

Faculty Senate Campus Reorganization Survey

Item-by-Item Results

NOTE: This web-based poll was conducted from June 2 to noon on June 8th, 2009. An email invitation to participate in the survey was sent to all 1484 faculty members. Up to two email reminders were sent to non-respondents. The final response rate for the poll was 40.6% (n = 601).

Survey Introduction Text

Over the past semester, the campus has been engaged in a dialogue with Chancellor Holub about potential reorganization of UMass Amherst's schools and colleges. In order to better understand the current state of Faculty opinion on this important subject -- the most comprehensive campus reorganization in nearly 40 years -- we are asking you to complete this brief, and time-sensitive, six-question poll.

Before completing the survey, we encourage you to read some or all of the most relevant documents (see links included in the email invitation) pertaining to the reorganization efforts. On June 10th, the Board of Trustees will be voting on the Chancellor's recommendation to close the College of Natural Resources and the Environment (CNRE) and the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (CNSM) and to establish the College of Natural Sciences (CONS).

All 1484 members of the Faculty are being asked to respond to this important survey. Your responses will be completely confidential, but this poll is not anonymous because we need to be able to send you a reminder email, if necessary. To fully protect confidentiality, your name will not be linked to your responses, and all responses will be analyzed only in aggregate. No individuals will be identifiable in any reports.

This short poll should take you approximately 3-5 minutes to complete. If you are interrupted while filling out the survey and need to terminate your browser session, you can click on the link again and resume where you left off.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ernest May, Secretary, Faculty Senate (secretary@senate.umass.edu). The deadline to complete this poll is noon on June 8, 2009.

Q1 On May 14th, the Faculty Senate voted narrowly to endorse the Chancellor's reorganization proposal that would eliminate the existing College of Natural Resources and the Environment and College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and create a new College of Natural Sciences - essentially combining the two former colleges. On June 10th, the Board of Trustees will vote on whether to implement this specific reorganization proposal.

Do you personally support or oppose this proposal to create a new College of Natural Sciences (CONS)?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Support strongly	92	15.3	16.5	16.5
	2 Support somewhat	154	25.6	27.7	44.2
	3 Neither support nor oppose	139	23.1	25.0	69.2
	4 Oppose somewhat	102	17.0	18.3	87.6
	5 Oppose strongly	69	11.5	12.4	100.0
	Total	556	92.5	100.0	
Missing	6 No basis for judgment	43	7.2		
	System	2	.3		
	Total	45	7.5		
Total		601	100.0		

Q2 In the next few years at UMass, there is a strong likelihood that serious budget cuts will necessitate funding reductions in academic programs.

Given this scenario, do you support or oppose the general idea of the University considering additional school/college reorganization as a cost-saving measure?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Support strongly	60	10.0	10.4	10.4
	2 Support somewhat	161	26.8	28.0	38.4
	3 Neither support nor oppose	108	18.0	18.8	57.1
	4 Oppose somewhat	112	18.6	19.4	76.6
	5 Oppose strongly	135	22.5	23.4	100.0
	Total	576	95.8	100.0	
Missing	6 No basis for judgment	22	3.7		
	System	3	.5		
	Total	25	4.2		
Total		601	100.0		

Q3 One proposal for additional college reorganization on campus is to create a new College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) with several divisions - combining the newly formed College of Natural Sciences (CONS), the existing College of Humanities and Fine Arts, and the existing College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Do you support or oppose this proposal to create a new College of Arts and Sciences?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Support strongly	66	11.0	11.7	11.7
	2 Support somewhat	106	17.6	18.8	30.5
	3 Neither support nor oppose	75	12.5	13.3	43.8
	4 Oppose somewhat	125	20.8	22.2	66.0
	5 Oppose strongly	192	31.9	34.0	100.0
	Total	564	93.8	100.0	
Missing	6 No basis for judgment	30	5.0		
	System	7	1.2		
	Total	37	6.2		
Total		601	100.0		

Q4 Another proposal for additional college reorganization on campus is to create a new College of Humanities, Arts and Social Science (CHASS) - combining the existing College of Humanities and Fine Arts with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Do you support or oppose this proposal to create a new College of Humanities, Arts and Social Science?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Support strongly	36	6.0	6.6	6.6
	2 Support somewhat	117	19.5	21.6	28.2
	3 Neither support nor oppose	116	19.3	21.4	49.6
	4 Oppose somewhat	104	17.3	19.2	68.8
	5 Oppose strongly	169	28.1	31.2	100.0
	Total	542	90.2	100.0	
Missing	6 No basis for judgment	49	8.2		
	System	10	1.7		
	Total	59	9.8		
Total		601	100.0		

Which of the following Schools or Colleges is your current academic home?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics	136	22.6	23.8	23.8
	2 College of Natural Resources and the Environment	75	12.5	13.1	37.0
	3 School of Education	24	4.0	4.2	41.2
	4 Isenberg School of Management	30	5.0	5.3	46.4
	5 College of Humanities and Fine Arts	131	21.8	22.9	69.4
	6 College of Social and Behavioral Sciences	110	18.3	19.3	88.6
	7 School of Public Health and Health Sciences	23	3.8	4.0	92.6
	8 School of Nursing	7	1.2	1.2	93.9
	9 College of Engineering	35	5.8	6.1	100.0
	Total	571	95.0	100.0	
Missing	System	30	5.0		
Total		601	100.0		