were effusive in their praise of the South Africans and the learning that had occurred.

In 2007 opportunity arose to engage with the Sunni and Shi'ia parties from Iraq. Would they be willing to meet with Northern Ireland and South African representatives to hear their experiences of coming out of conflict? The Iraqis could not see similarities between their situations; believed their situation was unique. Professor O'Malley pulled 16 people out of Iraq and brought them to Helsinki and followed the same process of listening. Identification occurred. This led to the signing of Helsinki which laid out 12 principles that they would agree to follow in the conduct of negotiations. The object of Helsinki I was to get to Helsinki II. The Iraqis had to come out of the meeting convinced that the process worked. The second time 33 leaders of all parties met. In July 2008, the Helsinki agreement was signed in Baghdad.

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Professor O'Malley's work with countries gave rise to the idea that if this idea could work with societies, it could work in smaller area. This gave rise to the idea of divided cities, cities in transition from conflict. The first four cities involved were Derry/Londonderry where is still a divide between Catholics and Protestants; Mitrovica which is divided between Serbia and Albania; Kirkuk in which Kurds want to be part of Kurdistan with Turks and others want it to remain part of Arab Iraq; and Nicosia with the differing parties of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

After 4 days of interaction, 4 cities formed a permanent forum for divided cities. They signed a Call to Action which included basic principles and agreement by which the permanent forum would move forward.

One strategy used to help the Forum succeed was that Chancellor Motley decided to present the Chancellor's Medal to two of the Mitrovicans, one of each of the disputing parties. This provided an incentive for them to succeed.

Mitrovica asked to hold the first gathering of this new forum and will take place in May, 2010. In nursing the Mitrovicans along, Professor O'Malley noted that Pat Paterson was tremendous help. Olesia's key role was to take notes. She went to each of the people to determine what were the fuller expression of their ideas that could not be heard at the table. Jeffrey's role was coordinator of arrangements.

When Kirkuk was here, we talked to them about adopting the Helsinki agreement. Now there are two groups, the 33 national leaders and Kirkuk who have signed or endorsed the Helsinki agreement.

One of the signers of the Helsinki agreement became speaker of the Iraqi parliament. Professor O'Malley went to see if he would like to hold a meeting with signers of the Helsinki Agreement and the leaders of Kirkuk. The Speaker of the Parliament liked the idea. While Professor O'Malley was explaining this to the chairman of the Kirkuk council, the chairman got a call to meet with the President of Iraq. Professor O'Malley accompanied him. The President endorsed the idea of a new forum and a meeting has been set for the 3rd week of November. The ownership of the situation has been turned over to the Iraqis and things are now in their hands.

Professor O'Malley has also gone to Israel and Palestine. Palestinians at the mid-level are interested in doing the Helsinki process because the present negotiation framework is not going to work. They need to look for different ways of doing something.

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It was noted that when Professor O'Malley returns to Mitrovica or to Iraq, he will take students with him.

Ms. Peterson reported on her efforts to arrange flights from Mitrovica. The two sides insisted that they would go from different airports. That meant that one group had to drive 4 hours to the plane. By the time the forum was over, and the two members were going to receive the Chancellor's Medal, they left from the same airport, got on the same plane and sat next to each other. Out of animosity came a true collegiality, fundamental to understanding reconciliation. She noted that for her, this experience has provided an opportunity to be involved in extraordinary work.

Jeffrey Range spoke of his frustration with academe as an undergraduate. He saw a lot of theories and work in the classroom that seemed to be ends in themselves. Working with Professor O'Malley, the ideas became tools to action and have been one of the most invaluable elements of his education at Boston. Before coming to UMass Boston, Jeffrey went to Guatemala as a human rights volunteer. Part of the peace process there was to bring in international observers. He lived in a community that had experienced genocide. He returned to Guatemala which formed the basis of his capstone process looking at reconciliation in Guatemala based on the reconciliation process.

Olesia thanked the group for having her. As a reporter for the student newspaper she went to interview Professor O'Malley. Then came the Forum on transition: divided cities. She worked with people who are divided and affected deeply by the issues that divide them and served as a note taker at the conference. As a result of her work at the forum, she got an article for an online paper and was given an opportunity to work at NGO in New York which develops students as young professionals to have a competitive edge; it also creates an awareness of importance of continued support for programs like this in the institution.

Trustee DeSisto thanked the panel for coming. She has never been so proud to say that she comes from the political science department at UMass Boston, proud that this program is housed at UMass Boston.

Trustee DiBiaggio asked Jeffrey and Olesia how this will affect their attitudes and the rest of their lives. Olesia responded that it made her more confident to go into that field; she knows that the theories can be made tangible and be made practical and that she can do reconciliation work.

Jeffrey's experience is a little different from Olesia's. It helped him understand what aspect of international relations he wanted to explore and focus on.

Pat spoke to the idea that one wants to do good things but always there are impediments. Now she sees the ways in which impediments can be moved and you can just keep on pushing.

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Trustee DiBiaggio hopes that one of these students pursue a degree at one of the big name institutes and have an impact there.

Professor O'Malley noted that "killers make the best negotiators". The war industry is made of tough people. The peace people need not just to believe in good ideas but be tough, hardened negotiators. They need to have the same toughness as the war industry that is eventually brought to the peace table. He joked that his training was really in the politics of Boston where he learned the tricks of the trade.

Trustee DeSisto raised a question of safety, asking if students felt that they were in danger at any point. Professor O'Malley said that not to feel a reasonable amount of fear would be strange. He spoke of standing on a mass grave in Kirkuk after a bombing. You need to be seen as one of "them" in the community, as vulnerable as they are.

President Wilson spoke about how proud we should be of the work that is being done. He noted that he thought Professor O'Malley should have already won the Nobel Peace Prize, noted his appreciation for the work that is being done, both small things and little things.

Professor O'Malley indicated that this is the only University that can claim co-convening a meeting with Nelson Mandela.

Chair Thomas stated the discussion as interesting, informative and educational – testimony to the principal that the acts of man transform communities.

There was a round of applause for the members of the panel.

The **Informational Item** was **H1N1 Preparedness Update**. All of the campuses were asked to provide information regarding what they are doing with respect to H1N1; the information has been summarized in today's handout, categorized in four areas.

Trustee Carlin spoke of his proud moment as a Trustee this week attending the UMass Boston Convocation. Chancellor Motley delivered a powerful and moving message for the capacity crowd. Trustee DeSisto agreed that Chancellor Motley's address was phenomenal and strongly encouraged Trustees to get out to the campuses and get to know the students better.

Chair Thomas then announced that the Committee would enter into **Executive Session** to consider **Appointments with Tenure, UMass Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Worcester** and **Awards of Tenure, UMass Amherst, Worcester** and **Transfers of Tenure, UMass Amherst, Boston** and **Honorary Degrees, UMass Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester**.

The Committee will not reconvene in Open Session, and the Secretary will call the Roll.

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It was moved, seconded and

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

Chair Thomas voted for the motion as did Vice Chair DiBiaggio and Trustees Osterhaus-Houle, Young and Chairman Manning.

The time was 1:47 p.m.

Barbara F. DeVico
Secretary to the Board of Trustees