

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

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

Wednesday, November 15, 2017; 10:00 a.m.

Amherst Room

University of Massachusetts Club

One Beacon Street – 32nd Floor

Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair Osterhaus Houle; Vice Chair Paris Jeffries; Trustees Milkowski, Peters, Peyser, Reed, Reid and Yu

Other Trustees Present: Trustee Burns

Committee Members Absent: Trustees Furman, Scheibel and Thomas

University Administration: President Meehan; General Counsel Leone; Senior Vice President Williams; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Mills, Johnson, Moloney and Collins

Faculty Representatives: Ms. Billings, UMass Amherst

Documents Used:

- Meeting Minutes: September 6, 2017 (Open & Executive Session)
- M.S. in Finance, UMass Dartmouth, Doc. T17-065
- B.A. in Sport Leadership, UMass Boston, Doc. T17-048
- Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Dartmouth, Doc. T17-066
- Revision to the Academic Personnel Policy, UMass Medical School, Doc. T95-022, as amended

Chair Osterhaus-Houle convened the meeting at 10:13 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 wishing to speak should do so through the Chair.

Chair Osterhaus-Houle stated that the Committee was provided with the draft minutes of the September 6, 2017 meeting's Open Session and Executive Session and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

Chair Osterhaus-Houle then announced the day's agenda and indicated that the Committee would vote on two action items; have one discussion item, and vote on four items in executive session.

Reports:

President's Report

President Meehan provided updates from the President's Office. He reported that the University remains committed to advocating for Congressional action to address the Trump administration's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. He stated that Congress must act by March 5, and many of the University's membership organizations are lobbying at the federal level for passage of the bipartisan Dream Act.

The first meeting of the UMass Boston Chancellor Search Committee, chaired by Trustee Henry Thomas, was held on November 10th. The 15-member committee includes UMass Boston faculty, students, staff and alumni, as well as representatives from the UMass Board, the President's office and the community. University of Maryland Baltimore County president Freeman Hrabwoksi serves as a consultant to the search.

In October, President Meehan participated in three conversations about national trends in higher ed and promoted UMass' excellence in a number of areas. A panel discussion of college presidents hosted by the Mary Christie Foundation, the Hazelden Betty Ford Institute for Recovery Advocacy and the University of Maryland; A discussion on new approaches to substance use on college campuses with colleagues from Howard University, the University of Vermont and others; and participated in an American Council on Education Convening on Campus Inclusion and Free Expression with my counterparts from Georgetown, Boston University, University of Richmond and elsewhere to discuss protecting first amendment rights while preserving student safety in light of the recent increase in campus speakers promoting divisive rhetoric or hate speech.

In November, President Meehan joined 11 other college leaders, including the Presidents of the University of North Carolina, American University and Arizona State University, in a meeting with 30 national media members to discuss issues important to higher ed, including college affordability and the impact of federal tax and education policies.

President Meehan then highlighted news and accomplishments from across the University including: UMass Amherst remains committed to its mission of accessibility and its values for diversity, equity and inclusion; UMass Amherst introduced the "Hate has no Home at UMass campaign" following the events in Charlottesville; The campus hired Anna Branch as a new Associate Chancellor for Equity and inclusion; and Dean Barbara Krauthamer and professors Susan Hankinson and Rebecca Spencer are three recent examples of national and international recognition for the Amherst faculty.

At UMass Boston, the Beacon Student Success Fellowship (BSSF) continues to provide students the opportunity to turn their classroom knowledge into real-world action—sixty-seven UMass Boston students participated in internships, faculty research, volunteer opportunities and study abroad thanks to BSSF funding; Professor of Remote Sensing, Crystal Shaff, is working with Harvard Forest, Boston University, and others to analyze the effect of climate change on forests without cutting down trees; and engineering professor Kimberly Hamad-Schifferli has

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created an affordable test that diagnoses Zika or dengue fever within 15 minutes—a breakthrough for the developing countries where those diseases are prevalent.

NASA has selected UMass Dartmouth alumnus Scott Tingle for the crew of astronauts that will venture to the International Space Station in December; Less than a year since receiving full ABA accreditation, bar pass rates at the UMass Law School have risen to a competitive position among Massachusetts law schools, now ranked 5th in the state among the eight ABA-accredited schools; and UMass Dartmouth replaced all of its 50-year-old steam lines crisscrossing the campus and used the opportunity to turn the campus quad into a new gathering space for students as part of a campus-wide energy efficiency project.

The Chronicle of Higher Education named UMass Lowell the 5th fastest growing public doctoral university in the nation and the fastest growing in New England; Enrollment has surpassed 18,000, the diversity of students continues to increase and honors enrollment has broken a record, filling a residence hall on its own; 800 students are living at the newly opened River Hawk Village Residence Hall; and The Commonwealth Institute, in partnership with the *Boston Globe Magazine*, named UMass Lowell a Top 5 Women-Led Business in Massachusetts.

Thanks to an \$11 million gift by businessman and philanthropist Lee Weibo, the UMass Medical School will launch an institute to study rare diseases and provide new scholarship opportunities to doctoral students; The Lee Weibo Institute for Rare Diseases Research at the Medical School was established with a \$10 million endowment gift; and an additional \$750,000 gift will fund five scholarships per year for doctoral candidates at the Medical School.

Senior Vice President's Report

Senior Vice President Williams commented on the themes central to the University which the Committee has heard for the past 13 years—from student success to Intellectual Property and R&D Expenditures, and how the University strives to build and sustain excellence. She also commented on the the University's mission to provide an affordable and accessible education of high quality and to conduct programs of research and public service that advance knowledge and improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world. Senior Vice President Williams touched on the process by which the University carries out its mission of discovery, education, and engagement.

She discussed the planning questions that have ensured the University's trajectories of accomplishments and excellences. Questions that will safeguard the Univeristy's persistence, and its presence, even in the dissolving images of yesterday's news.

Senior Vice President Williams reminded the Committee that people matter and then thanked everyone and stated that it has been her privilege to work with everyone and on behalf of the extraordinary land-grant research intensive University.

Action Items:

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **M.S. in Finance, UMass Dartmouth**. 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 approve the M.S. in Finance at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T17-065.

Provost Karim provided the background for the proposed degree.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **B.A. in Sport Leadership, UMass Boston**. 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 approve the B.A. in Sport Leadership at University of Massachusetts Boston as contained in Doc. T17-048.

Chancellor Mills provided the background for the proposed degree. Discussion ensued.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Dartmouth**. 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 Professor Donna Sabella as the Seedworks Endowed Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

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And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Nancy Street as the Julia and Harold Plotnick Endowed Professorship in Global Health at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth contingent upon approval at the November 29, 2017 Committee on Administration and Finance of the establishment of the Julia and Harold Plotnick Endowed Professorship in Global Health. (Doc. T17-066)

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **Revision to the Academic Personnel Policy, UMass Medical School**. 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 approve the revisions to the Academic Personnel Policy for the University of Massachusetts Medical School as contained in Doc. T95-022, as amended.

Dean Flotte provided the background for the proposed revision to the policy.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle then asked for a vote to place Action Items #1-4 on a Consent Agenda for the Board meeting.

It was moved and seconded to place Action Items #1-4 on a Consent Agenda.

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

Discussion Item: Protecting Our Investment: AQAD and PMYR – Accountability Initiatives. Senior Vice President Williams provided an overview on the history and purpose of AQAD (Academic Quality Assessment and Development) and PMYR (Periodic Multi-Year Review) also known as post-tenure review. The Provosts then discussed the AQAD and PMYR process on their campus.

Information Item: Fall 2017 Preliminary Admissions and Enrollment Report. Senior Vice President Williams noted that the Fall 2017 Preliminary Admissions and Enrollment Report is provided every November. She informed the Committee that the report would be final in 5-6 weeks.

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Chair Osterhaus-Houle 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; Awards of Tenure, UMass Amherst; Transfers of Tenure, UMass Amherst; and Honorary Degrees, UMass Dartmouth, Lowell.**

Chair Osterhaus-Houle announced that the Committee would 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 Osterhaus-Houle voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Paris Jeffries; Trustees Peters, Peyser and Yu.

The time was 11:48 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Secretary to the Board of Trustees