

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

**MINUTES: Presiding Officer Frank Hugus called the 580<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on Thursday, September 21, 2000 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall 227.**

**A. ADDRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE ELLEN STORY  
(QUESTIONS TO FOLLOW)**

*Representative Ellen Story* began her address by talking about the University budget submitted by the governor. She mentioned that much of the success in improving the budget stems from the fact that legislators believe the University is committed to "a good, solid, undergraduate education." She would like to see that principle used to keep alive programs that cater to students who have learning barriers, such as the English as a Second Language program.

Representative Story then called attention to an initiative by the Board of Higher Education approving \$400 million over the next five years to finance buildings and building repairs in state public college/university system. She noted that this campus has over \$400 million worth of deferred maintenance on its own.

**QUESTIONS**

*Senator Arthur Kinney* asked what percentage of the House are UMass alumni.

*Representative Story* answered that there were 30 out of 2000 members.

*Tom Taaffe, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate* voiced his concern over the ESL and Writing programs being cut.

*Senator Joseph Donahue* noted that the new Computer Science buildings was one of the only buildings on campus with no deferred maintenance. He wondered how to gain enough force to improve the rest of the campus.

*Representative Story* answered that people need to make their concerns known. "The more people talk--make noise--that's what you have to do."

*Senator Gordon Wyse* asked what the legislature thinks about Distance Education.

*Representative Story* answered that they support it in moderation. She stated Distance Education is going to happen, but they understand that people will not want to send their children to a place without physical instructors.

**B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1. Principal Administrative Officers**

*Chancellor David K. Scott* thanked all involved in contributing to a smooth University opening this year, and mentioned that the University was ranked in the top 50 among colleges and universities in the category "Quality and Excellence in Education Relative to Cost" by the US News and World Report.

He then spoke of the Campus Violence Prevention Initiative, a group of volunteers dedicated to heightening awareness and understanding of violence on campus.

Chancellor Scott devoted the rest of his announcement period to discussion of this year's budget. He went into great detail about increases to the Operating Budget made possible by a 5.2% increase from the state, and a system of reallocation. (As reported in Campus Chronicle stories of September 29 and October 6, 2000.)

Chancellor Scott continued by describing both the University's discretionary and mandatory expenditures. He noted that the campus had been pressing the issue of deferred maintenance for the past three years, and finally the Board of Trustees and the Board of Higher Ed. are advocating for this.

Chancellor Scott concluded by stating that the campus was left with a \$3 million deficit in the budget after fulfilling all of its commitments. The deficit will have to be fixed over the next year or two using the longer-range Strategic Intent planning process for the institution.

**Provost Cora Marrett** announced that UMass received a Hesburgh Certificate of Excellence this year, and is listed in a recent issue of the US News and World Report.

She then noted that The Board of Higher Education has granted \$1.7 million for curricular development centered on Information Technology. There will be a workshop October 13, 2000 to discuss and plan this curriculum. Course proposals will be accepted following the workshop.

Provost Marrett described a number of personnel changes that occurred over the past year. "There were 30 new hires--19 men, 11 women. Of that number, 11 were from under-represented minority groups. 26 people received tenure--14 men, 12 women, four from underrepresented groups. There were 18 promotions to full professor--13 men, 5 women. There were 29 retirements, bringing the total faculty count to 1,091."

In closing, she added that the undergraduate catalog is now online and can be found under "Academics" on the UMass site.

**Vice Chancellor Paul Page** noted that the University has expended approximately \$12 million from a variety of sources on a number of projects around campus.

He added that there was a shortage of PVTA bus drivers this year, and that the Old Chapel is still awaiting new parts for the clock.

Vice Chancellor Page then announced that Jim Van Voorst had been named the new Controller, and Ted Widener had been named Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities and Campus Services.

**Vice Chancellor Javier Cevallos** thanked all departments involved in what he called "the smoothest opening we've seen in awhile." He then went on to report that there was a planned decrease of about 330 students in the entering class resulting in 3,730 new students, 17% of whom are ALANA students, and 1200 transfer students. Undergraduate enrollment totals 18,200 while graduate enrollment is at 5,360.

Vice Chancellor Cevallos noted that a video camera has been installed in the "pyramid area" in Southwest. The plan is to eventually install more exterior cameras around Southwest during the semester, and possibly a few cameras will be installed in lobbies as well.

**Vice Chancellor Royster Hedgepeth** updated the Senate on the progress of Campaign UMass, stating that it has brought in \$109 million so far, and "is on target and on track to reach our financial goal...a year ahead of time." He also mentioned that UMass received \$10 million in state matching funds to be used for endowed chairs. These funds covered 15 academic positions across the five campuses, of which the Amherst campus got six of the 15.

## 2. Secretary of the Faculty Senate

**Secretary Ernest May** began his comments by commending outgoing Secretary Joseph Larson on "an absolutely terrific job in reviving the effectiveness of 'academic primary responsibility' and 'shared governance' on this campus." He also listed as one of Secretary Larson's accomplishments the initiation of the Senate website, which provides easy access to the ongoing work of the Senate.

Secretary May closed by urging faculty to become active in the Senate's various councils and committees. He stressed the importance of getting involved in such issues as system degrees, distance learning, academic primary responsibility, and shared governance, all of which are "critical to the future of the faculty and the institution."

**3. The Chair of the Rules Committee**

*Rules Committee Chair Joseph Larson* brought attention to the fiscal and physical status of the Amherst campus, pointing out that over 250 faculty positions remain vacant, and faculty will continue to decline over the next several years while money is being spent on deferred maintenance. He then endorsed Rep. Story's remarks, agreeing that the faculty needed to "continue to press on until these trends are halted and reversed."

Chairman Larson then announced two challenges that the faculty would be facing this year--the Intercampus Marine Science Program and the Distance Education proposal. He expressed concern at the fact that these two programs would grant UMass system degrees that would not be subject to the policies, shared governance, or quality control that this campus has built an international reputation on.

**4. The Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees**

*Faculty Delegate Brian O'Connor* shared a few highlights of Trustee meetings over the summer. These included the Marine Sciences School, PMYR (Periodic Multi-Year Review), AQAD (Academic Quality Assessment and Development, and Distance Education, an endeavor which will require a \$10-15 million investment from the University's cash reserves.

At a meeting of the committee on Academic and Student Affairs and Athletics Provost Marrett was present as a panelist talking about new directions in academic programming.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Whole, Professor Paul Kostecki gave a presentation on the Kuwait initiative in which he discussed petroleum cleanup in Kuwait.

The new chair of the Board, Grace Fey, was introduced, and Faculty Delegate O'Connor had a chance to speak with her about governance procedures and the hard work involved in achieving and maintaining the reputation UMass has for its degrees.

**5. The President of the Graduate Student Senate**

*Tom Taaffe, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate* expressed his concerns about Distance learning. He noted that "half the faculty are about to retire in the next few years, and the University is rushing headlong into a distance learning project, up against corporate competitors, and academic collaborations, and academic giants collaborating together, to enter the distance learning market at the same time."

Vice President Taaffe then announced that the G.S.S. would be holding an open hearing on academic budget cuts, and the direction the university is taking on Sept. 27. He closed by asking for the Senate's help in addressing the issue of the exclusion of students from the University.

**6. The President of the Student Government Association**

*Seth Avakian, Student Trustee* began by addressing academic problems brought to his attention, such as language barriers between teachers and students, and limited space in undergraduate courses. He then moved on to discuss administrative issues with Trustee document T73-098, the Wellman Document. Before he concluded, Student Trustee Avakian sought faculty support on this issue, and assured the faculty that he would keep them informed of developments regarding the issue in the future.

**7. The President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors**

*Jane Giacobbe-Miller, President* expressed concern over the lack of Faculty Senate representation on the Distance Education transition advisory board appointed by President Bulger. She urged all faculty to attend the Distance Ed. forum and address the faculty governance oversight.

Next, President Giacobbe-Miller announced that she has made dental insurance reform a primary goal for this year. She asked for any information the faculty had on insurance providers in the state of Massachusetts.

**C. QUESTION PERIOD**

*Senator Robert Wilson* mentioned that there were different dental plans stemming from the same insurer. He was wondering if this was true of the insurance provided to the UMass faculty.

*President Giacobbe-Miller* responded that as part of her fact-finding mission she would talk to some area dentists and find out which plans they take.

*Senator Brian O'Connor* asked if the number of students on campus increases every year. He mentioned that there are approximately 4000 students per graduating class, and 1000 faculty, resulting in an unfavorable ratio between the two.

*Vice Chancellor Cevallos* explained that the administration is trying to limit the number of incoming students and try to maintain a target of 3700 students per entering class.

**D. ELECTIONS**

**1. Two At-Large Rules Committee Members**

Nominees:

**Bob Wilson--HRTA  
Roland Chilton--Sociology**

**2. Rules Committee Chair**

**The floor was opened for further nominations and Senator Jerome Mileur was nominated.**

**Jerome Mileur and Roland Chilton were elected to the Rules Committee by a very close vote, and Senator Mileur was then elected Chair of the Rules Committee with no objections.**

**E ANNUAL REPORTS (10 min.)**

- 1. Annual Report of the Program and Budget Council, AY 1999-2000, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-001.**

**This report was received by the Faculty Senate.**

- 2. Annual Report of the Status of Minorities Council, AY 1999-2000, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-002.**

**This report was received by the Faculty Senate.**

**F. NEW COURSES**

**MOVED:  
01-01** That the Faculty Senate approve the courses EDUC 781, PUB P&A 608, 622, 630 and 631, as recommended by the Graduate Council.

**This motion was seconded and passed.**

**G. BYLAW CHANGES First Reading**

**Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes, as presented In Sen. Doc. No. 01-003 with Motion No. 02-01.**

**MOVED: 02-01 That the Faculty Senate delete Sections 11 and 12 from Chapter 6 of the Bylaws, as recommended by the Rules Committee in Sen. Doc. No. 01-003.**

**(Inasmuch as this is a change to the Senate Bylaws, this is the first of three readings of this motion. It will be read again at the 581st Senate meeting and voted on at the 582nd meeting. The motion may be debated and amended at all three meetings.)**

**There were no questions or discussions about the Bylaw change at the first reading.**

**The 580<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 5:35 p.m. September 21, 2000.**

**Respectfully submitted by Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate.**

**The Proceedings of this meeting are available on audiotape at the Faculty Senate Office dated September 21, 2000.**