

**University of Massachusetts Amherst
Research Council of the Faculty Senate
William Patterson, Chair
2007-2008
Minutes
April 4, 2008**

PRESENT: J. Adams, C. Clifton, J. Kent-Braun, M. Lowance, M. Maroney, J. Miller, D. Ostendorf, W. Patterson, L. Sievert, N. Khan, M. Malone, A. Mangels, B. McCandless, J. Schafer, L. Shea, H. Woodcock, J. Donais

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

The Minutes of the March 7, 2008 meeting were amended to change page 2, paragraph 5, last sentence to read: “The e-protocol for human subjects *and animal use* is just about ready to go.....” The Minutes were then approved unanimously as amended.

Mike Malone, representing Provost Seymour, stated that the Provost was looking forward to receiving from the Research Council a memorandum on the Research Commons.

Bruce McCandless representing VPR Kostecki announced that the annual Research Recognition Dinner will take place on Wednesday, May 14. Research Council members will receive a formal invitation shortly.

Andy Mangels, Administration and Finance, reported that the University has submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to the federal government. The feds will audit within the next few months. Audits will include space allocations. Also, A&F is looking at a new on-line travel system. This will allow travel expenses to be more efficiently processed.

Nigar Khan, representing the Graduate Dean, reported that the 100th Graduate School Anniversary dinner will be April 9. Invitations were passed out to Research Council members. A day-long colloquia will precede the dinner.

Linda Shea, Chair of the Graduate Council, reported that their Travel Grant Subcommittee had gone to awarding graduate student travel grants on a rolling basis. Also, the Graduate Fellowship Committee has made awards for the next academic year, and the Graduate Dean has increased the award dollars for incoming students. The Graduate Council was also reviewing Graduate Faculty membership status. Currently there is no accountability for continuing status.

Jen Donais, OGCA, announced that awards accepted are up 19% from this time last fiscal year and the dollar amounts are up about 8%. The University is approaching the \$100M mark three-quarters into the current fiscal year...quite a milestone. OGCA has finished pre-award training and is now working on post-award training. Also, OGCA has made an offer which has been accepted for the position of Proposal Development Administrator.

Hilary Woodcock, Compliance Coordinator, noted that as the number of grants has increased so has the number of grants requiring review for all federal compliance regulations. She also

announced that Animal Rights Activism Week is coming up in April, and although most activity should be in the eastern part of the State, the campus should be made aware for security reasons. She noted that the Research Policy Committee's draft policy protecting researchers and research for this campus was right on the money and looks forward to the final version. Vice Provost Kostecki will be the responsible administrator in dealing with requests for information.

Jay Schafer, Library Director, reported that the recent Digital Quadrangle series entitled "The Googlization of Everything" was very successful. The Research Library Council of the Faculty Senate is discussing the NIH change in policy regarding posting articles generated with the support of NIH funding. A special group will be formed for more discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

The Trustee Policy on Responsible Conduct of Research and Scholarly Activities is in limbo. The University has its own policy which will remain in effect.

Josh Kroner and Sue Pearson will be invited to the Research Policy Committee on April 11 to discuss and provide data on the Curriculum Fee.

The Research Policy Committee will review possible questions to be asked when meeting with Chancellor candidates. Mike Malone encouraged attendance at all Chancellor interviews.

Bill Patterson emailed to Council members comments received regarding the Research Commons. He will incorporate these into a final product to be sent to the Provost. Malone requested that suggestions be prioritized.

NEW BUSINESS

The Research Council has received from the Faculty Senate a proposal for the W.E.B. Du Bois Center. The Research Council will develop a response. Jay Schafer gave some background on the Center. UMass Amherst is the largest depository in the world for the writings of W.E.B. Du Bois. The Center will be an umbrella organization of the Library which will promote his legacy and work to include scholarship, social justice and civil rights on campus. The Center will also work to digitize his papers and raise money to bring scholars, post-docs and students to campus to utilize Du Bois' papers.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.