

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2015; 4:00 p.m.  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Massachusetts Room  
Mullins Center – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
200 Commonwealth Avenue  
Amherst, Massachusetts**

**Trustees Present:** Chair Woolridge; Vice Chair Furman; Trustees Buonomo, Collins, Freudson, Fubini, Geoffroy, Gomez, Johnston, Lee, Lowe, Miller, Mullan, Peyser and Xifaras

**Trustees Absent:** Vice Chair King-Shaw; Trustees Campbell, Carpman, O'Brien, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters and Thomas

**University Administration:** President Caret; General Counsel Heatwole; Senior Vice President Williams; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Motley, Grossman, Meehan (President-elect) and Collins

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

**Documents Used:** -Meeting Minutes: April 7, 2015  
-Academic Innovations – Ongoing Efficiencies & Effectiveness for Student Success, Doc. T15-064

Chair Woolridge convened the meeting at 4:22 p.m. and stated that the Committee had been provided with draft minutes for the April 7, 2015 meeting and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

**Reports:**

**Chair's Report**

Chair Woolridge thanked Chancellor Subbaswamy and his staff for hosting the Board of Trustees at the Amherst campus, the Flagship of the University of Massachusetts. He also thanked Trustee Gomez for her dedicated service to the Board of Trustees. Chair Woolridge announced that Trustee Gomez was recently appointed by Governor Baker to the Judicial Nominating Commission and she will step down from the Board of Trustees.

Chair Woolridge noted that the meeting's discussion will focus on Academic Innovation-Ongoing Efficiencies and Effectiveness for Student Success. The meeting's topic enables the provosts to highlight some of the continuous initiatives promoting student success on each of the campuses.

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**President's Report**

President Caret provided a brief overview of the Academic Efficiencies discussion. He noted that the Provosts and staff from each campus along with guidance and feedback from the Committee on Academic E&E have been diligently working on improving academic efficiencies contributing to the University's mission to provide high quality affordable and accessible education.

**Discussion Item:**

**Academic Innovations: Ongoing Efficiencies & Effectiveness for Student Success**

Provost Newman reported on the Academic E&E milestones at the Amherst campus, focusing on team-based learning, ExSEL (Excellence Through Student Enhanced Learning), Anchoring Undeclared Student in Colleges, Cost reduction in text books, and financial aid innovations.

Provost Langley from the Boston campus reported on advancing Student success and development through framing student success-graduation rates and student retention; engagement; and increasing STEM student success, diversity and graduation rates.

Provost Karim reported on the ongoing academic E&E efforts at the Dartmouth campus, focusing on the MAP-Works Program which makes achievement possible through increased 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> year retention, curricular morphing and EAB-driven course corrections. He stated that the ongoing E&E efforts are analytics and policy driven.

Provost Abdelal reported on E&E initiatives and outcomes at the Lowell campus, focusing on learning through experience such as professional co-ops, paid institutional research co-ops, DifferenceMakers™, International partnership, and community service; initiatives to improve retention which include, but aren't limited to, increasing the number of small classes, and full-time faculty amongst other activities. Provost Abdelal also reported on the success in gateway courses and the focus on minority recruiting and success.

Executive Deputy Chancellor/Provost Flotte reported on the ongoing E&E efforts at the Medical School, focusing on three major academic innovations: learning communities (team-based learning), Technology-based solutions for active (student-directed) learning, and interprofessional courses with enrollment by students from 2 or more schools.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Christina Kelley  
Assistant Secretary to the Board