

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THE FACULTY SENATE**

DATE: October 6, 2006

TO: John Lombardi, Chancellor
Charlena Seymour, Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost
John Dubach, Special Assistant to the Chancellor

FROM: Ernest May, Secretary

SUBJECT: Rules Committee/Administration Meeting Topics

The Rules Committee would like to discuss the following items with you on Wednesday, October 11, 2006 at 8:15 a.m. in the Hampshire House Conference Room #120.

GUESTS: Ann Cary, Andrew Effrat, Sharon Fross, Bryan Harvey, Sara McComb and David Murphy

1. What is the campus vision for undergraduate and graduate online teaching and learning?
2. Approved Outreach Fee and Revenue Sharing Model.

- 3.. Massachusetts Society of Professors' Petition (Received 178 signatures)

Rescue the 250 Plan

We believe that rebuilding the faculty must be a top priority for UMass Amherst. The university has many needs, but increasing the number of tenure-track faculty cannot be deferred. We are disappointed that the university's budget calls for adding only 16 faculty, in place of the 50 per year that had been proposed last year.

Chancellor Lombardi often says that rhetoric is fine, but an institution's budget demonstrates its true priorities. Chancellor Lombardi wrote that if the legislature provided at least 10 million dollars per year for three years, the university could hire 80 to 85 faculty per year, and meet the 250 plan goal in three years. (<http://www.umass.edu/budget/250/index7.html>)

This year, after paying the cost of all the raises on campus (including raises for administrators), the state appropriation is still \$6.4 million more than last year. That should permit the addition of 49 faculty, which would meet the 250 plan goal in five years. (This calculation uses the university's own budgeted amount of \$130,000 per new faculty hire, an amount that includes the cost of one new T.A. and additional staff support for each faculty hire.)

We urge the chancellor to re-examine the university budget and priorities, and to authorize a new addition of 50 faculty, rather than the 16 currently budgeted.

Finally, as Section 8(a)(iv) of the Constitution of the Amherst Faculty Senate allows, we also call for a General Faculty Meeting.