

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

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

Wednesday, November 28, 2012; 12:00 noon
Amherst Room
225 Franklin Street – 33rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair Lee; Vice Chair Osterhaus-Houle; Trustees Carpman, Encarnacion, Geoffroy, Marvel, Peters, Quattrochi, Reville and Xifaras

Committee Members Absent: Trustees Furman, Healy, and King-Shaw

University Administration: President Caret; Senior Vice President Williams; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Motley, Grossman, Meehan and Collins; General Counsel Heatwole Vice Provost Thorndyke, UMass Worcester

Faculty Representatives: Professors Adrion and May, UMass Amherst; Professor Tirrell, UMass Boston; Ms. Gibbs, UMass Dartmouth

Guests: Jessica He, Assistant Professor Gloria DiFulvio, UMass Amherst; Alex Eisen-Cuadra, Associate Professor Alan Christian, UMass Boston; Khayla England, Professor Grant O'Reilly, UMass Dartmouth; Erin Webster, Professor Martin Margala, UMass Lowell; Geoff Buckle, Assistant Professor Jeff Bailey, UMass Worcester

Documents Used:

- B.S. in Sustainable Food and Farming, B.S. in Turfgrass Science and Management and B.S. in Sustainable Horticulture, UMass Amherst, Doc. T12-074;
- Appointment of the First Holder of the Melvin S. and Sandra L. Cutler Chair in Biomedical Research, UMass Worcester, Doc. T12-051;
- Global Opportunities for UMass Students, Doc. T12-076;
- Academic Quality Assessment and Development/AQAD, Doc. T12-077;
- Periodic Multi-Year Review/PMYR, Doc. T12-078;
- Fall 2012 Admissions and Enrollment Preliminary Report, Doc. T12-079;
- Peer Review Process/Peer Selection, Certification and Approval, Doc. T12-080

Chair Lee convened the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Chair Lee then stated that due to a full Board agenda and the need to keep the meeting moving forward in a constructive manner, any members of the Committee or others who wish to speak please do so through the Chair, noting that all speakers will be limited to three minutes.

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She also noted that Board of Trustees meeting guidelines restrict comments to specific agenda items (not straying into other areas that are not part of the agenda).

Chair Lee stated that the Committee was provided with draft minutes of the September 5, 2012 meeting, the Executive Session minutes of the September 5, 2012 meeting and the draft minutes of the Task Force on On-Line Education and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

Reports:

Chair's Report:

Chair Lee thanked Trustee Osterhaus-Houle for accepting the role of Vice Chair of the Committee. Chair Lee also thanked the student representatives from each campus who were participating in the meeting's panel, noting their inspiring work and important contributions.

President's Report:

President Caret highlighted noteworthy campus successes that correspond to the University's guiding themes of Student Success; Workforce/Educated Citizenry; World Class Research Enterprise; Social Well-Being; the University as Good Stewards of State Resources; and Telling and Selling the UMass story.

. President Caret's highlights included Worcester's recent full eight year accreditation by the LCMA; Boston's multimillion dollar partnership for science education training with Indian information technology company Wipro; Amherst's School of Education's Center for International Education's \$11.1 million grant to work with the Afghan people to build teaching, planning and management; Lowell's three-partner agreement with Raytheon and Gulf University of Science and Technology in Kuwait to provide undergraduate and master's level degree programs to Kuwaiti students; and Dartmouth's renovation and expansion of its library.

Senior Vice President's Report:

Senior Vice President Williams thanked Chair Lee and noted the meeting's harmonic convergence of agenda items which help make the case for the impact and import of the University's work. She noted the agenda's action items, including the approval of core academic programs, the appointments and awards of tenure, and the appointment to an endowed professorship. The information items include the Preliminary Admissions and Enrollment Report, which indicates record-breaking numbers of applications and enrollments. Senior Vice President Williams also highlighted two additional information items in the form of accountability reports: the PMYR (Periodic Multi-Year Review), an extension of the University's Tenure Policy and AQAD (Academic Quality Assessment and Development), a periodic review of programs and departments to ensure that University students continue to have relevant, dynamic and current degree offerings. Senior Vice President Williams indicated that President Caret would be discussing a fourth informational item on Peers.

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Senior Vice President Williams then highlighted the agenda's panel discussion with students on the global opportunities they have been able to access during their time at the University. She commented on the University's unique and impressive faculty who enable these opportunities across the system.

Action Items:

Provost Staros requested approval of the **B.S. in Sustainable Food and Farming and the B.S. in Turfgrass Science and Management and the B.S. in Sustainable Horticulture, UMass Amherst**. Chair Lee asked for questions or discussion. Chair Lee inquired about the varying faculty course loads she had come across as she reviewed the documents and how course load was determined. Provost Staros explained that each faculty member had a specified course load and the course load could consist of both traditional classroom courses as well as other types of teaching like advising independent studies, doctoral students, etc. It was moved and seconded:

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the B.S. in Sustainable Food and Farming and the B.S. in Turfgrass Science and Management and the B.S. in Sustainable Horticulture, UMass Amherst at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as contained in Doc. T12-074.

The Chair asked for a vote and the motion was passed unanimously.

Vice Provost Thorndyke requested approval of the **Appointment of the First Holder of the Melvin S. and Sandra L. Cutler Chair in Biomedical Research, UMass Worcester**. It was moved and seconded:

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Catarina Isabel Kiefe as the first holder of the Melvin S. and Sandra L. Cutler Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Worcester, contingent on the establishment at the December 5, 2012 Committee on Administration and Finance of the Melvin S. and Sandra L. Cutler Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Worcester. (Doc. T12-051)

The Chair then asked for a motion to place the above matters on a Consent Agenda for the Board meeting. This means that the Board can approve all these items by a single vote, and that no discussion will be permitted.

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It was moved and seconded to place the above matters on a Consent Agenda. The Chair called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Item:

Senior Vice President Williams introduced the panelists for the discussion on **Global Opportunities for UMass Students**, noting that November was International Education month.

Geoffrey Buckle, a second-year medical student at UMass Medical School, described his research this past summer on Burkitt Lymphoma in Kenya and Uganda with Ann Moormann of the Medical School's Departments of Pediatrics and Quantitative Health Sciences.

Erin Webster, an engineering student at UMass Lowell, described her three research trips to Hyderabad and Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh, India through Professor Krishna Vedula and his organization, the Indo US Collaborative for Engineering Education. Ms. Webster's work in India included setting up Assistive Technology Labs and mentoring students from B.V. Raju Institute of Technology and the Sri Vishnu Engineering College for Women.

Khayla England, a junior at UMass Dartmouth, described her two summers of research in nuclear physics in Lund, Sweden through an NSF funded International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) program.

Alex Eisen-Cuadra, a doctoral student at UMass Boston, described his work in Haiti to develop a sustainable plan to protect Haitian fisheries, focusing on the country's largest lake, Étang Saumâtre.

Jessica He, a sociology student at UMass Amherst, described her summer study abroad experience in Chiang Mai, Thailand as a Benjamin A. Gilman Scholar under the Education Abroad Network. Ms. He enrolled in two courses at Payap University, "The Struggle for Human Rights in Southeast Asia" and "The Economics of the Sex Industry in Southeast Asia".

There was a discussion between the panelists and the Trustees that included the topics of accessibility and obstacles to participation; promoting study/research abroad programs; faculty engagement; curriculum challenges and opportunities; and alternative global experiences. Senior Vice President Williams thanked the panelists and referred to the database of global opportunities for students and faculty on the University's website.

Information Items:

Chair Lee asked for any questions or comments on the materials provided on the topics of the **Academic Quality Assessment Development/AQAD**, the **Periodic Multi-Year Review/PMYR** and the **Fall 2012 Admissions and Enrollment Preliminary Report**. There were no questions or comments.

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President Caret then provided a briefing on the **Peer Review Process/Peer Selection, Certification and Approval**. He noted that the process for choosing existing and aspirant peers was always done at the campus level, focusing on IPEDS data. President Caret has asked each of the Chancellors to work with the President's Office to review the campus-level peers collaboratively to enable an ongoing discussion and have a series of mechanisms to help guide the campus decision-making. Annually, one campus and its peers will be reviewed in detail with the Board. Trustee Carpman asked about the relationship between this process and other external comparisons, like *U.S. News and World Report*. President Caret noted that it was the same data and that different organizations use the data in different ways. Trustee Carpman then asked if it was important whether or not the University's chosen peers matched those of external entities. President Caret replied that there would likely be coherence between the two. He also noted that each campus had different peers and different trends and that it was helpful to take a holistic view of the System.

Chair Lee then asked the Committee to vote to enter into **Executive Session** pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 75, Section 4, for the purpose of considering **Appointments with Tenure, UMass Amherst, UMass Boston** and **Awards of Tenure, UMass Worcester** and **Honorary Degrees, UMass Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester**.

It was moved and seconded and the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no to enter into Executive Session for those purposes listed. Chair Lee voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Osterhaus-Houle and Trustees Carpman, Peters, Quattrochi, Reville and Xifaras.

The time was 1:37 p.m.

Kate Wilkinson
Staff Assistant