UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, March 26, 2012; 6:30 p.m.
Amherst Room
225 Franklin Street – 33rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts

Trustees Present: Chairman Karam; Vice Chair Thomas; Trustees Campbell, Carpman, Collins, Gomez, Johnston, Kennedy, Lee, Mullan, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters, Schock, Tarr and Woolridge; Ms. Lee, Secretary Reville’s Representative

Via Conference Call: Trustee Xifaras

Absent: Vice Chair King-Shaw; Trustees Baldassarre, DiBiaggio, Furman, Reville and Weismann

University Administration: President Caret; Chancellors Motley, MacCormack, Meehan and Collins

Faculty Representatives: Professor May, UMass Amherst

Chair Karam convened the meeting at 6:38 p.m. and announced that Trustee Xifaras will be participating by telephone pursuant to 940 CMR 29.10, as adopted by the Board of Trustees and permitted under Section 29.10 (5)(e), since she is traveling and geographically distant from Boston making it unreasonably difficult for her to attend the meeting in person.

Reports:

Chair’s Report:

Chair Karam welcomed the Trustees and noted the importance of appointing a Chancellor for the system’s flagship campus. The Chair outlined the work of the Committee since it was appointed in September 2011 and thanked Trustee Johnston for his outstanding leadership, and thanked each of the members for their dedication and hard work. The Committee provided four outstanding finalists for the President’s consideration.

Chair Karam thanked Chancellor Holub for his achievements on the campus during his tenure. The Chancellor increased student enrollment and the campus is in the midst of a building boom that will be truly transformative for students, faculty, and staff. The Chancellor’s work has
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resulted in a school the Board can be proud of and sets the stage for the next Chancellor to achieve even greater heights; Chair Karam noted that the University owes Chancellor Holub gratitude and respect.

**UMass Amherst Chancellor Search Committee Report:**

Trustee Collins gave the report on behalf of the Committee Chair, Trustee Johnston. Trustee Collins noted that the selection of a Chancellor can have the most significant and enduring effect.

Trustee Collins provided an overview of the search process, including the campus input meetings with internal and external constituency groups which were very important and helped the Committee shape its view of what type of leader is needed for the campus.

The Committee retained an excellent executive search firm and attracted a pool of 330 prospective candidates. Fifteen candidates were eventually interviewed and from that very rich field, four candidates were eventually designated as finalists. The finalists each spent a day on the Amherst campus meeting with members of the various campus constituencies and all were very well received.

Trustee Collins noted that UMass Amherst will celebrate its 150th anniversary next year. A century and a half of distinguished service to the Commonwealth and its citizens. Trustee Collins stated that while we look to the past, we also look to the future, and the next Chancellor of the flagship campus will allow the campus to climb higher and achieve more. On behalf of Trustee Johnston, Trustee Collins thanked Chair Karam and President Caret for giving the Committee the authority to conduct this search, and he thanked all who served on the Search Committee, as well as the staff and Witt/Kieffer.

**President’s Report:**

President Caret thanked Chair Karam and members of the Board for gathering this evening to consider the appointment of a new Chancellor for the Amherst campus. He also thanked the Search Committee and Trustee Johnston for doing a superb job, and thanked the search firm Witt/Kieffer and staff members who also took part in the search process.

The Committee’s charge was to find finalist candidates who could build on Chancellor Holub’s record of achievement. The next Chancellor will be taking charge of a campus that is better today than it was four years ago because of Chancellor Holub’s leadership and hard work.

After very considerable reflection and review, the President stated his view that that the person with the experience, the vision, the intellect and the drive needed to move our flagship campus forward is Dr. Subbaswamy.
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President Caret noted that Dr. Subbaswamy holds a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Bangalore University, a Master of Science in Physics from Delhi University, and a Ph.D. in Physics from Indiana University. Dr. Subbaswamy left his native India to come here to seek the opportunity and gifts that this great nation bestows. He will be a great and knowledgeable leader in what for our students is an increasingly global world. Dr. Subbaswamy is committed to building on the excellent scholarship, research, and reputation of the Amherst campus. The President believes that Dr. Subbaswamy has the leadership skills, the vision, the intellect, the passion for scholarship and research, the love of University, and the commitment to diversity that will propel our flagship campus forward for years to come.

Discussion:

Chair Karam stated that he agreed with President Caret’s comments. Chair Karam asked for the Board’s thoughts and comments about the search process and the President’s recommendation.

Trustee Collins agreed with the thoroughness of the Search Committee’s work. Trustee Collins indicated his intent to vote in favor of Dr. Subbaswamy and urged the Board to do the same.

Trustee Mullan echoed the comments by Trustee Collins and indicated that Dr. Subbaswamy was the right candidate and has emerged as a leader among leaders.

Ms. Lee, Secretary Reville’s Representative, thanked Trustee Johnston and the search Committee for its service. She asked if there were any particular themes that resonated with students and faculty leading to the difficult decision.

President Caret commented that research was very important and efforts were put into the measures of the core value of student success.

Chancellor MacCormack indicated that it was an honor and privilege to serve on the Search. Dr. Subbaswamy has a sense of humor, great interpersonal skills, and his academic success will push the campus to aspire to what it wants to be.

Vice Chair Thomas congratulated the Committee on its due diligence. He asked if the candidate has articulated an understanding of the land-grant institution and how he foresaw the nexus of Springfield and Holyoke community with Amherst.

President Caret indicated that Dr. Subbaswamy understands and embraces the belief that the University has a role in the community and providing leadership in the region and said he will work collaboratively with the other UMass campuses.
Chair Karam thanked Ms. Kelly and General Counsel Heatwole for their work with the search.

Trustee Johnston then made a motion to appoint Dr. Subbaswamy as Chancellor of the Amherst campus. The motion was seconded.

**VOTED:** To appoint Kumble R. Subbaswamy as Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Amherst at a salary and terms to be determined by the President.
(Doc. T12-021)

The Secretary called the roll with each Trustee asked to vote yes or no. Chairman Karam voted for the motion as did Vice Chair Thomas; Trustees Campbell, Carpman, Collins, Furman, Gomez, Johnston, Lee, Mullan, Osterhaus-Houle, Peters, Tarr, Schock, Woolridge and Xifaras. Ms. Lee, Secretary Reville’s Representative also voted for the motion.

Chair Karam thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting. The time was 7:21 p.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Assistant Secretary to the Board