

RULES COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, November 19, 2004; 8:15 AM
UNIVERSITY CLUB

In attendance: Richard Bogartz (Chair), Ernie May (Senate Secretary), Julie Brigham-Grette, Seshu Desu, Brian O'Connor, Christine King, Arthur Kinney

Absent: Robert Wilson, Marilyn Billings

Guests: Joe Bartolomeo, Chair, University Advancement Council

- Minutes of the November 5, 2004 Rules Committee meeting were unanimously approved
- Review and Approval of December 2, 2004 Faculty Senate Agenda Items—Presentation by James Cahill, Director of Facilities and Campus Planning, to be followed by business and comments. Presentation by the Athletic Council will be highlighted.
- 2003-2004 Annual Report of the Athletic Council: There was a lot of discussion about the budget for the athletics. The fact that the state portion of the budget for athletics at UMass-Amherst seem to be higher than that of our peer institutions was pointed out. Does the inability of athletics to be self-sufficient prevent the required faculty renewal in the campus? It was decided that the Rules Committee would seek the help of Michael Ash, Member of the Program and Budget Committee, to produce a detailed report describing whether or not the athletics department is meeting the Chancellor's challenge of becoming self-sufficient. This report will also address questions such as: What steps have they taken so far? How are they improving? How are they going to meet the goals? What is the trade-off between the faculty renewals versus campus contribution to the athletics programs?
- Reviewed the 2003-2004 Annual Report of the University Writing Committee.
- The Rules Committee used its executive authority to approve a representative from the Center for Teaching to the Ad Hoc Committee on Online Learning.
- Joe Bartolomeo, Chair, University Advancement Council, updated the committee on the campus-based campaign planning process and the discussions the Advancement Council has with the Chancellor. Joe talked about the process by which the faculty can be involved in the capital campaign process. He was requesting Senate approval for the draft document that they have developed for the campus-based campaign planning process. The committee decided to put this item on the agenda for the December 2, 2004 Senate meeting.
- The list of Distinguished Faculty provided by the Provost was reviewed. The list seems to have some numerical errors in the percentages it shows. This will be communicated to the Provost's Office so that they can correct these percentages.
- Topics for the December 6, 2004 Rules Committee/Administration meeting were discussed.
- Faculty Senate Election Districts List was reviewed. Discussion was centered on why we have filled only 53 out of the 95 available slots and what should we do about increasing the faculty representation. It was decided that we might not be able to increase the representation by simply merging some of the districts. The problem may not be the structure but may be the lack of interest. We decided to look into this more carefully.

Meeting ended at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Seshu Desu on November 30, 2004.