

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

**Wednesday, September 18, 2024; 8:00 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**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair O'Brien; Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Haviari, Nicum, Oliveira, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu

**Other Trustees Present:** Vice Chair Burns (joined at 8:15 a.m.); Trustee Raymond (left at 9:09 a.m.)

**Committee Members Absent:** Vice Chair Scheibel

**University Administration:** President Meehan; Senior Vice Presidents Calise and Subbaswamy; General Counsel Lowy; Chancellors Reyes, Suárez-Orozco, Fuller, Chen and Collins; Vice Chancellors Mangels, Kirleis, Doyle, Yestramski and Lindstedt; Executive Director Kroncke, UMass Building Authority (UMBA)

**Faculty Representatives:** Professors Hoagland, UMass Boston and Petersen, UMass Lowell

**Documents Used:**

- Meeting Minutes: May 22, 2024 (Open & Executive Session)
- Meeting Minutes: June 5, 2024 (Open & Executive Session)
- Establishment of Endowed Professorships and Chairs, UMass Amherst, Chan Medical School, Doc. T24-048
- Approval of Changes to the Capital Projects List; Vote 2 Traditional Project (Amherst, North Campus Energy Exchange Center), Doc. T23-047, as amended
- Approval of Utility Easement, UMass Boston, Doc. T24-038
- Authorization to Submit the University's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request, Doc. T24-039

Chair O'Brien convened the meeting at 8:02 a.m. and reminded the Committee that the Governor of Massachusetts issued an executive order on March 12, 2020, which had 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 with adequate and alternative means of access available. Any member of the public wishing to address the Committee 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 Committee 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.

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

Chair O'Brien reminded the Committee members to unmute themselves and state their name when moving or seconding the action items.

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

Chair O'Brien stated that the Committee was provided with the draft minutes of the May 22, 2024 and June 5, 2024 meeting's Open and Executive Session 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 May 22, 2024 and June 5, 2024 executive session minutes will not be released and should remain confidential because publication would defeat the lawful purposes of the executive session.

**Chair's Report**

Chair O'Brien welcomed the new Student Trustees that serve on the Committee: Felicity Oliveria (UMass Amherst), Gent Haviari (UMass Dartmouth) and Stephanie Nicum (UMass Lowell). He shared that their perspectives are critical to the work and encouraged their participation.

Chair O'Brien reported that the Administration and Finance team would be providing the Committee with several updates, including preliminary unaudited year-end financial for FY24, as well as an update on the FY25 budget. He stated that enrollment continues to be a top risk for the University and that we need to take advantage of our system-ness and continue to innovate on enrollment strategies to preserve our market share. In December, Vice President Calise and her team will present an updated five-year forecast which will serve as a blueprint for the next budget cycle. The Committee must remain committed to disciplined fiscal oversight even as the campuses face financial challenges, use data to support decisions and continue to seek ways to maximize our strength as a system.

**President's Report**

President Meehan also welcomed the three new Student Trustees to the Committee and thanked them for stepping up and assuming this responsibly.

He provided an update on the state appropriation, reporting that the final FY25 State Budget signed by Governor Healey includes \$765M for UMass, which is an increase of \$11.6M over the Fiscal Year 2024 base appropriation. The budget also sets aside funding for collective bargaining contracts, and he anticipates that the state will provide for its share of the cost for Fiscal Year 2025 in a supplemental budget, which represents about 43% of those expenses.

As for revenues from the Fair Share Amendment, \$10M was allocated to support the UMass Endowment Incentive Program, and the University stands to benefit from other higher education programs including \$80M for Mass Grant Plus, and \$10M for the High Demand Profession Scholarship. While no capital funding was provided from Fair Share revenues, a higher education capital planning committee has been established – and the University and Building Authority are both represented on that group. President Meehan hopes that this planning and the University's voice on the committee will result in a predictable capital funding plan in the next budget cycle.

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

He noted it was a strong year for UMass, and was grateful to Governor Healey and her Administration, Senate President Spilka, Speaker Mariano, and to entire Legislature for this significant support for the University and for its students.

He also reported that colleges and universities across the nation are facing significant demographic challenges as the population of high school graduates continues to decline, especially in the Northeast, and it is straining institutions across the nation. UMass is confronting these challenges, and he is proud that the demand for a high-quality UMass education remains strong. The preliminary fall enrollment projections show enrollment that is at, or close to, budget assumptions for each campus. The campuses are currently evaluating the student enrollment mix to understand its impact on revenue and will update their Q1 projections accordingly and make any necessary adjustments to stay within the budgeted 2% operating margin. He recognized the Chancellors and their teams, who have done an exceptional job in promoting the competitive value proposition that a world-class UMass education provides.

**Senior Vice President's Report**

Senior Vice President Calise reviewed the A&F Committee meeting calendar, the Financial Accountability Framework, FY24 Unaudited Year-End Results, FY25 Budget, FY25 Enrollment and FY25 State Budget. She also reviewed the University Systemwide Risk Registry activities, highlighting the progress made in FY24 in facilities and deferred maintenance, financial sustainability, and diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility.

Senior Vice President Calise shared the FY24 preliminary unaudited results which highlighted the University's commitment to long-term financial sustainability and provided an update on the FY25 Budget including revenue and expenses, 2% operating margin, and enrollment. She also provided an update on the Admissions Sharing Pilot and the process improvements made that led to positive results.

The FY25 State Budget appropriation is \$765M; an increase of 1.5% over FY24 and \$5M over University budget assumptions. This does not include collective bargaining or Fair Share appropriations.

**Action Item #1: Establishment of Endowed Professorships and Chairs, UMass Amherst, Chan Medical School, Doc. T24-048**

Chair O'Brien asked for a motion on the Establishment of Endowed Professorships and Chairs, UMass Amherst, Chan Medical School, Doc. T24-048. The motion was approved by Trustee Colella and seconded by Trustee Wu.

To recommend that the Board take the following action in accordance with sections 1A(e) and 11 of Chapter 75 of the General Laws to establish the following:

The Marieb Endowed Professor of Nursing and Engineering Innovation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

And further, To establish the following:

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

The UMass Memorial Ledwith Chair in Family and Community Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Memorial Kaur Chair in Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Memorial Chair in Radiology at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Memorial Chair in Neurology at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Memorial Chair in Radiation Oncology at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The Joseph D. Early Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The Jack M. Wilson Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Chan Medical School Chair in Biomedical Research I at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The UMass Chan Medical School Chair in Biomedical Research II at UMass Chan Medical School.

The Endowed Chair in Biochemistry and Molecular Biotechnology I at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The Endowed Chair in Biochemistry and Molecular Biotechnology II at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

The Paul J. DiMare Chair in Neurodegenerative Disease at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

Chair O'Brien asked for questions or comments. With none, the Assistant Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

**Action Item #2: Approval of Changes to the Capital Projects List; Vote 2 Traditional Project (Amherst, North Campus Energy Exchange Center), Doc. T23-047, as amended**

Chair O'Brien asked for a motion on the Approval of Changes to the Capital Projects List; Vote 2 Traditional Project (Amherst, North Campus Energy Exchange Center), Doc. T23-047, as amended. The motion was approved by Trustee Colella and seconded by Trustee Wu.

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

Pursuant to Trustee Policy T93-122, as amended, to authorize the following project under the **second vote**; the adoption of such vote hereby satisfies the University's written request that the University of Massachusetts Building Authority undertake the following projects to the extent permitted by Trustee Policy T93-122, as amended:

				<u>Funding Sources</u>
Campus	Project Name	Vote 1	Vote 2	Local Funding
Amherst	North Campus Energy Exchange Center	24,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$24,000,000</b>	<b>\$30,000,000</b>	<b>\$30,000,000</b>

Assistant Vice President Skrzek spoke to the action item.

Chair O'Brien asked for questions or comments. With none, the Assistant Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

President Meehan left the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

**Action Item #3: Approval of Utility Easement, UMass Boston, Doc. T24-038**

Chair O'Brien asked for a motion on the Approval of Utility Easement, UMass Boston, Doc. T24-038. The motion was approved by Trustee Wu and seconded by Trustee Colella.

WHEREAS, the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees Policy T93-122, as amended, establishes that in order to allow for adequate review and analysis, Campus proposals for all dispositions of University Real Estate must be presented to the Board of Trustees for informational purposes at one meeting and presented at a later meeting for the Board of Trustees' approval.

AND WHEREAS, on May 22, 2024, UMass Boston presented to the Committee on Administration and Finance an informational item on the potential grant of an easement to National Grid to facilitate the delivery of utilities or services to nearby properties. It is now recommended that the Board of Trustees take the following actions:

Subject to the authorities and contingencies specified herein, to approve the grant of an easement to National Grid in, on, over and under the parcel of University property shown in the vicinity of Bianculli Boulevard and Morrissey Boulevard in the City of Boston on a preliminary plan of land and attached hereto as Attachment A, for the right of access for long-term access to natural gas supply equipment; and

To authorize the President, with authority to further delegate to the Chancellor of the Boston campus, for and on behalf of the University of Massachusetts, to do and perform any and all acts and things which may be necessary to effectuate this grant of the easement. This authority includes but is not limited to, preparing, making and filing of plans, applications, reports and other documents; the execution, acceptance, delivery and recordation of agreements, deeds and other instruments pertaining to the easement on said property, as well as cooperating with any

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

legislative action to effect said transfer if such action is deemed necessary. The grant of the easement specified herein shall not be effective until all other legal authorizations have been completed, and upon any necessary legislative action by the General Court authorizing the grant of the easement.

Associate Vice President Pasquini spoke to the action item.

Chair O'Brien asked for questions or comments. With none, the Assistant Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

President Meehan rejoined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

**Action Item #4: Authorization to Submit the University's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request, Doc. T24-039**

Chair O'Brien asked for a motion on the Authorization to Submit the University's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request, Doc. T24-039. The motion was approved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Trustee Brunelle.

To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To authorize the President to prepare and submit the University's Fiscal Year 2026 State Budget request per the Board's Governance policy (T73-098).

Associate Vice President Pasquini spoke to the action item.

Chair O'Brien asked for questions or comments. With none, the Assistant Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

**Consent Agenda**

Chair O'Brien asked for a motion to place Action Items #s 1-4 on the Consent Agenda for the full Board meeting on September 19, 2024. The motion was moved by Trustee Epstein and seconded by Trustee Tolman.

Chair O'Brien asked for questions or comments. With none, the Assistant Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

**Executive Session Announcement**

Chair O'Brien asked the Committee for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session 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 (u) since an open meeting may

**Committee on Administration and Finance**  
**September 18, 2024**

compromise the purpose for which the executive session is being called and have a detrimental effect on the University.

Chair O'Brien stated that the Committee meeting would not reconvene in open session and asked for a motion. It was moved by Trustee Wu and seconded by Trustee Tolman.

The Assistant Secretary called the roll. Chair O'Brien voted for the motion as did Trustees Brunelle, Colella, Epstein, Nicum, Tolman, Tutwiler and Wu.

Chair O'Brien announced that the Zoom meeting will be closed by the host and instructed those participating in the Executive Session to join that Zoom meeting with the specific link that was provided.

The time was 9:25 a.m.

Chelsey L. Burke  
Assistant Secretary to the Board