

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Friday, June 7, 2024; 9:00 a.m.

Remote Meeting Via Zoom

**Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, 20 dated March 12, 2020, and subsequently updated and
extended by the Governor and their staff**

Trustees Present: Chairman Karam; Vice Chair Burns; Trustees Brady, Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Lewis, Maguire Keches, O'Brien, Paris Jeffries, Scheibel, Sullivan, Tolman, Toye and Worthy

Trustees Absent: Trustees Alden, Delgado, Dooley, Okwara, Ramos Gagliardi, Tutwiler and Wu

University Administration: President Meehan; General Counsel Lowy; Senior Vice President Subbaswamy; Chancellors Reyes, Suárez-Orozco, Fuller, Chen and Collins; Provosts Malone, Berger, Balasubramanian, Hartman and Flotte; Vice Chancellors Mangels, Kirleis, Doyle, Yestramski and Lindstedt

Faculty Representatives: Professors Hoagland, UMass Amherst and Haroon, UMass Boston

Documents Used:

- Meeting Minutes: April 10, 2024 (Open & Executive Session)

Chairman Karam convened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. and reminded everyone of the Governor's executive order issued on March 12, 2020, which has been extended until March 31, 2025. Under the Emergency Order, all members of the Board may participate by remote virtual means, without affording public access to the physical meeting locations, as long as they engage, as they are today, with adequate and alternative means of access available. 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 this Board 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.

Chairman Karam reminded the Board to unmute themselves and state their name when moving or seconding the action items.

Consideration of Minutes of the prior meeting of the Committee

Chairman Karam stated that the Board was provided with the draft meeting minutes of the April 10, 2024 Board meeting's open and executive sessions, and asked for any corrections. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

Under the Office of The Massachusetts Attorney General, Open Meeting Law Guide and Educational Materials, General Counsel Lowy, under the delegation of the UMass Board of Trustees, has determined that the April 10, 2024 Board of Trustees executive session minutes will not be released and should remain confidential because publication would defeat the lawful purposes of the executive session.

Chair's Remarks

Chairman Karam thanked all the Trustees who attended commencement, especially those who offered remarks on behalf of the Board. He had the privilege of attending the UMass Amherst commencement as the Board Chair and as a parent, and also attended UMass Dartmouth's undergraduate commencement, where Rob Hale's astonishing philanthropy and inspiring message of generosity made the day even more special. Chairman Karam gave a special acknowledgment to Vice Chair Burns for attending at least one commencement event on every campus since joining the Board of Trustees. She attended 10 commencement events this year.

Chairman Karam thanked the Student Trustees for their year of service to the Board, and commended them for taking the role seriously, bringing the student perspective to the dialogue, and completing their studies on top of it.

Chairman Karam recognized Chancellor Javier Reyes, commenting that the Board of Trustees knew he was the right person for the job when President Meehan offered his recommendation. Over the past year, Chancellor Reyes has proven to be a talented, committed and humble leader who the flagship campus is fortunate to have at the helm and the Board is looking forward to working with him for many years.

Chairman Karam commented on being pleased with the progress that has been made on the University's Fiscal Year 2025 operating budget, and expressed his appreciation to Governor Healey, House Speaker Mariano, and Senate President Spilka for their continued investment in UMass. He thanked President Meehan and his team, the chancellors, and the members of the Board for their thoughtful and considerate approach to financial and strategic planning. He understands that exercising fiscal discipline is not always easy, but noted it is incredibly important to the University, and thanked everyone for continuing to make it a priority.

Nomination of Governance Committee Membership

Chairman Karam announced that per Board Bylaws, the Governance Committee membership for 2024-2025 was established, with the membership remaining the same. He will continue to serve as Chair; Vice Chair Burns as Vice Chair; and Trustees Scheibel and Tolman as members. The Committee will meet and report back to the Board at its annual meeting in September.

Student Trustee Report, UMass Chan Medical School

Trustee Toye reported on the growth of the UMass Chan Medical School over the past academic year. She highlighted the recent completion and opening of the New Education and Research Building (NERB), the celebration of 320 new graduates including the Commencement address by Governor Healey, the proactive implementation of security measures on campus in connection with the Medical Center, and continued research to explore areas such as the gut microbiome and artificial intelligence use in healthcare.

The African Student Association established its roots on campus this year, bringing all three schools together for events such as an Africa's Essence Fashion Show. The Student Government Association hosted a variety of student events on campus, as well as several community initiatives including a baby shower to support women and children, CPR classes for high school students, food donation drives, and provided mini-grants for Worcester Public Schools student-focused initiatives.

Trustee Toye reported that the UMass Chan Medical School was listed on the Boston Globe's Top Places to Work for the second year in a row in 2023 and is also among 23 companies recognized for its practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion, a focus area for the campus. Trustee Toye is proud of the progress made this academic year and looks forward to what the upcoming year will bring.

President's Report

President Meehan echoed Chairman Karam's thank you to the Student Trustees for their contributions to the Board and congratulated the graduating students: Trustees Worthy, Dooley and Brady.

President Meehan provided updates which included:

- The University's bond ratings reaffirmed by Moody's, Fitch, and S&P Global. All cited effective management and controls in their opinions.
- The Emergency and Risk Management (ERM) team's 2024 Outstanding Achievement in Enterprise Risk Management Award from the Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA).
- The University is awaiting the final state appropriation. The Governor and the Senate both proposed a 1% increase in the University's base appropriation, and the House proposed a 2.3% increase. President Meehan expressed his appreciation to Governor Healey, Lieutenant Governor Driscoll, Senate President Spilka, Speaker Mariano, and Ways & Means Chairs Rodrigues and Michlewitz for their investment in UMass.
- The annual Research and Development Expenditures Report was recently published by the Institutional Research team. The report shows that UMass research reached a record-high \$826M in FY23. Over the past five years, the research enterprise has grown by 27% which now includes \$465M in federal funding UMass attracts to the state.
- Bob Gamache, Senior Advisor for Academic Affairs in the President's Office and professor emeritus at UMass Lowell, was recently recognized among the top 0.05% of scholars worldwide by ScholarGPS. His research has been cited more than 35,000 times and his research on theoretical molecular spectroscopy has helped advance understanding of the

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atmospheres on Earth, Venus, Mars, and Jupiter. He is currently working with NASA to analyze data from planets outside our solar system.

- Over 19,000 new graduates joined the ranks of UMass alumni—nearly 75% will remain in Massachusetts for at least five years.
- President Meehan attended a climate summit at the Vatican with Chancellors Suárez-Orozco and Collins, Governor Healey, Mayor Wu and Massachusetts Climate Chief Hoffer emphasizing the University's commitment to climate resilience. The summit was convened by His Holiness Pope Francis and brought together leaders from across the world to discuss climate resiliency.

President Meehan congratulated Chancellor Reyes on his Inauguration, acknowledging a challenging and unprecedented year in higher education. He also congratulated Chancellor Collins on the completion of the New Education and Research Building at the UMass Chan Medical School and announced that the ribbon-cutting of the \$350M facility would follow the Board meeting. The facility is a nine-story, 350,000 sq. ft., state-of-the-art, energy-efficient building that will be the scientific and academic hub for over 70 principal investigators, including world-class teams in neurosciences, gene therapy, and molecular medicine.

Standing Committee Reports:

Report of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

Trustee Paris Jeffries reported that the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs met on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. President Meehan gave a report, followed by remarks from Senior Vice President Subbaswamy. The Committee considered and voted on one action item: Appointments to Named Professorship and Endowed Chairs at UMass Amherst and Lowell. The action item was voted for inclusion on the Consent Agenda for full Board action today.

The Committee had one discussion item. Deputy Vice President Walker and colleagues from each campus gave an informative presentation on international student programs. Each campus focused on a different topic to demonstrate international student recruitment, enrollment, and presence across the UMass System. The Committee then voted to enter Executive Session for the purpose of considering two action items: appointments with tenure at UMass Amherst and Boston and awards of tenure at UMass Amherst, Boston, Lowell and Chan Medical School. The tenure items were also voted for inclusion in the Consent Agenda for full Board action.

Report of the Audit and Risk Committee

Trustee Scheibel reported that the Audit and Risk Committee met on May 22, 2024. The Committee approved the minutes of the prior meeting, and Chief Audit Officer David and Assistant Internal Audit Director Scano provided the Committee with insight into the audit and risk team's continuous improvement program and new ways they are leveraging technology; presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Internal Audit Plan, including an overview of the risk-based approach used to determine projects that will be performed, and how various factors informed the plan; and highlighted the various types of information technology audits planned and how information technology risk coverage compares favorably to peers.

The Committee voted to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Internal Audit Plan and then voted to approve placing the action item on the Board's consent agenda.

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The meeting then turned into a discussion. President Meehan shared that Moody's, Fitch and S&P Global reaffirmed the University's bond ratings and held its rating outlook as "stable" citing the University's strong management practices. He also noted that the University's risk management program, policies and controls contributed meaningfully to the ratings reaffirmation and recognized Assistant Vice President for Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Christine Packard for the national award won by the Enterprise Risk Management Program. Assistant Vice President Packard provided a summary of the fiscal year 2024 ERM Biennial Report and an update on the program's recent activity.

KPMG's engagement partner David Gagnon and his team reviewed the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Plan and required communications, including their focus areas for the financial statement and Uniform Guidance audits. He then provided insight into relevant changes to accounting standards, and KPMG's periodic peer review results.

Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance

Trustee O'Brien reported that the Committee on Administration and Finance met on May 22, 2024. Senior Vice President Calise and her team provided an overview of the FY25 budget. The Administration and Finance team presented the Quarterly Capital Report with a \$12.4M project seeking the Board's vote on a cost change at the UMass Chan Medical School which addresses deferred maintenance, and approved changes to mandatory student charges voted and approved by students at UMass Amherst and Boston

There were four action items before the Committee: Quarterly Capital Project Update and Approval of Cost Changes to the Approved Capital Projects List (traditional projects), Doc. T23-047, as amended; Approval of changes to mandatory student charges voted and approved by students - Graduate Student Senate Fee, UMass Amherst and Student Activities (Undergraduate) Fee, UMass Boston, Doc. T24-019; Approval of the University's FY25 Operating Budget, Doc. T24-020; and Authorization to Allocate the FY25 State Appropriation, Doc. T24-021. All action items were approved and placed on the Consent Agenda.

There were two informational items included in the materials: Campus Affirmative Action Reports, Doc. T24-022 and UMass Boston's Notice of Utility Easement, Doc. T24-023. The Committee also met in Executive Session on May 22, 2024 and June 5, 2024 to discuss several matters.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Karam stated that on May 21, 2024 the Committee on Academic Affairs approved and voted to place their action items 1-3 on the Consent Agenda for Board approval today, and on May 22, 2024 the Audit and Risk Committee and the Committee on Administration and Finance approved and voted to place their action items 4-8 on the Consent Agenda for Board approval. He then asked for a motion to approve items 1-8 on the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Trustee Colella and seconded by Trustee Scheibel. Chairman Karam asked for questions or comments.

The Secretary called the roll. Chairman Karam voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Burns; Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Lewis, O'Brien, Paris Jeffries, Scheibel, Sullivan, Tolman and Worthy.

VOTED: To approve the following votes listed as 1-8 on the Consent Agenda:

The Committee on Academic and Student Affairs approved items 1-3 on May 21, 2024.

1. Appointments to Named Professorships, UMass Amherst, Lowell, Doc. T24-024

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Qiangfei Xia for the title of Dev and Linda Gupta Endowed Professorship in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Brian Levine for the title of Distinguished Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Dimitrios Maroudas for the title of Distinguished Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Joya Misra for the title of Distinguished Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Joey Mead for the title of David and Frances Pernick Endowed Nanotechnology Professorship at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor James Sherwood for the title of Howard P. Foley Endowed Professorship at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Margaret Sobkowicz-Kline for the title of James V. Dandeneau Endowed Professorship at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Carol Barry for the title of Mark and Elisia Saab Endowed Professorship at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Shelley Barish for the title of Nancy Donahue Endowed Professorship in the Arts at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Gulden Camci-Unal for the title of Robert and Gail Ward Endowed Professorship in Biomedical Materials Development at the University of Massachusetts Lowell

2. Appointments with Tenure, UMass Amherst, Boston, Doc. T24-025

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Carolina Bank Muñoz in the Department of Sociology and Labor Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

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To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Song Liang in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Ka Zeng in the Department of Political Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

To concur with the President in the appointment of Professor Sheldon George in the Department of Africana Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

3. Awards of Tenure, UMass Amherst, Boston, Lowell, Chan Medical School, Doc. T24-026

To concur with the President in the awards of tenure to the following individuals in the following departments:

Amherst	Carrie-Ellen Briere, College of Nursing Joohyun Chung, College of Nursing Memnun Seven, College of Nursing Lisa A. Wolf, College of Nursing Chengbo Ai, Civil & Environmental Engineering Amir Arbabi, Electrical & Computer Engineering Peng Bai, Chemical Engineering Maria Biezma Garrido, Languages, Literature & Cultures Wen Chen, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Yao Chen, Theater Rafael Coelho Lopes de Sa, Physics Marialuisa Di Stefano, Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Jess S. Dillard-Wright, College of Nursing Xian Du, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Mohammadhassan Hajiesmaili, Computer Science Duane L. Holland, Jr., Music and Dance Lisa M. Komoroske, Environmental Conservation Emily K. Kumpel, Civil & Environmental Engineering Andrew A. Lover, Biostatistics and Epidemiology Narges Mahyar, Computer Science Sara K. Mamo, Communication Disorders Airin D. Martinez, Health Promotion and Policy Matthew D. Moore, Food Sciences Yeonsik Noh, Dean - College of Nursing Priscilla M. Page, Theater ChangHui Pak, Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Lenore M. Palladino, Economics Jinglei Ping, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Katie M. Potter, Kinesiology Annie Raymond, Mathematics and Statistics Cassandra N. Spracklen, Biostatistics and Epidemiology Enrique A. Suarez, Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Jay K. Taneja, Computer Science
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Malissa A. Taylor, Judaic and Near Eastern Studies
Yao Yu, Accounting
Hamed Zamani, Computer Science

Boston Serra Acar, Curriculum & Instruction
Chris Barcelos, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Brian Daniels, Counseling & School Psychology
Joao de Souza, Economics
Luis Gascón, Sociology
Mohamed Gharbi, Physics
Tyler Hull, Accounting & Finance
Shuai Jin, Political Science
Michael Rahaim, Engineering
Jeffrey Stokes, Gerontology
Songtian Zeng, Curriculum & Instruction

Lowell Reza Ahmadzadeh, Miner School of Computer and Information Sciences
Amir Ameli, Plastics Engineering
Juan Artes Vivancos, Chemistry
Sedi Bartz, Mathematics & Statistics
Grace Wan-Ting Chen, Plastics Engineering
David Cornell, Physical Therapy & Kinesiology
Jose Godinez, Management
James Heiss, Environmental, Earth, & Atmospheric Sciences
Marian Jandel, Physics and Applied Physics
Nicolai Konow, Biological Sciences
Davide Masato, Plastics Engineering
Joselyne Nkogo, School of Criminology & Justice Studies
Jay Park, Plastics Engineering
James Reuther, Chemistry
Amber Ruf, School of Criminology & Justice Studies
Corey Shemelya, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Ju Myung Song, Operations & Information Systems
Natalie Steinel, Biological Sciences
Elizabeth Williams, History
Lawrence Wolf, Chemistry
Lynne Gauthier, Physical Therapy & Kinesiology
Jinxiang Xi, Biomedical Engineering

Chan Medical School Arvin Garg, T.H. Chan School of Medicine
Jae-Hyuck Shim, T.H. Chan School of Medicine

The Audit and Risk Committee approved item 4 on May 22, 2024.

4. Fiscal Year 2025 Internal Audit Plan, Doc. T24-018

To approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Internal Audit Plan

The Committee on Administration and Finance approved items 5-8 on May 22, 2024.

5. Quarterly Capital Project Update and Approval of Cost Changes to the Approved Capital Projects List (traditional projects), UMass Chan Medical School (Medical School - Basic Wing Mechanical Penthouse), Doc. T23-047, as amended

Pursuant to Trustee Policy T93-122, as amended to approve the following project that exceeded the Approved Project cost by more than 10% and to satisfy the University's written request that the UMass Building Authority undertake projects in accordance with Board of Trustees vote T23-047, as amended:

Campus	Project Name	Building	Total Building DM	Vote 1	Vote 2	Adjusted Cost	Funding Sources			
							Local Funding	External Funding	Borrowed Funding	State Funding
UMass Chan	Medical School - Basic Wing Mechanical Penthouse	Medical School	\$272,462,586	\$6,800,000	\$11,000,000	\$12,375,033	\$12,375,033	-	-	-
TOTAL				\$6,800,000	\$11,000,000	\$12,375,033	\$12,375,033	\$0	\$0	\$0

6. Approval of Changes to Mandatory Student Charges Voted and Approved by Students - Graduate Student Senate Fee, UMass Amherst and Student Activities (Undergraduate) Fee, UMass Boston, Doc. T24-019

In accordance with Section 1A of Chapter 75 of the General Laws, and Policy T92-031, Appendix E, as amended to authorize the President to approve changes to the Graduate Student Senate fee at UMass Amherst as outlined below for academic year 2024-25:

	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Proposed	\$ Change FY24-FY25	% Change FY24-FY25
Graduate Student Senate Fee	\$155.50	\$160.00	\$172.00	\$12	7.5%

And further,

In accordance with Section 1A of Chapter 75 of the General Laws, and Policy T92-031, Appendix E, as amended to authorize the President to approve changes to the Student Activities (Undergraduate) fee at UMass Boston as outlined below for academic year 2024-25:

	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Proposed	\$ Change FY24-FY25	% Change FY24-FY25
Student Activities (Undergraduate)	\$130	\$130	\$140	\$10	7.7%

7. FY2025 University Operating Budget, Doc. T24-020

To approve the University's Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget and to authorize the President to approve changes, as needed, based on the final General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025 and any changes made to it during the fiscal year.

8. Authorization to Allocate the Fiscal Year 2025 State Appropriation, Doc. T24-021

To direct the President to allocate the amount appropriated for the University of Massachusetts in Line Item 7100-0200 of the General Appropriation Act for Fiscal Year 2025 to the campuses.

Chairman Karam announced the conclusion of the formal portion of the open session meeting. He stated that before the vote to go into executive session, Chancellor Reyes requested a few minutes for the Amherst Student, Trustee Brady, to speak.

Trustee Brady thanked Chairman Karam, President Meehan, and Chancellor Reyes for allowing him to speak on divestment. He spoke to the strong demand for university divestment due to recent events in Gaza, which calls for the alignment of institutional investments with principles that move funds away from entities involved in human rights violations. He demanded transparency about the University's investments, quarterly investment reports being made public, and disclosures of financial, academic, and bureaucratic ties to entities involved in Israeli apartheid, and a democratic coalition to oversee the divestment process.

Chairman Karam thanked Trustee Brady for his comments and shared that Chancellor Reyes would further discuss this topic with the campus.

Executive Session Announcement

Chairman Karam asked for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the University, as permitted under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, Section 21a, Purpose (3); and to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, including proposed and ongoing projects, as permitted under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, Section 21a, Purpose (6); and; to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law necessitating confidentiality, as permitted under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30, Section 21a, Purpose (7), See MGL c. 4, Section 7 Clause 26, subclauses: (d) and (n) since an open meeting may compromise the purpose for which the executive session is being called and have a detrimental effect on the University.

Chairman Karam stated that the meeting would not reconvene in open session and asked for a motion. It was moved by Vice Chair Burns and seconded by Trustee Sullivan.

The Secretary called the roll. Chairman Karam voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Burns; Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Lewis, Maguire Keches, O'Brien, Paris Jeffries, Scheibel, Sullivan and Worthy. Trustees Epstein and Tolman's votes were not heard.

The time was 9:39 a.m.

Chelsey L. Burke
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees