

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH**

**Wednesday, January 25, 2012; 10:00 a.m.**

**Amherst Room**

**225 Franklin Street – 33rd Floor**

**Boston, Massachusetts**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Johnston; Vice Chair Osterhaus-Houle; Trustees Campbell, Thomas, Weismann and Xifaras

**Committee Members Absent:** Trustees King-Shaw and Reville

**Others:** Trustee DiBiaggio

**University Administration:** President Caret; Senior Vice President Williams; Vice President Chmura; Associate Vice President Banks; Chancellors Holub, Motley, MacCormack, Meehan and Collins; Provost Flotte; Professors Moore, Harlan and Keaney

**Faculty Representatives:** Professors Adrion and May, UMass Amherst; Professor Tirrell, UMass Boston

**Documents Used:** UMass Worcester Albert Sherman Center: An Inter-disciplinary, State-of-the-art Research and Education Facility, Doc. T11-089

Chair Johnston convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. and highlighted today's agenda. He then introduced Trustees Campbell and Xifaras as new members of the Committee and welcomed the new Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Douglas Banks.

The next order of business was a motion to approve the **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**. It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting of the Committee.

**President's Report:**

President Caret reported on the progress of key S&T activities outlining his work in developing linkages with the business community and state government and describing how he has moved aggressively to develop relationships with key organizations important to the University's research mission and begun advocating for strategic resources to be invested in UMass.

Highlights included:

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- Negotiations with the Mass Life Sciences Center to release \$65M of capital funds earmarked to UMass campuses over the next 2-3 years.
- Approval of \$14.5M of Life Sciences Center funds to support development of a UMass Dartmouth bio-manufacturing center in Fall River.
- UMass ranked #13 in the US and #2 in New England for income generated from licensing technology in FY2010 – about \$40M.
- The Mass Green High Performance Computing Center continued to develop its facility on time and on budget with a successful “topping off” ceremony with the Governor and Congressman Neal in late November.

**Vice Chancellors Reports:**

Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement Malone and Vice Provost for Research Chen provided an update on the R&D Matching Grant Legislation. The Massachusetts legislature is currently considering legislation – H3801 that would support the growth of the state’s Innovation Economy and employment base. This legislation provides that \$100M of capital funding to support state matching grants that would make Massachusetts universities more competitive in pursuing federal and private R&D funding.

President Caret, Chancellors Collins and Meehan, and others have also been active in advocating before the Legislature on this proposal. In addition, most of the state’s leading business groups such as AIM, the Greater Boston Chamber and the Mass High Tech Council have endorsed it as well.

Given the increasingly difficult and competitive funding environment in Washington, this sort of program will be critical to the University’s ability to keep growing its R&D enterprise.

The next item was a **Panel Discussion on the UMass Worcester Albert Sherman Center: An Inter-disciplinary, State-of-the-art Research and Education Facility** (Doc. T11-089).

Chancellor Collins introduced the panel of senior administrators – Dean and Provost Flotte, Vice Provost for Research Sullivan, Dr. Melissa Moore, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Dr. David Harlan, William and Doris Krupp Professor of Medicine; Chief, Diabetes Division; Co-Director, Diabetes Center of Excellence, Dr. John Keaney, Division Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine in the Department of Medicine.

The panel highlighted the Albert Sherman Center now under construction at the Worcester campus for the development of the research and education mission. This historic project represents the next phase of growth and development at the UMass Medical School. The \$400M and 500,000SF project reflects the significant momentum generated by the basic and clinical science research efforts at the Medical School over the past two decades and its role as the anchor of Worcester’s burgeoning life sciences industry.

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This inter-disciplinary, state-of-the-art research and education facility will foster interaction and collaboration among scientists and promote innovation and synergies across disciplines enhancing the Medical School's ability to fuel Worcester County's life sciences economic sector into an era of unprecedented growth and accomplishment by contributing over \$1B in economic impact to the Commonwealth.

The panel discussed how this unique facility will strengthen the Medical School's ability to carry out its special research and educational missions. They explained how the Center was specifically designed to create an ideal learning environment for our students and an effective environment for the conduct of bench-to-bedside translational research by our researchers.

Chair Johnston asked to explore opportunities for Trustees to visit campus research sites to increase understanding of these centers.

Chair Johnston thanked the Panel for their presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett  
Assistant Secretary to the Board