

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

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

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

**Wednesday, May 23, 2012; 8:00 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:** Trustee King-Shaw

**University Administration:** President Caret; Senior Vice President Williams; Vice President Chmura; Associate Vice President Banks; Chancellors Motley, MacCormack, Meehan and Collins; Provosts Staros, Langley and Flotte; Vice Provosts Fowler, Xia and Chen; Vice Chancellor Malone; Professor Mead

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

**Documents Used:** -UMass R&D Expenditures Update, Doc. T12-031  
-UMass Participation in BIO International Convention, Doc. T12-032  
-Panel Discussion – UMass Lowell Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center, Doc. T12-033

Chair Johnston convened the meeting at 8:03 a.m. and asked for a motion to approve the **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**. It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the January 25, 2012 meeting of the Committee.

**Reports:**

**Chair's Report:**

Chair Johnston highlighted today's agenda and introduced the new Associate Provost for Research at UMass Dartmouth, Alex Fowler. He noted that this was Chancellor McCormack's last meeting, and thanked her for her service to the Dartmouth campus.

The Chair noted the Chancellor's many innovative contributions to the South Coast Triangle include: growth in research from \$9M to \$26M, almost tripling during her term; growth in enrollment from 6,900 to 9,400; and development of the South Coast Innovation Triangle –

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Dartmouth, Fall River, New Bedford, including last week's groundbreaking for the Massachusetts Accelerator for Bio-manufacturing in Fall River.

**President's Report:**

President Caret reported on the impressive array of activity in the Science, Technology and Research field across the UMass system. He continues "telling and selling" UMass to the State's business Leadership and continues to promote UMass to the business community as the "state's public research university" and resource for talent and innovation. The President has continued to address a number of Chambers of Commerce, and the University is engaging in a Big Data initiative launched by the Governor.

CVIP and the Mass Tech Transfer Center have helped to launch 3 new start-up companies in recent months. The Creative Economy Fund expects to award 9 projects by early June.

**Vice President's Report:**

Vice President Chmura provided an overview of UMass R&D performance. Highlights included:

- UMass research grew to \$586.7M in FY2011 – an increase of 8.1 % over FY2010.
- UMass has matched or exceeded the U.S. average growth rate in R&D expenditures for the last 8 years.
- As a system UMass ranks 33<sup>rd</sup> among all public and private universities in the U.S.
- The federal Government is the major funding source for the life sciences.
- Competition for major federal R&D centers will be more intense going forward.
- There are a lot of uncertainties because of the federal budget.

The Vice Provosts/Vice Chancellors gave their perspectives of what the funding climate looks like. A copy of the R&D Expenditures Report (Doc. T12-031) can be obtained from the Board of Trustees Office.

**Associate Vice President's Report:**

Associate Vice President Banks provided a brief overview of UMass' role in the upcoming BIO International Convention (Doc. T12-032) to be held in Boston in June. This is the world's largest life sciences convention and as many as 70 countries are expected to participate. UMass is the only university at the top-level of sponsorship of the Mass. Pavilion. This is an amazing stage for "telling and selling" UMass.

Vice Chair Thomas asked if this was an appropriate event to integrate and involve K-12 students. Associate Vice President Banks responded that MassBio has a foundation for STEM programs that would 'absolutely' be appropriate for K-12 students. Chair Johnston requested that information be sent to Trustees on the BIO International Convention.

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The next item was a **Panel Discussion on UMass Lowell Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center (ETIC)** (Doc. T12-033).

Chancellor Meehan introduced the Panel – Dr. Julie Chen, Vice Provost for Research, UMass Lowell; Professor Joey Mead, co-Director, UMass Lowell Nano manufacturing Center; Tony Marinilli, Chief Hardware Engineer, Raytheon Company; and Mark Boden, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Strategic Technology Assessments, Boston Scientific.

Chancellor Meehan stated that the Lowell campus is a catalyst for regional economic growth. Improvements are being made to the operating infrastructure; classrooms have been upgraded; Carnegie reclassified UMass Lowell as a quality research institute; the new facility (ETIC) will be operational in August; the future economic growth of Lowell relies heavily on the Center, and everyone is very excited about it and that the Center was of national significance. Increased research will generate revenue that is expected to help cover operational costs of the Center.

The panel highlighted the key features of the Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center (ETIC). A safety plan has been put into place and there are several partnerships with the Center, including Northeastern University, the Department of Defense, Boston Scientific, Raytheon, and the National Science Foundation. Millions of dollars have been donated in equipment by area corporations.

Boston Scientific has been working with the Lowell campus for 12 years, has contributed over \$2 million in sponsored research funds and over \$5 million in equipment. The collaboration and partnership with UMass Lowell is exciting.

Chair Johnston commented on the importance that the legislature be informed and made aware of these partnerships. Chancellor Meehan stated that the legislature has been informed, and have been given a tour of the facility.

Senior Vice President Williams commented on the importance and value of maintaining connections to maintain the distinction of being a leading public research university.

Chair Johnston thanked the Panel for their presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett  
Assistant Secretary to the Board