

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

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

Wednesday, April 5, 2017; 1:30 p.m.

Amherst Room

University of Massachusetts Club

One Beacon Street – 32nd Floor

Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair Osterhaus Houle; Vice Chair Thomas; Trustees Collins, Delaney, Paris Jeffries, Reed and Scheibel; Mr. Moreau (Trustee Peyser's Rep.)

Committee Members Absent: Trustees Fatemi Ardestani, Feinberg, Furman, Odam and Peters

Other Trustees: Trustees Burns and Johnston

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

Faculty Representatives: Ms. Billings, UMass Amherst

Documents Used:

- Meeting Minutes: November 16, 2016 (Open & Executive Session)
- Ph.D. Integrative Biology, UMass Dartmouth, Doc. T17-002
- B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, UMass Amherst, Doc. T17-003
- B.S. Environmental Engineering, UMass Lowell, Doc. T17-004
- Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, Doc. T17-005
- Renaming of the Graduate School of Education, to its original name, the College of Education, UMass Lowell, Doc. T17-023

Chair Osterhaus-Houle convened the meeting at 1:38 p.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 that wished to speak should do so through the Chair, noting that all speakers will be limited to three minutes.

Chair Osterhaus-Houle stated that the Committee was provided with the draft minutes of the November 16, 2016 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.

Reports:

President's Report

President Meehan highlighted recent achievements and initiatives from each campus that underscore the University's commitment to the UMass mission of education. UMass Amherst recently joined the American Talent Initiative, which aims to increase the number of talented low- and moderate-income students at the nation's top performing undergraduate institutions. The campus was also designated a "Top Producing Institution" by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for the Fulbright Scholarship Program for the third consecutive year.

UMass Boston continues to lead in STEM education and was recently awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to research new approaches to the study and learning of chemistry. The grant is an example of the exemplary work that the campus' Center of Science and Mathematics in Context (COSMIC) has done recently. Since the inception of COSMIC in 2005, the campus has received \$36 million in external grants and is currently involved in 13 different projects with \$16.9 million in funding.

Dr. Robert Johnson has been appointed to serve as the next chancellor of UMass Dartmouth. The campus and community is enthusiastic and optimistic about his appointment. UMass Dartmouth also continues to make significant strides, which include securing full ABA accreditation for the Law School, phasing in a Responsibility Centered Management model, and the recruitment of a new Foundation Board and Advancement team.

President Meehan congratulated the UMass Dartmouth Women's Basketball team which qualified for the NCAA Division III tournament this season.

At UMass Lowell, Chancellor Moloney and her team continue to build a strong culture around research and entrepreneurship with public and private partnerships as a cornerstone of growth. The campus is participating in 8 advanced manufacturing institutes, making it one of only 12 universities participating in six or more. UMass Lowell is also one of 22 universities in the nation with three or more NSF Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers with centers in Wind Energy, Bio-manufacturing, and Additive Manufacturing/3D Printing. There are now up to more than 200 private industry users of core research facilities on the campus, as well as, 45 active start-ups in the M2D2 Center and the Innovation Hub incubator, representing \$65 million in private investment.

U.S. News & World Report recently named the Medical School as the top medical school in New England for primary care. The UMass Medical school was ranked 14th in the nation and maintains the Medical School's perennial status among the top 10 percent of its national peers. This year's rankings places the Medical School ahead of Harvard, Brown, Dartmouth, Boston University, UConn, Yale, University of Vermont, and Tufts for primary care education. Also, for the first time in history, the Medical School moved into the top 30 medical schools in the country for total NIH funding, with more than \$143 million.

Senior Vice President's Report

Senior Vice President Williams acknowledged the passing of notable UMass alum, Ahmed Kathrada. Mr. Kathrada succumbed to pneumonia following surgery for blood clots in his brain in Johannesburg South Africa. He was awarded an UMass Amherst Honorary Degree in 2000 and six years later, in 2006, he was awarded with the University of Massachusetts President's Medal in Cape Town. Senior Vice President Williams noted Mr. Kathrada's belief that people should be acknowledged and awarded for their excellences. She then noted that there are 8 such acknowledgements of UMass faculty that excel in their endeavors on the day's agenda.

Action Items:

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **Ph.D. in Integrative Biology, 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 Ph.D. Integrative Biology, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T17-002.

Provost Karim, joined by a faculty member of the UMass Dartmouth Biology department, commented on the purpose for the program and stated that it aligns with System priorities and its cross-disciplinary nature and expectations of innovation is aligned with the goals of UMassD Transform 2020, the campus' strategic plan. It is anticipated that the Ph.D. in Integrative Biology will attract students from across the nation and internationally and will also address the local and regional workforce needs.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, 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 approve the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as contained in Doc. T17-003.

Provost Newman and Associate Dean Wolf, who contributed on the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, provided the intent of the programs. Provost Newman also discussed the approval phases, cost, demand and national trends for the programs.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **B.S. in Environmental Engineering, UMass Lowell**. 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.S. in Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as contained in Doc. T17-004.

Vice Provost Julie Nash and Dean Hartman discussed the 121-credit degree program. They anticipate the inaugural class to be approximately 25 students and expected to grow to 60 students annually. Climate change will also be an element of the curriculum.

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, Boston, 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 concur with the President in the appointment of **Neal Anderson** to the **Terrence Murray Commonwealth Honors College Professorship** at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of **Michael Rex** as **Distinguished Professor of Biology** at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of **Fen-Biao Gao** to the **Governor Paul Cellucci Chair in Neuroscience Research** at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of **Neil Aronin** to the **Higgins Family Professorship in Neuroscience** at University of Massachusetts Medical School.

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- And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of **Brian Silver** to the **Endowed Chair in Neuroscience Research** at University of Massachusetts Medical School.
- And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of **Justin Maykel** to the **Gladys Smith Martin Chair in Oncology** University of Massachusetts Medical School.
- And further To concur with the President in the appointment of **Mark D. Johnson, MD, PhD** to **The Maroun Semaan Chair in Neurosurgery** at the University of Massachusetts Medical School contingent upon approval at the April 11th, 2017 Committee on Administration and Finance of the establishment of the **The Maroun Semaan Chair in Neurosurgery** at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.
- And further To concur with the President in the appointment of **Albertha Johanna Marian Walhout, PhD** to the **The Maroun Semaan Chair in Biomedical Research** at the University of Massachusetts Medical School contingent upon approval at the April 11th, 2017 Committee on Administration and Finance of the establishment of the **The Maroun Semaan Chair in Biomedical Research** at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. (Doc. T17-005)

Provosts Newman, Langley and Dean Flotte commented on the accomplishments of the departmental faculty appointments.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle requested the approval of the **Renaming the Graduate School of Education, to its original name, the College of Education, UMass Lowell**. 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 renaming of the Graduate School of Education, to its original name, as the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as contained in Doc. T17-023.

Dean Greenwood commented on the activity at the Graduate School of Education and the need for approval to rename the Graduate School of Education to the College of Education as it once was at UMass Lowell.

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

Chair Osterhaus-Houle then asked for a vote to place Action Items #1-5 on a Consent Agenda for the Board meeting.

It was moved and seconded to place Action Items #1-5 on a Consent Agenda.

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

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 Boston, Dartmouth; Awards of Tenure, UMass Dartmouth; Transfers of Tenure, UMass Boston; and Honorary Degrees, UMass Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Medical School.**

Chair Osterhaus-Houle 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 Osterhaus-Houle voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Thomas and Trustees Collins, Delaney, Paris Jeffries, Reed and Scheibel; and Mr. Moreau (Trustee Peyser's Rep).

The time was 2:50 p.m.

Christina A. Kelley
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees