

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•MEDICAL•LAW•ONLINE**

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

Wednesday, April 15, 2020; 9:15 a.m.

Remote Meeting

**Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, s.20 dated March 12, 2020**

Committee Members Present: Chair Paris Jeffries; Vice Chair Scheibel; Trustees Binnall, Callahan, Cruz-Gordillo, Epstein, Furman, Kuffoh, Okwara, Osterhaus-Houle, Patel, Peters, Peyser, Thomas; and Chairman Manning

Other Trustees Present: Trustee Burns

University Administration: President Meehan; Senior Vice Presidents Gamache and Calise; 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: November 20, 2019 (Open & Executive Session)
- Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Lowell, Medical School, Doc. T20-003

Chair Paris Jeffries convened the meeting at 9:25 a.m. and stated that as a public body, the UMass Board of Trustees could meet remotely under the Governor of Massachusetts' executive order issued on March 12, 2020, which was effective immediately, and will remain in place until it is rescinded or the state of emergency that was declared is terminated.

Under the Emergency Order, the UMass Board may meet without the Chair or a physical quorum of members present, as those requirements have been suspended. All members of the Board may participate by remote virtual means, without affording public access to the physical meeting locations, and without any subscription, toll or charge to the public. Under the Order, public access to meeting locations will not be required as long as the Board of Trustees engages with adequate and alternative means of access available.

Issues and matters that relate to meetings of public bodies that are not addressed in the Order, remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies, and are being carried out today as always, subject to the provisions in The Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Guidelines and MGL c. 30A, sections 18-25; and the UMass Board of Trustees By-Laws in Document T91-100, specifically Article II, Sections 1-3, and 6-7; and Article III, Section 4.

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He further stated that any member of the public wishing to address the Board regarding an agenda item or issue related to the agenda, or to make an audio or video recording of the open public session of the Board meeting, was provided notice by the Secretary of the Board through a posting indicating that such written requests needed to be received no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting. Under the law, the Chair has complete discretion in granting or denying the request to speak, and may limit the duration that the public has to address the Board. These requirements were all done consistent with the UMass Board By-Laws, T91-100, Article II, Section 3.; and The Office of the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Guidelines and Educational Materials, January 2018, pp. 17-18. The Chair stated that he received no requests to speak, make an audio or videotape of the meeting.

The Committee will address necessary and required Action Items for Board vote in open session, and where required, in Executive Session, per all the normal rules applicable to such a meeting, coupled with the exceptions in the aforementioned and referred to Gubernatorial Executive Order. The day's agenda included one action item in Open Session, and three items for action in Executive Session. Chair Paris Jeffries then provided Zoom meeting instructions and guidelines for Trustees and guests to follow.

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 November 20, 2019 meeting's Open and Executive Session and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

President's Report

President Meehan briefly highlighted the University's accomplishment of maintaining the continuity and excellence of its academic programs in light of COVID-19. The University shifted all of its 75,000 students to remote learning as it works to stem the spread of COVID-19. He commended the Chancellors, faculty and staff, and the students for their exceptional response to the crisis.

Senior Vice President's Report

Senior Vice President Gamache announced that the discussion on the Academic Quality Assessment and Development report (also known as AQAD) would be delayed to a future CASA meeting. He commended the faculty, faculty senates, and the Provosts' offices for their efforts to see that the students are allowed to continue their educations online. He welcomed Katherine Newman back to the President's Office after serving as interim Chancellor of the Boston campus. He expressed his gratitude for having served as the interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and acknowledged the Provosts.

Chair Paris Jeffries and President Meehan thanked Senior Vice President Gamache for serving in the role as interim.

Action Item #1: Appointments to Named Professorships including Endowed Chairs, UMass Lowell, Medical School, Document T20-003

Chair Paris Jeffries ask for a motion to approve the Appointments to Named Professorships including Chairs at UMass Lowell and the Medical School. He indicated that the Committee had a chance to review the background materials that were provided and asked for questions or discussion. The motion was moved by Chairman Manning and seconded by Trustee Furman.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the appointment of Dr. Michael Millner to the Nancy Donohue Professorship in the Arts at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Douglas Golenbock, M.D. to the Margery and Neal Blacklow Chair in Infectious Diseases and Immunology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School contingent upon approval at the April 15, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting to establish the Margery and Neal Blacklow Chair in Infectious Diseases and Immunology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

And further, To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Erik J. Sontheimer, Ph.D. to The Pillar Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Provosts Hartman and Flotte spoke to the appointments.

The Secretary then called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Scheibel; Trustees Callahan, Cruz-Gordillo, Epstein, Furman, Okwara, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters, Peyser, Thomas; and Chairman Manning.

Consent Agenda

Chair Paris Jeffries then asked for a motion to place the Action Item on a Consent Agenda for the April 15th Board meeting. The motion was moved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Chairman Manning to place the Action Item on a Consent Agenda.

The Secretary then called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair Paris Jeffries voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Scheibel; Trustees Callahan, Cruz-Gordillo, Epstein, Furman, Okwara, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters, Peyser, Thomas; and Chairman Manning.

Executive Session Announcement

Chair Paris Jeffries then asked the Committee for a roll call 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, Dartmouth, Medical School; Awards of Tenure, UMass Dartmouth, Medical School; and Honorary Degrees, UMass Amherst. He announced that the Committee would not reconvene in open session.

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It was moved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Trustee Peters. The Secretary then 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; Trustees Callahan, Cruz-Gordillo, Epstein, Furman, Okwara, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters, Peyser, Thomas; and Chairman Manning.

Chair Paris Jeffries then announced that the Zoom meeting will be closed by the host and instructed those participating in the Executive Session to hang up and join the Zoom meeting for that session with the specific link on their schedule.

The time was 9:46 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Secretary to the Board of Trustees