

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST

FACULTY SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting September 5, 2008

Present: Maurianne Adams (chair), Marilyn Billings, Alex Deschamps, Ernest May, John McCarthy, Brian O'Connor, Ralph Whitehead, Robert Wilson and guest Roger Rideout.

Minutes: Minutes of August 4, 2008 were approved.

Faculty Agenda Items for Senate Meeting on September 18, 2008

- A. Address by Chancellor Robert C. Holub
- B. Special Report of the General Education Council re Linguistics 390C and 390D.
- C. Elections: Nomination of John McCarthy as Chair of the Rules Committee and nomination for one at-large member of the Rules Committee. Nominations will be taken.
- D. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Certificates (ACERT) to be received not adopted by members of the Faculty Senate. Typing changes must be done before report is presented.
- E. Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes will be taken off the agenda for this Faculty Senate Meeting.
- F. Intercampus Faculty Council Special Report: to be checked carefully for typing errors.
- G. Special Report of the Committee on Committees concerning Nominations to Faculty Senate Council and Committees presented in Sen. Doc. No. 08-030B.

Discussion Topics:

- A. (1) Increase in credit maximum from 18 to 19, College of Natural Resources and the Environment to be reviewed by the Academic Matters (AMC) and Undergraduate Education Councils; (2) Computer Science BA to be reviewed by the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities and Program and Budget Councils; (3) Revisions for the Computer Science BS to be reviewed by the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities and Program and Budget Councils; and (4) Minor in Computer Science needs revisions and clarity re faculty resources and is to be reviewed by the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities and Program and Budget Councils.
- B. Turn-it-in: Subcommittee to advise and recommend wording for requirements and clarity about options to be posted on the web site.
- C. UMA 250 Task Force meeting of August 14, 2008. Overview given by Andrew Effrat was an update of completed searches, failed searches, and ongoing searches. A total of 137 were anticipated for 2008-2009.
- D. UMA 250. Ongoing "soft dialogue" with the Administration to determine the Chancellor's position on the status of the 250 Plan and his influence of faculty allocations to Colleges and Departments.

Discussions continued with Roger Rideout on the lack of shared faculty governance in the planning of new buildings and other changes in the physical plant specifically around lack of communication and faculty involvement. Possible solutions involved considerations of a Joint Task Force and redistribution of authority. It was decided that Roger would attend the RC/Admin meeting scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2008.

Due to time constraints, items E (honorary degree process) and N (speaker for Senate meetings were postponed for the next meeting. The ACERT report will be sent to the relevant councils (AMC, Graduate, Outreach, Program and Budget).

Minutes submitted by Alexandrina Deschamps.