

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
RULES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
September 18, 2009**

1. **Minutes of the September 4, 2009 Rules Committee meeting were approved.**
2. **FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For October 15, 2009)**
  - A. **Address by James V. Staros, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Questions and Discussion to Follow)**

Add Announcements, then Questions section here to split the two speakers apart.

**Introduction of and Comments by Neal Abraham, Executive Director, Five Colleges, Inc. (Question and Discussion to Follow)**

- B. **Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. 10-003 with Motion No. 04-10.**
3. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
  - A. **Program Revision: Materials Engineering Certificate Program (Please indicate a lead Council.)**

Graduate Council (lead Council), and also send to Academic Matters Council and Program and Budget Council.

- B. **From Bryan Harvey – “Program Development.” Should this be put on the Senate’s web site?**

This needs more work such as defining “full campus governance review” before it goes up. Applications are due for 4<sup>th</sup> credit proposals on October 15. Discussion ensued about the time it takes to develop proposals and the support compensation that is available. Guidance such as this document, some sort of entrepreneurial initiative startup kit from the Administration, and procedural information from the Faculty Senate would be helpful since it is a complicated process. Each proposal has different needs and items that need to be addressed. What is the role of the Graduate School in the development of strong, new programs, facilitator between faculty and the administration, oversight role of UWW?

- C. **Commonwealth College – “Departmental Distinction”**

The Administration is interested in the “Departmental Distinction” concept.

There is a request for Commonwealth College to be renamed to Commonwealth Honors College coming out of the Enrollment Management Task Force. It is considered an Administrative Unit so Faculty Senate Office will forward to the Administration with our positive recommendation.

**D. Rules Committee/Administration meeting topics for Monday, September 28**

Topics could include:

- the administrative infrastructure that will be / has been put in place to address B above, discuss possible role of the Graduate School
- market research for admissions, possible new programs
- academic recruiting – we do none of that
- advancing the revenue enhancement campaign, creating a revenue initiative startup kit
- proposals for the Faculty Senate to work on
- facilitation / advocacy for General Education changes

Another topic that came up for discussion was the issue of needing to shorten the drop period by 1 week. Chair of Rules Committee John McCarthy will forward to Academic Matters Council for consideration.

**Submitted by,**

**Marilyn Billings**