

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CHANCELLOR'S SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR UMASS DARTMOUTH**

**November 1, 2016; 12:00 p.m.
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Woodland Commons
285 Old Westport Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747**

Committee Members Present:

Chair Peters, C. Cummings, K. Delaney, P. Dias, P. Filippone, P. He, S. Jenkins, J. Karam, J. Miller, M. Morrissey, C. Flynn, L. Pedroso, M. Roy, J. Sheehan, G. Silva

Committee Members Attending Remotely:

M. Furman

Guests:

G. Merseth

Documents Used:

Draft position profile
Draft minutes of September 30, 2016 meeting

Chair Peters called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Chair Peters announced that Maria Furman would be calling in and participating by telephone.

The meeting began with a vote on the Minutes of the meeting on September 30, 2016. Chair Peters called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the meeting on September 30, 2016. The motion passed.

Chair Peters spoke of the great participation in both days' sessions that reiterates the importance of the Search Committee's task.

Gale Merseth gave an update on these two meetings. He spoke of the tremendous investment people have in UMass Dartmouth. He described each day's sessions and feedback he received from each group.

Sessions on October 13:

- Meeting with Students
Students would like to see UMass Dartmouth invest in clean energy. Comments arose as to the need to upgrade our infrastructure and to have a sustainability minor. Departments

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need to work together collaboratively, and there is a desire to have a Chancellor who is empathetic with students' situations.

- Meeting with Faculty

There is a growing interest in research scholarship, and next Chancellor needs to see it as vital to UMass Dartmouth. Need to upgrade our facilities. Morale is low—there is a need to bring us together. There is also a need to increase the diversity of our faculty and staff and the diversity of our student body. There needs to be respect for faculty and the work they do. We need to have a sense of creativity more than compliance. There needs to be an understanding of the role of faculty in shared governance.

- Meeting with Interim Chancellor Helm

The Chancellor spoke about his sense of turmoil—we need to establish stability. There is a sense that people have not felt heard—we need to hear them. He spoke of the importance of UMass Dartmouth to the SouthCoast and the importance of transparency. He also spoke of the importance of giving faculty and staff budget information. Enrollment is a challenge. A search for a Vice Chancellor for Enrollment will begin during this academic year. Facilities need to be updated. Interim Chancellor Helm spoke about the important work UMass Dartmouth does in transforming the lives of our students. Moving forward, we need to look back at our Strategic Plan and have a budget model built into it.

A comment was made by a member of the Search Committee that the age of our buildings is a stress on our budget.

- Meeting with Staff

Comments were made on the importance of students' success. Several suggested campus is in search of a new identity and where we will be in ten years. There is a real sense of pride here. The staff does so much with so little. Comments were made about the turnover in the Executive Branch. Positive comments were made about people coming together and working across lines. There is a sense that UMass Dartmouth needs to be much more visible to employers. Our students need a lot of support in all areas. There are problems with infrastructure. Only 30% of our students are students of color. There is a strong community engagement in our students. We need to do more in cultural programming.

- Open Forum

The new Chancellor needs to understand economic development. We need to invest more broadly in the region. It is important for the new Chancellor to understand the economy of the region, the waterfront, and fisheries. The new Chancellor needs to be a visible and active presence in the community. We need to diversify faculty and staff. Multicultural initiatives are important. There is an importance in supporting the Law School and understanding the immigrant communities. UMass Dartmouth could play a bigger role in strengthening civic organizations in the community.

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- Meeting in Fall River
People were supportive and passionate about the role of UMass Dartmouth in the region. There is a lot of support for the Law School and economic development. The job of the Chancellor is the most important job in the state. The new Chancellor should have some familiarity with the region and the Commonwealth. It is important to have a Chancellor with entrepreneurial drive. We need someone who sees the importance of UMass Dartmouth in regional transition.

Sessions on October 14:

- Meeting in New Bedford
Members included New Bedford Superintendent of Schools, Police Chief, and Mayor's Chief Deputy. It is important to have a strong leader—someone who is embedded in our overall society. We need someone who is personally committed to the importance of training/educating students from the region and keep them in the region. We need someone who sees strategic opportunities in the region.
- Meeting with Campus Union Leadership
We need a culture at UMass Dartmouth where people treat each other with respect. There is inadequate communication from leadership of UMass Dartmouth, and there is low morale. Shared governance is important. Everyone is in this together, and we need mutual respect in working together.
- Meeting with Deans
We are looking for a strong leader who will be entrepreneurial and invested in the faculty. There is a strong sense of commitment to scholarship. We need a leader who will see deans as partners in UMass Dartmouth's mission. The institution is relatively new, but we are developing a high caliber of alumni. We need a leader who will be our champion and tell our story.
- Meeting with 5-Member Legislative Delegation
Connecting UMass Dartmouth effectively with the region's political leadership. Deferred maintenance is a problem. There is a difficulty of balancing the needs of UMass Dartmouth with the needs of the community. It is important to have channels of communication in explaining tough decisions.
- Open Forum
It is important to take community involvement seriously. The new Chancellor needs to understand the cultural underpinning of the surrounding communities and also needs to have cultural competence. It is important to have a Chancellor who champions vets and other groups. There is a sense of desire for a programmatic visionary.

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Discussion of Position Profile:

Gale Merseth spoke about taking all the input from the sessions and incorporating them into a set of critical things that the new Chancellor will have to do to be successful, such as fundraising, vision for the future, enrollment, collaborations, being a champion for student success, preserving a culture of collaboration, mutual respect, maintaining and strengthening a diverse community, economic development, and the academic distinction of UMass Dartmouth. A comment was made by a Committee member that the new Chancellor needs to effectively communicate where UMass Dartmouth is going—where we are and where we are going internally and externally.

The Position Profile is a recruitment tool for us. A comment was made that it is important to recruit the best students, not just students from the region. Another comment was made that there needs to be language about articulation and community. Another member commented that on Page 12 the word “staff” needs to be inserted in the portion about a diverse community. Also, on Page 11 online is not mentioned—we need to grow online in strategically increasing enrollment.

A comment was made that the Position Profile needs to be vetted internally. The profile should be sent to Student Affairs and Academic Affairs to verify factual information. Chair Peters called for a motion to approve the Position Profile. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Position Profile. The motion passed subject to a further review for accuracy. Search committee members were encouraged to share names of people that could be candidates for recruitment with the search firm.

The next meetings of the Search Committee are December 13, January 18, February 13, and February 14 in Boston. Gale Merseth will send information to the Search Committee in advance of the December and January meetings. The December 13 meeting will be a mid-course review, and at the January meeting candidates will be identified to be interviewed on February 13 and February 14. CV’s will be sent to the Search Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m.