

**University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Research Council of the Faculty Senate  
Paul Utgoff, Chair  
2006-2007  
Minutes  
October 13, 2006**

**PRESENT:** I. Agha, C. Clifton, K. Danai, A. Foulkes, D. Ostendorf, W. Patterson, S. Scarpati, J. Swinney, M. Taunton, P. Utgoff, A. Mangels, T. Butterfield, E. Glogowski, P. Kostecki, M. Malone, E. May, B. McCandless, K. Melnattur, N. Khan, J. Schafer, J. Donais

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

The minutes of the September 15, 2006 were approved with the following slight amendment: fourth paragraph, third sentence should read “The figures are lower than originally stated because of additional dollars being appropriated for new facilities, maintenance, etc.”

Dean Michael Malone, representing the Provost, asked that her meeting with the Council to discuss, among other things, faculty mentoring, be rescheduled to December 8. That date will be confirmed at a later time.

Vice Provost for Research Paul Kostecki announced that the Genomics Facility has been reorganized with Steve Rich from Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences in the lead. The Environmental Institute external review is nearly complete and he should have a draft of the report within the month. There is a new web-based Annual Faculty Report (AFR) that enables filling out the form through interactive web pages. CVIP search for the two new positions of Licensing Associate is ongoing and the search will now be extended to off-campus applicants. A committee will be created to identify specific on-going campus related issues as well as approaches utilized at other universities regarding sensitive/restricted research.

Andy Mangels updated the Council on meetings convened by a group of administrators to discuss more effective ways to process human resource, procurement and accounting procedures.

Associate Graduate Dean Nigar Khan, bringing information requested at an earlier Council meeting, stated that the number of RAs has decreased by 40 from the previous year and that, while she didn't have exact figures, post-docs were increasing. Also, the Graduate School is putting together a program to show-off Fulbright faculty and students. This would be an annual dinner and the first event would take place this November.

Tony Butterfield, representing the Graduate Council, reported that they were in the process of figuring out the best way to implement ethics training as mandated by NSF. The GC is also looking at the academic honest policy—currently course based—to determine if other issues should be included.

Representing OGCA, Jen Donais stated that the September 07 figures are running slightly behind last year's numbers but that several large awards are expected so those figures should easily recover. The FY06 Annual Report is almost done and should be available shortly. OGCA is also making progress on hiring two new pre-award administrator positions.

Bruce McCandless updated the RC on recent compliance issues. The Health and Human Service Office of Lab Animal Welfare has granted UMass Amherst its 4-year assurance for use of animals.

Krishna Melnattur of the Graduate Student Senate relayed a request by GEO that the RC support its request to reduce curriculum and health fees. Mr. Melnattur will forward a draft of the request for RC review and discussion.

Jay Schafer, Director of Libraries, distributed information on a pilot project entitled ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. This is a digital repository for the research and scholarly output of members of the UMass Amherst community who may browse research and scholarship by journals and peer-reviewed series, personal researcher pages, research unit/center/department or dissertation.

Bill Patterson, Chair of the RC Research Policy Committee, reported that the committee had met to discuss web-based AFRs. Most of the discussion focused on curriculum fee effects. There was discussion of priorities for the coming year. The committee will also be reviewing existing policies that relate to research on campus.

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.