

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER

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

Wednesday, January 21, 2004; 8:00 a.m.

Board Room

One Beacon Street - 26th Floor

University of Massachusetts

Boston, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Chair White; Vice Chairs Boyle and Sheridan; Trustees Austin, DiBiaggio, Fatemi, Kennedy, Marcalo, Morand and Reed

Committee Members Absent: Trustee Cassel, Giblin and Mahoney

University Administration: President Wilson; General Counsel O'Malley; Vice Presidents Chmura, Gray, and Lenhardt; Ms. Harrington, Associate Vice President; Chancellors Lombardi, Gora and MacCormack; Provosts Seymour, Fonteyn, Esposito and Wooding; Vice Chancellor Scheid, UMASS Worcester

Faculty Representatives: Professors May and O'Connor, UMASS Amherst

Guests: Michael Gargano, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UMASS Amherst; J. Keith Motley, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UMASS Boston; Michael Laliberte, Associate Dean of Students, UMASS Dartmouth; Laurence Siegel, Dean of Student Life, UMASS Lowell; Thomas Taylor, Dean of Student Services, UMASS Lowell; Mai-Lan Rogoff, Associate Dean for Students, UMASS Worcester; Dr. Anna Klobucka, Portuguese Studies, UMASS Dartmouth; Dr. Sugukalyan Sengupta, Civil and Environmental Engineering, UMASS Dartmouth; Dr. William Moylan, Sound Recording Technology, UMASS Lowell

Chair White convened the meeting at 8:04 a.m. and introduced the newest Trustees to the Committee, Dr. John DiBiaggio, President Emeritus, Tufts University and former executive director of the Medical Center at the University of Connecticut, and Matthew Morand, Student, UMASS Lowell.

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 October 21, 2003 meeting of the Committee.

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The next item was the **President's Report**. President Wilson reported that today's discussion would focus on Learning: In the Classroom and Beyond. Program proposals from the Dartmouth and Lowell campuses, and tenure awards and appointments will also be discussed. He indicated that Strategic Plans would be discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting in February.

President Wilson reported on activities taking place on the campuses. Highlights included:

UMASS Amherst

- A Consortium for Distributive Decision Making at UMASS Amherst was awarded a highly competitive IBM grant to study how rich computing technology can help reduce the risk from power outages and other emergencies to improve Homeland Security;
- The Boston Globe* featured an article on the creation of a Mass Nanotech Center by a group of faculty at UMASS Amherst. Nanotech research received over \$23 million in funding over the last 3 years.

UMASS Boston

- UMASS Boston faculty received a \$350,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to support a Center for the Improvement of Teaching;
- Dr. Julie Winch, Professor of History at UMASS Boston, has been awarded a \$40,000 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

UMASS Dartmouth

- The Advance Technology and Manufacturing Center (ATMC) in Fall River received a \$100,000 grant to investigate strategies to advance information technology from Navy Command and Control Systems, as well as detailed old Navy technologies that have potential for transfer to the Merrimack Security Information Technologies component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security;
- Dr. Maria Blanton of UMASS Dartmouth received a \$205,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for reforming college mathematics.

UMASS Lowell

- The Boston Globe* featured an article on UMASS Lowell's plastics engineering department;
- UMASS Lowell received a National Science Foundation grant to research the unpredictable risk behavior in managed scaled material;
- The U.S. Army awarded UMASS Lowell's Submillimeter Wave Technology Lab a \$21.1 million, five-year contract;
- DARPA granted a \$1.5 million for three-years for the combined research team at UMASS Lowell, the Airforce Research Laboratory, and the Electronic Technology Group at Hanscom Airforce Base to produce advanced electronic and imaging for military applications.

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UMASS Worcester

- Dr. Craig Mello's discovery of RNAi was noted as the breakthrough of the year by *Science Magazine* for the second year in a row. Dr. Mello also received the award in Molecular Biology from the National Academy of Science, and the Life Prize in Biomedical Sciences from Rockefeller University;
- Dr. John Sullivan, Director of the UMASS Medical School won the Manuel Carballo Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Service.

President Wilson then provided a brief update on the ongoing investigation of grants and contracts awarded to the Lowell campus by a former government official. The University's Internal Auditor has been asked to provide a second opinion.

The next item was the **Vice President's Report**. Ms. Harrington reported that the College of Health Professions, and the Department of Work Environment have merged to create the School of Health and Environment on the Lowell campus. The new school has been charged with developing an undergraduate program in environmental health.

Ms. Harrington reported that President Wilson and Vice President Chmura met with William Swanson, CEO of Raytheon Corporation in December. The University intends to continue its long-standing relationship with Raytheon. Mr. Swanson and two of his senior executives in attendance received a summary of the undergraduate programs conducted by the University through Raytheon's \$1 million, 5-year grant, which ended in 2003. Highlights of the activities are summarized in a video presentation shown during the meeting. A copy of the video presentation may be obtained from Ms. Harrington.

Ms. Harrington indicated that Acting UMassOnline CEO David Gray reported that institution enrollment was up 33% and revenues were up over 40% in 2003 for UMassOnline. President Wilson had his first high school visit at Sharon High School in late October 2003.

Ms. Harrington then reported on three new program proposals to come before the Committee. Each program has been through an intensive development process, as well as internal campus reviews and external reviews. The Master in Music and Sound Recording Technology on the Lowell campus is the first of its kind in the country; the Master of Art in Portuguese Studies helps with the regional, national and international recognition of UMASS Dartmouth's contribution to the field; and the Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering is a natural evolution for the campus and the field. She indicated that the new programs contribute and enhance the academic programs and strategy of the campuses.

President Wilson then announced the formation of a High Tech Executive Advisory Council to advise University leaders on ways that the five campuses can help strengthen the Commonwealth's recovering technology-based economy.

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The next item on the agenda for discussion was **Learning: In the Classroom and Beyond**. President Wilson introduced Michael Gargano, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UMASS Amherst; J. Keith Motley, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UMASS Boston; Michael Laliberte, Associate Dean of Students, UMASS Dartmouth; Laurence Siegel, Dean of Student Life, UMASS Lowell; Thomas Taylor, Dean of Student Services, UMASS Lowell; and Mai-Lan Rogoff, Associate Dean for Students, UMASS Worcester. They then engaged the Committee in a discussion focusing on the following areas:

- What are the means we use to educate students to understand the responsibilities of membership in a community?
- How do these kinds of activities build an understanding of choices about future work and workforce professions?
- Is it appropriate to institute a mandatory ethics course on the undergraduate level to help students understand professional behavior?
- How do students avoid getting lost in the student affairs process?
- What are the campuses doing to keep faculty engaged in the student affairs process?
- How is the increasing number of adult learners on the campuses affected by the student affairs process?
- To what extent is the student affairs area taking the phenomenon of students working 20-40 hours per week into account?

President Wilson indicated that the discussion highlights the important ways to learn how the campuses operate in all the areas of academics, inside and outside of the classroom.

Chair White indicated that student affairs is critically important in how it ties into the academic programs. He asked the Chancellors to create objectives and measures on how the campuses are doing in the student affairs area.

Chair White then introduced the next item for action, **Appointment to Named Professorship, UMASS Amherst**. Provost Seymour reported that Professor Desu has been with the University since 1998. He has published over 225 articles and has secured \$8 million in research funding for the campus. Professor Desu is a fellow of the American Academy of Ceramics. His leadership was instrumental in the conceptualization of the National Science Foundation-sponsored Engineering Research Center, and his research contributions were instrumental to the development of General Electric's efficiency light bulb.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To concur with the President in the appointment of Seshu B. Desu as a Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. (Doc. T04-008)

The next item for action was **M.A. in Portuguese Studies, UMASS Dartmouth**. Dr. Anna Klobucka, Chair of the Department of Portuguese Studies reported that the creation of the Master's in Portuguese Studies would constitute a logical and natural consequence of the ongoing expansion of the Portuguese program at UMASS Dartmouth. The founding in 1996 of the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture, and the creation in 2001 of the Department of Portuguese have laid the groundwork and provided the necessary infrastructure for the establishment of a successful graduate program in the field. The proposed program offers an in-depth understanding of literary and cultural studies of the Portuguese-speaking world within a broad interdisciplinary context of humanities and social sciences.

Dr. Klobucka indicated that a team of external reviewers commented that "given its location within the Portuguese heritage speaking community and strength of its core and affiliate faculty in Portuguese studies, UMASS Dartmouth is the ideal academic institution to launch such a graduate program."

Trustee Marcalo, a native of Portugal, expressed her excitement for the approval of the program.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To approve the M.A. in Portuguese Studies at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T04-009.

The next item for action was **M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering, UMASS Dartmouth**. Dr. Sugukalyan Sengupta, Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering reported that there is a need for the program based on a survey conducted on alumni and potential employers in the region. The American Society of Civil Engineers strongly recommended that a master's degree is a must in this area in order to obtain licensure.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To approve the M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as contained in Doc. T04-010.

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The next item for action was **M.M. in Sound Recording Technology, UMASS Lowell**. Dr. William Moylan, Chair of the Music Department and Coordinator of the Sound Recording Technology Program, reported that the Master in Sound Recording Technology has been identified as part of the campus' Strategic Plan. The program is going to be the first of its kind in the United States, looking at the utilization of technology of creative expression. UMASS Lowell is in the process of conducting a national search for a sound recording faculty member.

Dr. Moylan reported that the Master in Sound Recording Technology program has been reviewed by the National Association of Schools of Music, and the Commission on Accreditation on New England Schools of Music voted to approve the program.

It was moved, seconded and

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

To approve the M.M. in Sound Recording Technology at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as contained in Doc. T04-011.

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

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of considering **Appointment with Tenure, UMASS Dartmouth** and **Awards of Tenure, UMASS Worcester**.

Chair White voted for the motion as did Vice Chairs Boyle and Sheridan; Trustees Austin, DiBiaggio, Kennedy and Marcalo. The time was 9:55 a.m.

Zunilka Barrett
Staff Associate