

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•MEDICAL SCHOOL•UMASSONLINE**

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

**Wednesday, September 2, 2015; 10:00 a.m.  
Amherst Room  
225 Franklin Street – 33<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Lee; Trustees Carpman, Miller, O'Brien, O'Neil, Robinson, Thomas and Xifaras

**Other Trustees Present:** Trustees Manning and Peyser

**Committee Members Absent:** Vice Chair Osterhaus-Houle; Trustees Furman, Roh and Peters

**University Administration:** President Meehan; General Counsel Heatwole; Senior Vice President Williams; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Motley, Grossman, Moloney and Collins

**Faculty Representatives:** Professor Susan Krauss Whitbourne, UMass Amherst; Professor Tirrell, UMass Boston; Professor Buzawa, UMass Lowell

**Documents Used:**

- Meeting Minutes, June 3, 2015 (Open Session)
- Meeting Minutes, June 3, 2015 (Executive Session)
- Master of Public Administration, UMass Lowell, Doc. T15-068
- Establishment of the School of Public Policy, UMass Amherst, Doc. T15-069
- Appointments to Named Professorships, UMass Amherst, Doc. T15-070
- Performance Measurement System: Annual Indicators Report, Doc. T15-071

Chair Lee convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. and 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 should do so through the Chair, noting that all speakers will be limited to three minutes.

Chair Lee stated that the Committee was provided with draft minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting and the Executive Session minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

**Reports:**

**Chair's Report**

Chair Lee provided an overview of the day's agenda, noting that there were three action items, one discussion item, and four items for action in Executive Session.

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Chair Lee then asked that the Committee reflect on ‘Why are we here?’ She stated that the Committee is honored to have a role in shaping the University and should always keep in mind the existence of the land grant college established in 1862 under the Morrill Act signed by Abraham Lincoln. She also stated that the purpose of the Board is to ensure that in the best and worst times, they continue to educate the Commonwealth.

**President’s Report**

President Meehan welcomed the new Trustees: Robert Manning and Robert Epstein (not in attendance); Yevin Roh, UMass Medical School; Amanda Robinson, UMass Lowell; and Emily O’Neil, UMass Amherst. He also welcomed UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney.

President Meehan then provided an overview of campus highlights and introduced each Chancellor to provide a summary of their campus highlights.

Chancellor Subbaswamy from UMass Amherst announced the appointment of Gretchen Gerzina as the new Dean of the Commonwealth Honors College; the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Undergrad Research Conference which will host 1100 researchers; 40,000 applicants have applied to UMass Amherst, a 7.6% increase in a year, and international applications are up 40%; and Sandy Petersen, Director of the Stem Diversity Institute won President Obama’s Award for Excellence in Science, Math, and Engineering Mentoring.

Chancellor Motley from UMass Boston highlighted the Fulbright Scholar’s program where only 40 scholars from around the world are chosen to participate; the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance will host 90% of Fulbright Students on the Boston campus; and Professor Jeffrey Keisler will be named Distinguished Fulbright Chair.

Chancellor Grossman from UMass Dartmouth announced that Matthew Crossman received two research grants from the Office of Undergraduate Research under the direction of faculty advisor Professor Hong Liu, who won the Conference Best Paper at the 2015 IEEE International Symposium on Technologies for homeland security.

Chancellor Moloney from UMass Lowell discussed the University’s first-ever Global Entrepreneurship and Innovation course, internationalizing UMass Lowell and integrating entrepreneurship across the curriculum. The course established in 2014 will alternate between winter sessions in India and summer sessions in Lowell, and has been expanded to include 23 grad students from China, Guyana, Thailand and Japan, along with 17 graduate students from BVBhoomaraddi College of Engineering & Technology in India and 15 undergraduate and graduate students from UMass Lowell.

Chancellor Collins from the UMass Medical School updated the Committee on the pivotal research on ALS underway at the Medical School. Although funding has diminished from the state, the UMass Celluci ALS Fund has more than 1700 individual donors. With significant support from last summer’s Ice Bucket Challenge, the ALS Association announced its financial commitment of \$1 million to Project MinE, which will allow researchers at the Medical School to compare DNA of 15,000 ALS patients with 7,500 people who don’t have ALS in an effort to sequence the genomes of people with the disease. The sequenced genomes will become part of

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an international ALS genome database that will be available to ALS researchers for explanations to the causes of ALS.

**Senior Vice President's Report**

Senior Vice President Williams also welcomed the new Trustees. She discussed AQAD which is the Academic Quality Assessment and Development of academic departments and programs as a strategy to ensure dynamic academic curriculums.

**Action Items:**

Chair Lee requested the approval of the **Master of Public Administration, UMass Lowell**. She indicated that the Committee had a chance to review the background materials that were provided and asked for questions or discussion.

Provost Pierson reported that the need for the program was based on the strategic assessment of many factors including the demand for such program in the regional labor market, educational opportunities for post baccalaureate and professionals in the region, opportunities for synergies with other campuses, revenue generators and that it is aligned with Chancellor Moloney's ideas for progressive direction in entrepreneurial strategy.

There was then a discussion about the demand for the program in Lowell and whether organizations were seeking recent graduates with credentials or an opportunity to send their current employees through the program. Provost Pierson and Chancellor Moloney commented on the need for the program from an organizational perspective.

It was moved and seconded.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the Master of Public Administration at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as contained in Doc. T15-068.

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

Chair Lee requested the approval of the **Establishment of the School of Public Policy, UMass Amherst**. She indicated that the Committee had a chance to review the background materials that were provided and asked for questions or discussion.

Provost Newman reported on the purpose and demand for the School of Public Policy and provided an overview of six indicators that would allow for future growth on the Amherst campus. The indicators would elevate existing award winning public policy programs, strengthen support for system's mission of research and public service to improve the Commonwealth, increase interdisciplinary scholarship and service, advance campus strategic plan, recognize the growing stature of existing programs and normalize the administrative processes.

It was moved and seconded.

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To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the recommendation of the President and approve the establishment of the School of Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. (Doc. T15-069)

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

Chair Lee requested the approval of the **Appointments to Named Professorships, UMass Amherst**. She indicated that the Committee had a chance to review the background materials that were provided and asked for questions or discussion.

It was moved and seconded.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the appointment of Stephen Clingman as Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Weibo Gong as Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Panayotis Kevrekidis as Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. (Doc. T15-070)

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

**Discussion Item:**

Senior Vice President Williams then presented the **UMass Performance Measurement System: Annual Indicators Report**. Discussion ensued and Trustees inquired about the data from the Annual Indicator report in comparison to the work being done on each campus. There was also a discussion about how the data presented has helped the campuses with reform and meet the standards of the individual campuses and the system.

Chair Lee then asked for a vote to place Action Items #1-3 on a Consent Agenda for the Board meeting.

It was moved and seconded to place Action Items #1-3 on a Consent Agenda. Chair Lee asked for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

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, Boston, Lowell** and **Awards of Tenure, UMass**

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**Amherst and Transfers of Tenure, UMass Massachusetts Boston and Honorary Degrees, UMass Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Medical School.**

Chair Lee announced that the Committee will not reconvene in open session.

It was moved and seconded and the Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no to enter in Executive Session for those purposes listed. Chair Lee voted for the motion as did Trustees Carpman, O'Brien, O'Neil, Thomas and Xifaras.

The time was 11:52 a.m.

Christina Kelley  
Assistant Secretary to the Board