

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Thursday, January 13, 2011; 2:30 p.m.  
Formal Dining Room  
The University of Massachusetts Club  
Thirty-Third Floor  
225 Franklin Street  
Boston, Massachusetts**

**Trustees Present:** Acting Chairman Karam; Vice Chairman King-Shaw (via conference call); Trustees Boyle, Braceras, Collins, DiBiaggio (via conference call), Dinan (via conference call), Fox, Furman, Johnston, Lampert, Lawton, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters (via conference call), Reid, Reville, Santos, Thomas, Tocco and Woolridge

**Trustee Absent:** Trustee MacAfee

**University Administration:** President Wilson; General Counsel Heatwole; Chancellors Motley, MacCormack, Meehan and Collins; Deputy Chancellor Diacon, UMass Amherst; Executive Vice President Julian; Senior Vice Presidents Gray and Williams; Vice Presidents Connolly and Goodhue; Dr. Udas, CEO, UMassOnline; Ms. Kelly, Assistant Vice President for International Relations; Associate Vice President Harrington; Mr. MacKenzie, Executive Director, UMass Building Authority; Mr. Douglas, Associate Vice President; Paula Krebs, ACE Fellow

**Greenwood/Asher Search Firm:** Jan Greenwood and Marion Frenche

**Faculty Representatives:** Professor May, UMass Amherst; Professor Tirrell; UMass Boston; Ms. Gibbs, UMass Dartmouth

Acting Chairman Karam convened the meeting at 2:38 p.m. and thanked everyone for adjusting their busy schedules to make time available to attend this special meeting.

Chairman Karam stated that the Board has gathered here today to **Consider the Selection of the President of the University of Massachusetts**, one of the most important decisions we make as Trustees. Presidents articulate a vision, set a tone and chart a course. The decisions that Presidents make affect the 68,000 students of this system; they affect faculty, staff and alumni and help to shape the fabric and future of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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For more than seven years, the University has been guided by a skilled and deft leader. President Jack Wilson has done a tremendous job, moving the University forward during a period when our University, like every college and university across the nation, has had to surmount the strong headwinds of the times.

The University has moved forward making progress in so many key areas with significant enrollment gains, research funding and endowment topping \$500 million, with the University becoming a national leader in the commercialization of intellectual property and with the University faring so well in the Times of London World University Rankings and being described as “truly world class.”

President Wilson has worked tirelessly and has put his heart and soul into his presidency and the University owes him its gratitude and respect.

We are now ready to enter the final stage of the Presidential Search process. The people that have been designated as finalists are distinguished higher education leaders who deeply believe in the transformative power of higher education and understand and respect the mission of public higher education. These candidates come from a variety of backgrounds in higher education and each has demonstrated commitment, energy and creativity.

Chairman Karam stated that he is proud of the selection process and proud of the candidates who have emerged from this process. He then thanked the twenty-one people that served on the Search Committee, a distinguished Search Committee carefully selected by then Chairman, Robert Manning. Those who served on this Committee for the past ten months devoted enormous amounts of time and energy to the process, contributing wisdom advice and insight. The Search process was not easy but in the end the Committee is recommending distinguished candidates, any one of whom could be an outstanding new leader for this wonderful University and stated that the members of the Committee have his upmost regard and respect and have served the University with distinction.

Chairman Karam then thanked the members of the Committee, Henry Thomas, Michael Carter, Mari Castañeda, Edward Collins, Jr., John DiBiaggio, Maria Furman, Robyn Hannigan, Charles Hoff, Philip Johnston, Laura King, Ruben King-Shaw, Jr., Winston Langley, Craig Mello, Kathy Miraglia, Kerri Osterhaus-Houle, Paul Reville, Mark Russell, Robert Sheridan, Stephen Tocco, and Marcellette Williams.

Chairman Karam concluded his report by introducing Trustee Thomas who served as Vice Chairman of the Search Committee and played a major role in the selection process with his energy, enthusiasm, his diligence and his commitment to attracting the very best candidates for this position.

Before Trustee Thomas provided a brief overview of the search process, he paid tribute to the leadership Chairman Karam has displayed as Chairman of the Presidential Search Committee.

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He commended Chairman Karam for guiding this search to what will be an extremely successful outcome. The skillful leadership as Chairman of the Search Committee is keeping with the leadership you have displayed since joining the Board.

Trustee Thomas further stated how much the University has meant to Chairman Karam and his family and the credit the University has had for much of the success he has enjoyed in his life. It has been a two-way street and that he has given back to the University as much as received. Chairman Karam is a loyal and distinguished alumnus and he acknowledged the great contributions made to this process and the dedicated service to the University.

Trustee Thomas then recapped the Presidential Search Committee Process:

The Search Committee was established by then Chairman Manning on March 25, 2010 and was given the charge of selecting outstanding finalist candidates for the position of President of the University of Massachusetts.

The Committee was broadly constituted and included representatives from the relevant University constituencies. It was diverse and representative of the University as a whole.

The Committee consisted of faculty members from all five campuses, including Nobel Prize winner Craig Mello, Trustees, alumni, academic leaders, community leaders and a student.

The Search Committee held public meetings on May 3, June 14, September 17 and December 16, 2010. The Search Committee held forums on all five campuses during the third week of September. Members of the Search Committee met with former Trustees and former Board Chairs and also consulted with business and governmental leaders.

The Committee, in conformance with state law, held a number of private sessions for the purpose of assessing and interviewing candidates.

As the search unfolded, the search firm came into contact with 500 people, 50 of whom attracted great interest and 14 of whom were interviewed.

The Committee conducted an open, thorough, even-handed search. The Committee was energetic in its outreach and developed a diverse and distinguished pool.

The Search Committee developed a position advertisement that appeared in three national publications: The Chronicle of Higher Education, Diverse Issues in Higher Education and Hispanic Outlook. The ad also appeared in the Boston Globe.

The Committee created a web site that contained a great deal of information about the search process including press releases, the detailed position statement and other official documents.

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The web site included a mechanism for sending electronic communications to the Search Committee.

The Search Committee, the Search Firm and the University staff assigned to serve the Committee have devoted countless hours to this undertaking, mounting a major effort with all of our work dedicated to the proposition of identifying and selecting a superb new leader for our University system.

Trustee Thomas concluded his report stating his belief that this has been a thorough, deliberative process that has yielded a good outcome and the proof can be seen in the quality of the candidates whose names will come before the Board today. This is a distinguished group of candidates that come before us because the Search Committee did its work and performed at the highest level.

Chairman Karam then asked Trustee Osterhaus-Houle to read the biography of the first candidate: Charles Bantz, Chancellor, Indiana University, Purdue University of Indiana.

Trustee Johnston reads the biography of the next candidate: Robert Caret, President, Towson University.

Trustee Furman reads the biography of the next candidate: Phillip Clay, Chancellor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Chairman Karam called on Jan Greenwood from the Presidential Search Firm, Greenwood/Asher and Associates to provide a brief summary of relevant public information about each candidate.

Chairman Karam asked if any Board member had follow-up questions for the Search Firm or Committee members about the candidates. Following several comments and questions, it was decided that some of the questions would be better answered in Executive Session.

Chairman Karam then announced the Board would enter **Executive Session to Discuss the Reputation and Character of Individual Candidates and to Conduct a Strategy Session in Preparation for Negotiation with Non-Union Personnel, and to Comply with General or Special Laws.** The Secretary will call the Roll – the Trustees are asked to vote yes or no. The Trustees, the members of the Search Firm, the General Counsel, the Secretary and staff are asked to stay.

The Executive Session moved to the Amherst Room. The meeting will reconvene in Open Session in the Formal Dining Room.

It was moved, seconded and

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**VOTED:** To enter into **Executive Session to Discuss the Reputation and Character of Individual Candidates and to Conduct a Strategy Session in Preparation for Negotiation with Non-Union Personnel, and to Comply with General or Special Laws.**

Chairman Karam voted for the motion as did Trustees Boyle, Braceras, Collins, Fox, Furman, Johnston, Lampert, Lawton, Osterhaus-Houle, Reville, Thomas, Tocco and Woolridge.

The time was 3:17 p.m.

At 6:24 p.m. the Board returned to Open Session. Chairman Karam asked for the Board's thoughts and comments about the candidates.

Trustee Johnston asked for a motion to appoint Robert L. Caret as President of the University of Massachusetts.

The motion was seconded.

Trustee Tocco stated that Dr. Caret best exemplifies the leadership qualities to move the University forward.

Trustee Reville commended Chairman Karam for his leadership Chairing the Search Committee. He stated that he was impressed with all three of the candidates and that Dr. Caret was his choice for the position.

Trustee Thomas congratulated the Search Committee for their successful work and offered his support for Dr. Caret as did Trustees Lampert, Fox and Collins. All agreed that the three candidates were impressive and that this was a difficult decision.

Chairman Karam indicated that the search process became difficult at times but that the Committee had come away with three excellent choices. The consensus of the Board is to select Robert L. Caret as the University's next President and stated that the new President will have the support of five very strong Chancellors.

Dr. Caret is an incredibly dynamic and charismatic individual having led two systems that are highly ranked throughout the country and that background will prove to serve the University well.

It was then

**VOTED:** To appoint Robert L. Caret as President of the University of Massachusetts.  
(Doc. T11-017)

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The vote was unanimous. There was a round of applause.

Chairman Karam announced the Board would take a brief recess while President-Elect Caret is escorted to the meeting.

Chairman Karam then asked for an additional motion. It was moved and seconded.

**VOTED:** To authorize the Chairman to enter into negotiations with Robert L. Caret to agree to terms and conditions of the Appointment to the Position of President of the University of Massachusetts notwithstanding the provisions of any Trustee Policy. (Doc. T11-018)

Chairman Karam thanked President Wilson for his work and stated his absolute pleasure having served with him over the past eight years. He has elevated this institution, raised its reputation, nationally and internationally, funded research, raised academic standards and raised applications on all of the campuses.

There was a round of applause and a standing ovation.

Chairman Karam reconvened the meeting and asked President-Elect Robert Caret to say a few words. Dr. Caret stated that he is very much looking forward to becoming part of this system, facing its challenges, working with this Board and the Chancellors. He thanked everyone for their support.

Following a round of applause, the meeting adjourned. The time was 6:49 p.m.

Barbara F. DeVico  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees