

**University of Massachusetts Amherst
Research Council of the Faculty Senate
Jane Kent-Braun, Acting Chair
2008-2009
Minutes
November 7, 2008**

PRESENT: J. Adams, A. Foulkes, C. Jacelon, J. Kent-Braun, M. Lowance, M. Maroney, D. Ostendorf, W. Patterson, S. Rich, M. Taunton, E. West, N. Khan, M. Malone, A. Mangels, B. McCandless, J. Schafer, L. Shea, C. Sprague, H. Woodcock

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

The Minutes of the October 3, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved.

Jane Kent-Braun introduced Cynthia Jacelon as the newest member of the Research Council.

A new Capital Assets Task Force was established by the Faculty Senate. Jane Kent-Braun will serve as the Research Council representative on that committee.

The Research Council Table of Assignments for 2008-2009 was distributed and members were encouraged to serve on as many task forces that they wished. Research Council Task Force updates were as follows:

- Principal Investigator Roles and Responsibilities – Jenny Adams informed the committee that this Task Force has met and is working to define some polices and responsibilities of the Principal Investigator, as well as putting some draft language together. Jenny will provide the Council with a draft document at the December meeting.
- Effort Reporting – Bruce McCandless noted that this Task Force has not yet formally met. When the Task Force convenes, they will be working on a system-level policy/guidance document that incorporates the best practices from a number of other institutions including Texas, Wisconsin and Minnesota.
- Curriculum Fee – David Ostendorf reported that this Task Force has not yet formally met yet however when they do, the Task Force will collect additional data related to the curriculum fee including a review of non-stipend costs, computation and collection, benefit cost surveys and feedback. All findings will then be reported back to the Research Council for discussion and determination of next steps.

Jane Kent-Braun reported that the Research Council received a request to review a new center proposal; *The Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies*, and the Council has forwarded this on to the Research Policy Committee for their review.

The Council then spent the remaining time preparing for their meeting with Chancellor Holub scheduled for November 20th at 11:00 a.m. in the Whitmore Board Room. The Council discussed format for the meeting, including a presentation by the Chair on the role of the

Research Council and a pan-campus update for the chancellor on the campus's research enterprise, including research accomplishments and monetary return on investment. The Council plans to ask the Chancellor to talk about his vision of research and engagement on this campus. The Chair will prepare an agenda to be shared and reviewed with the Council prior to the meeting. It was also agreed that any questions for the Chancellor be submitted in advance, through the Chair.

David Ostendorf provided a brief update on the Research Policy Committee and will have a report by this Committee for distribution at the next Research Council meeting. The policy related to non-UMass visiting scientists was discussed briefly, and with one minor revision is essentially ready.

Other Business:

- Hilary Woodcock requested a modification to the draft Policy: Safety and Training Protocols for Visiting Scientists to include "and Scholars". David Ostendorf will amend the document and the Research Council will act on it at the December meeting.
- Recently, Andy Mangels attended an emergency operations plan disaster simulation activity on campus. Andy suggested that the Research Committee might be interested in inviting Brian Olson from AEH&S to a meeting in the spring, to discuss emergency operations plans from a research standpoint. This suggestion was noted and an invitation to Brian will go out from the Chair to be a guest speaker at one of the spring Research Council meetings.
- Jay Schafer noted that Lynnette Leidy Sievert is serving as the RC liaison to the Research Library Council.
- Nigar Khan of the Graduate School requested the Research Council's feedback on two items concerning graduate students. Her request will be honored at the December meeting of the Research Council.
- Jenny Adams indicated a correction to her phone number: 5-0644.

The Research Council adjourned at 10:15 a.m.