

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

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

**Wednesday, May 29, 2019; 10:00 a.m.  
Amherst Room  
University of Massachusetts Club  
One Beacon Street – 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Paris Jeffries; Vice Chair Scheibel; Trustees Nair, Peters, Peyser, Phimmasone and Tariq

**Other Trustees Present:** Trustee Burns

**Committee Members Absent:** Trustees Furman, Madigan, Mallett, Okwara, Osterhaus-Houle and Thomas

**University Administration:** President Meehan; Senior Vice Presidents Calise and Gamache; General Counsel Leone; Chancellors Subbaswamy, Newman, Johnson, Moloney and Collins

**Faculty Representatives:** Professor Hoagland, UMass Amherst; Professor Lublin, UMass Boston; Professor Koren, UMass Lowell

**Documents Used:**

- Meeting Minutes: September 5, 2018 (Open & Executive Session)
- Presentation on the Inaccuracies reported by the Pioneer Institute Report and Actions by Management, Doc. T19-031
- Bachelor of Science in Interior Architecture + Design (IAD), UMass Dartmouth, Doc. T19-023
- Proposal to transform the current Honors Program to the Honors College, UMass Dartmouth, Doc. T19-028
- Renaming of the College of Nursing to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, UMass Dartmouth, Doc. T19-029
- Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Doc. T19-024
- Transfer Patterns from Community Colleges, Doc. T19-008
- System-wide Graduation Rates, Doc. T19-007

Chair Paris Jeffries convened the meeting at 10:12 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.

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**Consideration of Minutes of the prior meeting of the Committee**

Chair Paris Jeffries stated that the Committee was provided with the draft minutes of the September 5, 2018 meeting's Open and Executive Session and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

**Chair's Report**

Chair Paris Jeffries announced the meeting's agenda and indicated that the Committee would vote on four action items, have one information item, one discussion item, and vote on two items for action in Executive Session.

Chair Paris Jeffries provided an update on Mt. Ida's College program approval process as a follow-up to Chairman Manning's request at the full Board meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. He expressed his opinion on the Board's responsibility to approve new academic programs as outlined in the Procedures for University Approval of New Academic Degree Programs, Program Changes, and Program Termination, document T92-012. He stated that President Meehan and the Chancellors have discussed the issue and the Chancellors have agreed that moving programs forward that a campus would like to offer at an instructional site beyond their main campus will be submitted by the campus for review by Academic Affairs in the President's Office and subsequent discussion among the Chancellors at President's Council.

On behalf of Chairman Manning and the full Board of Trustees, Chair Paris Jeffries acknowledged Trustees Nair, Tariq, Phimmason, Madigan and Mallett for their service to the Board.

**President's Report**

President Meehan thanked the Student Trustees for their contributions and wished them well. He encouraged them to stay close to UMass and to continue building connections with Trustees.

President Meehan provided highlights from around the system including UMass Amherst's efforts to address food insecurity; UMass Boston's Venture Development Center celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and having raised more than \$1 billion in investments and supporting 102 start-up companies; UMass Dartmouth creating interdisciplinary research teams in fields where the University has faculty strength and where there is regional, statewide and national need; UMass Lowell graduating its largest class this year, and its online graduate programs in criminal justice and information technology ranked in the top 10 in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*; and the UMass Medical School and UMass Lowell's Manning School of Business having partnered to launch a new MBA Dual Degree Program for medical students.

President Meehan commented on UMass Dartmouth's Interior Architecture and Design program which is a former Mount Ida College program that the campus agreed to teach-out upon the closure of the school last year. The program will be retained beyond the teach-out, and the five Mount Ida faculty in the program have been hired. He stated that UMass Amherst plans to seek approval of another adopted Mount Ida program in Veterinary Technology. He highlighted the information item regarding data on students who transfer to UMass from community colleges.

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President Meehan announced that Chair Paris Jeffries and Chancellor Johnson recently co-authored an op ed in the *Boston Business Journal* regarding the need to support and build the community of minority students seeking masters and PhDs in Massachusetts.

**Senior Vice President's Report**

Senior Vice President Gamache highlighted commencement season noting the 11,473 undergraduate students and the 3,546 graduate students that UMass graduated this year; noted the 4 appointments with tenure and the 89 awards of tenure for the Committee's consideration in executive session; and commented on the Manning Prize for Excellence in Teaching Award, which honored 5 impressive faculty from the five campuses.

**Public Speakers (UMass Boston)**

Marlene Kim, President of the Faculty Staff Union at UMass Boston spoke to having a system of shared governance for the UMass system which ensures cooperation and coordination. She expressed concerns about competing programs being offered by UMass Amherst at the Mt. Ida campus and commented on the process to approve a new program and the need to revamp the process.

Eliza Wilson, a UMass Boston alum spoke to having a system of shared governance referencing T73-098, also known as the Wellman Document. She asked that the document be reaffirmed as a guide for decisions concerning Academic and Student Affairs at UMass Boston and that it continues to be the model of shared governance between the campuses. She also stated her support of the Legislature's tuition freeze recommendation.

**Update on Pioneer Institute's Report**

President Meehan informed the Committee of the recently released Pioneer Institute Report regarding the financial issue at UMass Boston and stated that enhancements had been made at the campus since KPMG made an analysis and issued its recommendations. Senior Vice President Calise highlighted inaccuracies throughout the report. She discussed KPMG's audit and conclusions, the A&F Roadmap, and the operational and strategic improvements made by management since spring 2017.

**Action Item #1: Bachelor of Science in Interior Architecture + Design (IAD), UMass Dartmouth, Document T19-023**

Chair Paris Jeffries requested the approval of the Bachelor of Science in Interior Architecture + Design (IAD) at UMass Dartmouth. He 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 Bachelor of Science in Interior Architecture + Design (IAD) at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T19-023.

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Provost Karim reported on the specifics of the program which is the result of a teach-out program in Interior Architecture + Design at UMass Dartmouth due to the the closing of Mount Ida College.

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

**Action Item #2: Proposal to transform the current Honors Program to the Honors College, UMass Dartmouth, Document T19-028**

Chair Paris Jeffries requested the approval of the Proposal to transform the current Honors Program to the Honors College at UMass Dartmouth. He 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 transformation of the Honors Program to the Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Provost Karim spoke to the proposal of transforming the successful honors program at the Dartmouth campus to an Honors College.

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

**Action Item #3: Renaming of the College of Nursing to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, UMass Dartmouth, Document T19-029**

Chair Paris Jeffries requested the approval of the Renaming of the College of Nursing to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UMass Dartmouth. He 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 transformation of the College of Nursing to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Document T19-029.

Provost Karim spoke to the proposal to expand the College of Nursing to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences in spite of the College of Nursing's history of providing high quality nursing education.

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

**Action Item #4: Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Amherst, Document T19-024**

Chair Paris Jeffries requested the approval of the Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs at UMass Amherst. He indicated that the Committee had a chance to review the

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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 Professor Janet Fink to the Berthiaume Endowed Professorship in the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment Professor Léonce Ndikumana as Distinguished Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Barbara Osborne as Distinguished Professor in the Department of Veterinary & Animal Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment Professor Sankaran Thai Thayumanavan as Distinguished Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Provosts McCarthy spoke to the appointments.

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

**Consent Agenda**

Chair Paris Jeffries 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 the Action Items on a Consent Agenda.

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

**Information Item: Transfer Patterns from Community Colleges, Document T19-008**

Chief Data Strategist Ismael Carreras provided an overview on enrollment patterns of Massachusetts community college transfer students within the UMass system. Trustee Peyser commented on the importance of developing a seamless transfer system for community college students to be able to transfer to a four year institution. He also commented on the trust fund established by the Governor for transfer students.

**Discussion Item: System-wide Graduation Rates, Document T19-007**

Chief Data Strategist Ismael Carreras provided an overview graduation rates. Research shows that the rates, which are not collected by IPEDS or others systems, show enhanced student success rates when considering graduation from any UMass campus. The research showed that many students start their college education at one UMass campus and graduate from another. As presently reported, that graduation is not counted as a success by either campus. Discussion ensured.

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**Executive Session Announcement**

Chair Paris Jeffries 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 Amherst, Boston, Lowell, Medical School.

Chair Paris Jeffries 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 Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Scheibel; and Trustees, Peters, Peyser, Phimmasone and Tariq.

The time was 11:41 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees