

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER**

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

**Tuesday, July 22, 2003; 8:00 a.m.**

**Board Room**

**One Beacon Street - 26th Floor**

**University of Massachusetts**

**Boston, Massachusetts**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair White; Vice Chair Boyle; Trustees Austin, Bukhari, Fatemi, Mahoney, Reed and Sheridan

**Committee Members Absent:** Trustees Giblin, Kennedy, Lankowski and Marcalo

**University Administration:** President Bulger; General Counsel O'Malley; Vice Presidents Botman, Chmura, Gray, Julian and Lenhardt; Mr. Wilson, CEO, UMassOnline; Ms. Layton, Associate Vice President; Chancellors Lombardi, Gora, MacCormack and Lazare; Provosts Fonteyn, Esposito and Wooding; Vice Chancellor Scheid, UMASS Worcester

**Faculty Representatives:** Professors May and O'Connor, UMASS Amherst; Professor Schwartz, UMASS Boston; Professor Carter, UMASS Lowell

**Guests:** Dean Lee Edwards, UMASS Amherst; Dean Louise Smith, UMASS Boston; Dean Michael Steinman, UMASS Dartmouth; Professor Jonathan Liebowitz, UMASS Lowell; Professor Reebee Garofalo; UMASS Boston; Jacquelyn Briggs, UMASS Dartmouth

Chair White convened the meeting at 8:02 a.m. and introduced the student Trustees to the Committee, Hannah Fatemi, UMASS Amherst; Omar Bukhari, UMASS Boston and Sean Reed, UMASS Worcester. Trustee Carolina Marcalo from UMASS Dartmouth was not able to attend the meeting. Trustee Rosalyn Lankowski from UMASS Lowell was out of the country.

The first item on the agenda was **Consideration of the Minutes of the Prior Meeting of the Committee.**

It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the April 22, 2003 meeting of the Committee.

The next item was the **President's Report.** President Bulger expressed his gratitude to the Chancellors and their administrative teams for their work in addressing the budget cuts. Each of them has skillfully and creatively protected the academic core of their campuses through targeted cost reductions.

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs  
July 22, 2003**

The Chancellor's proposals to adjust student fees, along with cost reduction plans, will be discussed further at the meeting of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Audit on July 24.

President Bulger reported on the following activities and faculty accomplishments:

- The President's Office annually awards faculty instructional technology grants to advance the University's goal of delivering excellent academic instruction without regard to geography;
- We encourage faculty to integrate technology into the curriculum in an effort to inspire the students living on or near the University campuses and those who live far away;
- Technology-assisted instruction enriches the academic experience for students and often leads to improved student achievement and higher retention rates;
- Ten technology grant awards will be used during the 2003-2004 academic year. Some of the courses funded include:
  - An online course for science and engineering majors at UMASS Dartmouth;
  - A web-enhanced poetry course at UMASS Lowell;
  - A joint chemistry preparatory course at UMASS Amherst and Boston;
  - A team-taught geriatrics course in caring for the elderly at UMASS Dartmouth and Worcester;
  - A teacher preparation course at UMASS Boston.
- The School of Marine Sciences and Technology at UMASS Dartmouth is conducting the largest sea scallop field survey ever undertaken in the north and mid-Atlantic. Dr. Kevin Stokesbury is the principal researcher on the project;
- UMASS Lowell has been named as one of nine schools taking extraordinary approaches to outreach and community partnership by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- The Annual University Scholars Reception was held on May 29 at the State House. The reception recognized the achievements of 94 incoming UMASS students who finished number one or two in their high school graduating classes.

President Bulger announced that Selma Botman, Vice President for Academic Affairs will be leaving the Office of the President. She will be joining the faculty at UMASS Lowell's Department of Political Science, and will serve as Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Regional, Social, and Economic Development.

Vice President Botman's impact on the University over the last six years has been tangible and important. Under her skilled guidance, the University has:

- Established the University Scholars program;
- Created the statewide model for campus performance measurement;
- Designed a meaningful post-tenure review process;

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**  
**July 22, 2003**

- Created UMassOnline;
- Developed the Inter-Campus School of Marine Sciences;
- Built inter-campus bio-technology teaching and research collaborations; and
- Implemented a model of collaboration among campus enrollment officers.

Vice President Botman accompanied President Bulger on over 60 high school visits to promote the importance of higher education and the value of the University. She also pursued her love of teaching on the Boston campus.

President Bulger thanked Vice President Botman for her service to the University system and wished her the best of luck in her new endeavor.

Jack Wilson, CEO for UMassOnline has been appointed as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Wilson will continue to lead the highly successful UMassOnline initiative.

The next item was the **Vice President's Report**. Vice President Botman looks forward, with great enthusiasm, to working on the Lowell campus as full professor with tenure and as Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Regional, Social, and Economic Development. She then thanked the staff in the Academic Affairs department, and looks forward to continually working with the Trustees, President, Vice Presidents, Provosts, faculty and staff on the campuses.

Vice President Botman indicated that General Counsel O'Malley will brief the Committee on the University of Michigan's Supreme Court case on affirmative action.

Vice President Botman reported that the University sponsored its Third Annual Five-Campus Neuroscience Symposium in June. The symposium was held at the Worcester campus.

Vice President Botman then reported that there is a shortage of qualified math and science middle and preschool teachers nationally. The Academic Affairs department and the deans for education have committed themselves to thinking about increasing the supply for the demand of math and science teachers. Kate Harrington in Academic Affairs will lead the project. Vice President Botman also reported that a plan has been developed to conduct initial research on improving and evaluating the development of math and science teachers at the University. The project will be carried-out by Andy Churchill from the Center for Education and Policy at UMASS Amherst who will be assisted by Heather Holsey and Professor Gary Stoner.

General Counsel O'Malley then briefed the Committee on the University of Michigan Supreme Court cases on affirmative action. He indicated that the University is working to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling that a compelling interest in the use of race in admissions be justified, and that every applicant applying for admissions be treated the same. He also reported that a conference call took place last week between Vice President Botman and her

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**  
**July 22, 2003**

staff, and the admissions officers on the campuses to discuss some of the legal principles surrounding affirmative action and concerns with the procedures, etc.

General Counsel O'Malley indicated that the use of race in the University's admissions procedure was going to be challenging and that specialized programs may have to be re-designed to promote diversity targeted towards various groups, providing some kind of protective services, opportunities, etc.

The next item for discussion was **The Role of Arts and Sciences in the Undergraduate Curriculum**. Vice President Botman introduced Dean Lee Edwards, UMASS Amherst; Dean Louise Smith, UMASS Boston; Dean Michael Steinman, UMASS Dartmouth; and Professor Jonathan Liebowitz, UMASS Lowell to discuss liberal arts and sciences and their importance in the undergraduate curriculum.

The Deans then led the Committee in a discussion about the importance of a liberal arts and sciences education. The discussion focused on the following areas:

- Why is liberal arts and science the foundation for student curriculum?
- What are the goals of a liberal arts and science education?
- How does faculty engage students in the humanities and fine arts?

Highlights included:

- There is a link between the arts and sciences...The liberal arts and science education provides the experience of continuity of data, observations, values, and story construction;
- It prepares students with the core basic set of skills in order to continue on in the workforce;
- Students are trained in critical thinking and problem solving skills;
- Critical thinking should be the central element of all courses;
- Liberal arts majors are provided with many links to practical jobs;
- Undergraduate students are engaged through continued interactions with alumni by way of discussing the current curriculum, setting up internships directly connected to opportunities in the workforce, etc.;
- Students are engaged by the hiring of younger faculty who use all kinds of new teaching techniques, including student presentations in the classes;
- Engaging students today is challenging because of the different pressures they are faced with;
- Instructors teach in a way to develop potential commonalities that link incoming first-year students with similar major interests.

Vice Chair Boyle expressed his concern about students' inability to write clearly, and asked what can be done to get back to the basic core discipline of writing?

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs  
July 22, 2003**

Professor Liebowitz reported that on the Lowell campus writing is incorporated more and more into the core curriculum to help concentrate on communications skills, which includes various forms of writing. He indicated that there should be continued emphasis on writing. Faculty workshops have also been developed to encourage faculty on how to incorporate writing into their courses.

Chancellor Gora reported that a writing proficiency exam is administered to students on the Boston campus and that students cannot graduate unless they pass that exam.

Trustee Austin indicated that the University has an obligation to graduate more math and science graduates for the educational need of teachers in those areas.

Chair White thanked everyone for their participation.

The first item for action was **Revisions to Governance Document of the University of Massachusetts Medical School and Graduate School of Nursing**. Vice Chancellor Scheid reported that the policies relate to the Graduate School of Nursing and the Worcester campus as a whole. The revision of the campus governance document has not been revised since 1985 and the changes must be in place before the accreditation review in March 2004.

It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the Governance Document of the University of Massachusetts Medical School as contained in Doc. T03-035.

And further,

To rescind the Governance Document of the University of Massachusetts Medical School as contained in Doc. T79-042B, as amended.

And further,

To approve the revisions to the Governance Document of the Graduate School of Nursing, Doc. T91-028, as amended.

The next item for action was **Appointment to Named Professorship, UMASS Amherst**. Vice President Botman reported that the Amherst campus seeks the appointment of Dr. Soura Dasgupta to the Dev V. Gupta Professorship in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Dr. Dasgupta is a highly prolific scholar who has published over 60 journal articles. His research totaling \$1.7 million in funding has been supported by the National Science Foundation, Rockwell International, the Army Research Office and the Advanced Research Project Agency.

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**  
**July 22, 2003**

Dr. Dasgupta comes from the University of Iowa.

It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED**: To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To concur with the President in the appointment of Soura Dasgupta to the Dev V. Gupta Professorship in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. (Doc. T03-037)

The next item for action was **B.A. in Community Media and Technology, UMASS Boston**. Vice President Botman reported that the Community Media and Technology degree was one of several degrees that will be coming before the Committee over the next several months. She then thanked Associate Vice President Layton for her work on the degree and introduced Professor Reebee Garofalo of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) on the Boston campus to report on the degree.

Professor Garofalo briefed the Committee on Speaker Finneran's proposal to spend \$110 million on emerging technology, including information technology, which highlights the importance of the telecommunications sector for the future health of the Massachusetts economy. He reported that the purpose for the degree program in Community Media and Technology is to develop a culmination of media analysis, technical proficiency, social vision, a commitment to service learning, and to promote professional development within the context of liberal arts education.

Professor Garofalo reported on four key areas of the program that are consistent with campus priorities and the CPCS mission.

1. CPCS Mission – The program is consistent with the CPCS mission in terms of a community focus for the degree;
2. Employment Opportunities – there is a need to fill funded positions that have remained unfilled due to the lack of unqualified applicants;
3. Establishment of National Standards – the media and community technology network are thinking about developing national standards. CPCS is developing its curriculum in collaboration with its community media and technology partners;
4. Development of Distance Education – CPCS is working closely with the Division of Corporate Continuing and Distance Education to develop ways to deliver the degree online as well as in the classroom.

Professor Garofalo reported on a number of additional complementary resources that are considered value-added for the basic core faculty. They included:

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**  
**July 22, 2003**

- A \$1 million VISTA grant has been received to place 80 AmeriCorps\*VISTA workers in community technology centers across the country. The grant was renewed in August for a fourth year;
- As part of the VISTA grant, CPCS publishes the *Community Technology Review*, the national publication for the community technological movement;
- The Boston-area partners for the grant have developed a regional broadband collaborative called the Commonwealth Broadband Collaborative;
- These collaborations provide wonderful internships opportunities for the students;
- Last year the college received a \$150,000 grant from Monster.com to build an information technology center. The center has been built and provides a primary training facility for the majors in the program.

Vice Chair Boyle indicated that the degree in Community Media and Technology is a terrific program and congratulated the campus on a great job.

It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the B.A. in Community Media and Technology at the University of Massachusetts Boston as contained in Doc. T03-044.

The next item for action was **Revisions to Student Senate Constitution, UMASS Dartmouth**. Ms. Briggs, a student and former Trustee from the Dartmouth campus, briefed the Committee on the changes/revision process and indicated that the Student Senate is seeking approval to the revisions of the Student Senate Constitution for the Dartmouth campus.

It was moved, seconded and

**VOTED:** To recommend that the Board take the following action:

To approve the revisions to the Student Senate Constitution of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T95-095, as amended.

Chair White then announced that the Committee would enter into **Executive Session** to consider **Transfer of Tenure, UMASS Lowell** and **Awards of Tenure, UMASS Amherst, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester** and **Appointments with Tenure, UMASS Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth** and **Transfer of Tenure, UMASS Lowell**. He indicated that the Committee would not reconvene in open session.

It was moved, seconded and

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs  
July 22, 2003**

**VOTED:** To enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of considering **Transfer of Tenure, UMASS Lowell** and **Awards of Tenure, UMASS Amherst, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester** and **Appointments with Tenure, UMASS Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth** and **Transfer of Tenure, UMASS Lowell.**

Chair White and Vice Chair Boyle voted for the motion as did Trustees Austin, Bukhari, Mahoney, and Sheridan. The time was 10:00 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett  
Staff Associate