

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

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

**Thursday, April 19, 2012
Amherst Room
225 Franklin Street – 33rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts**

Trustees Present: Chairman Karam; Vice Chairs King-Shaw and Thomas; Trustees Carpman, Collins, Furman, Gomez, Lee, Mullan, Peters, Schock, Tarr, Weismann and Xifaras

Via Conference Call: Ms. Saeyun Lee, Secretary Reville's Representative; Trustee Woolridge

Absent: Trustees Baldassarre, Campbell, DiBiaggio, Johnston, Kennedy, Osterhaus-Houle

University Administration: President Caret; General Counsel Heatwole; Chancellors Motley, MacCormack and Collins

Chair Karam convened the meeting at 2:09 p.m. and announced that Trustee Victor Woolridge and Ms. Saeyun Lee, Representative for Secretary Reville, will be participating by telephone pursuant to 940 CMR 29.10, as adopted by the Board of Trustees and permitted under Section 29.10 (5)(e), since they are traveling and geographically distant from Boston making it unreasonably difficult to attend the meeting in person.

Reports:

Chair's Report:

Chair Karam welcomed the Trustees and reported that the Board is gathered for a significant purpose, the selection of Chancellor for the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Chair Karam reported on the process of the search and thanked Chair Furman and the Committee for their dedication, hard work, commitment of time; and for serving the University with distinction.

UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Search Committee Report:

Chair Furman stated that as an alumna of UMass Dartmouth and a UMass Trustee, she could not think of a greater responsibility or higher honor than to chair the Search Committee for a new Chancellor for the Dartmouth campus.

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Chair Furman reported that the Committee received its charge from Chair Karam on November 18, 2011, to forward the names of three exceptional finalists for consideration by the President and the Board. The Committee began its work in December, and worked diligently for over four months. The Committee held public input meetings on the campus and in Boston with internal and external constituency groups, students, faculty, staff, alumni, community and elected leaders, and others. These meetings helped the Committee shape its view of where UMass Dartmouth needs to go and what type of leader is needed to help us achieve our goals. The Committee interviewed candidates and recommended six finalists to the President and Board.

Each of the candidates spent a day on the Dartmouth campus meeting with members of the various campus constituencies. Each candidate was very impressive, and each of our finalists left a very favorable impression; there was a palpable excitement on campus.

Chair Furman thanked Chair Karam and President Caret for affording the Committee the authority to conduct this search, and for endorsing this process. This has been a diligent, thorough, transparent, comprehensive, and inclusive search, and it was the Chair's belief that this Committee has met its charge to recommend these outstanding candidates to President Caret and the Board of Trustees for the next Chancellor at UMass Dartmouth.

President's Report:

President Caret thanked Chair Karam and the Board for gathering to consider the appointment of a new Chancellor for the Dartmouth campus. The President thanked the Search Committee and its Chair, Trustee Furman, for doing a superb job; and stated that the Committee conducted a thorough and comprehensive search.

Six finalist candidates made day-long visits to the Dartmouth campus. The President reported that three of the finalists have dropped out: Dr. Grant, Dr. Gibraltar, and Dr. Spectar.

The President stated that this was an open, thorough and energetic search, one that has resulted in the selection of the right leader for a campus that is essential to its region and serves the entire Commonwealth with great distinction. After careful consideration, the President advised that his recommendation for Chancellor is Dr. Divina Grossman. Dr. Divina Grossman, a woman who has devoted her life to pursuing excellence, to opening doors and to serving others, has the experience, the vision, the drive and the passion to guide UMass Dartmouth to a new stage in its development, and in doing so, to better serve the needs of our students and the larger social and economic needs of the region.

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The President summarized Dr. Grossman's extensive experience. She is the founding Vice President of Engagement at Florida International University, and the immediate past Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and previously, the Dean of the School of Nursing at FIU. Dr. Grossman spearheaded the growth and expansion of manifold new academic programs in Nursing and Health Sciences, raised approximately \$12 million for scholarships, laboratory and equipment, and faculty support, and multiplied seven-fold the College endowment; significantly increased faculty research grant funding; and completed the new \$34 million, LEED Silver-certified building for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Dr. Grossman holds a PhD in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania, a M.S. in Nursing from the University of Miami, and a B.S. in Nursing from the University of Santo Tomas (Philippines).

The President concluded his remarks by saying that it is his belief that Dr. Divina Grossman is the one who will move the University of Dartmouth forward.

Discussion:

Chair Karam echoed President Caret's favorable comments about Dr. Grossman, stating he has great confidence in Dr. Grossman's ability to build on Chancellor MacCormack's record of achievement and maintain UMass Dartmouth's upward trajectory, and that she will be an outstanding Chancellor and advocate for the South Coast. The Chair commended Chancellor MacCormack for her inspired and visionary leadership and stated that the Board is grateful for her commitment and leadership.

Chair Karam asked for comments from Trustees about the search process and the President's recommendation.

Trustee Peters recalled his impression of Dr. Grossman's interview, and said she had high energy, was optimistic, a visionary and first rate fundraiser.

Chancellor Motley said that when Dr. Grossman entered the interview room, she recharged the Committee's energy.

Trustee Furman stated that she is looking forward to Dr. Grossman providing new leadership and fostering new growth.

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Vice Chair Ruben King-Shaw stated that Dr. Grossman is revered and well respected in South Florida and that she is truly remarkable.

Ms. Lee spoke on behalf of Secretary Reville and thanked Chancellor MacCormack for all she has done.

Vice Chair Thomas thanked and congratulated Chancellor MacCormack. He stated his view that Dr. Grossman is an extraordinary talent, and noted that his references in South Florida say she is the “real deal” and highly respected and regarded in her world.

Chair Karam commented that Chancellor MacCormack was a game changer and a vision builder. He also commented that Dr. Grossman was a dynamic person of substance; a team player with a strong personality who believes in what she says.

Chair Karam asked if there was a motion to appoint Dr. Grossman as Chancellor of UMass Dartmouth.

Trustee Furman then made a motion to appoint Dr. Divina Grossman as Chancellor of the Dartmouth campus. The motion was seconded.

VOTED: To appoint Dr. Divina Grossman as Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth at a salary and terms to be determined by the President. (Doc. T12-022)

The Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chairman Karam voted for the motion as did Vice Chairs King-Shaw and Thomas; Trustees Carpman, Collins, Furman, Gomez, Lee, Mullan, Peters, Tarr, Schock, Woolridge, Xifaras and Ms. Lee.

President Caret indicated that Dr. Grossman could not be present today but a press conference would be held next week to introduce her to the community. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Barbara F. DeVico
Secretary to the Board