

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST  
OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

**MINUTES:** Presiding Officer Frank Hugus called the 591<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on April 26, 2001 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall 227.

**A. PRESENTATION BY CRAIG MOORE, CHAIR, PROGRAM AND BUDGET COUNCIL  
"THE AMHERST CAMPUS BUDGET – FACING THE FISCAL CRISIS"**

The full report can be viewed from the Faculty Senate Website at:  
[http://www.umass.edu/senate/p&b\\_report.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/senate/p&b_report.pdf)

**QUESTIONS:**

*Senator Richard Bogartz* mentioned that he doesn't understand how the necessity for discussion and for collaborative thought regarding the budget will be addressed. He noted that most of the work gets done in councils and committees, then asked, "Who's going to carry on this discourse, this conversation? Where's it going to happen? How's it going to start?"

*Senator Moore* thought it would be helpful to start to have open forums for discussion of particular issues that are reflective of the budget or reflective of larger campus issues. He discussed the possibility of having separate meeting sessions devoted to debate and discussion and reporting the reaction of those meetings back to the administration in Boston.

*Senator Roland Chilton* noted that he was impressed with the Program and Budget Council's report, and then raised a few questions about it: "Are we really making a college education accessible for students who otherwise would not have the opportunity to get one?" and "Are the best interests of students being served when a large student body is being served by a shrinking faculty with fewer courses, fewer sections of popular courses, a shrinking of majors, and less access to faculty?" He then agreed with Senators Moore and Bogartz when he suggested that these types of questions should be discussed and debated publicly, and should be fostered by an administrative style which recognizes the importance of a faculty voice and the importance of collaborative approaches where faculty take a position either through the Faculty Senate or general faculty meetings.

*Senator Moore* responded that he hopes the report is useful in *identifying* the agenda for faculty discussion. He explained that this report is a first step in trying to understand the budget's process and numbers.

*Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate* observed that the percentage of the campus budget which comes from the state has actually increased from 1994 to 2000. He then asked what that increase could be attributed to, since more money has been raised on the outside now than before.

*Senator Moore* replied that much of the money that's raised outside is earmarked and can't be used for general purposes. It's brought in for specific purposes and is not generally available.

*Senator Brian O'Connor* mentioned that at the Committee on Administration, Finance, and Audit that morning, Vice President Lenhardt said that the University has three major choices that they've been looking at in terms of finances: 'A' was a decrease in nonfixed costs; 'B' was to pursue new revenue sources; and 'C' was to reassess activities, program and mission. Senator O'Connor noted that for the last several months the trustees have been pursuing new revenue sources, but soon they may begin pursuing the other two options, and faculty should be involved in this type of decision.

**MOVED:** That the Faculty Senate charge the Program and Budget Council to continue the  
**34-01** analytical and deliberative process begun in this presentation on the campus budget and to bring additional reports and/or motions to the Faculty Senate during the Fall 2001 semester.

This motion was seconded and adopted.

**MOVED:** That the Faculty Senate request that the Program and Budget Council design a  
**35-01** procedure that would assure involvement of the Faculty Senate at those points in the budget process where Senate advice would be most useful and most effective.

This motion was seconded and adopted.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Special Report of the Health Council concerning Establishment of a Prevention of Alcohol Abuse Task Force (PAATF), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-034 with Motion No. 36-01.**

**MOVED: 36-01 That the Faculty Senate approve the Establishment of a Prevention of Alcohol Abuse Task Force (PAATF), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-034.**

**This motion was seconded and adopted.**

2. **Special Report of the General Education Council concerning The Review of General Education, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-035 with Motion Nos. 37-01, 38-01 and 39-01. (*This report was for discussion only. Any vote on the motions will take place at the May 10, 2001 Faculty Senate meeting.*)**

**MOVED: 37-01 That the Faculty Senate urge the deans of the Schools and Colleges to provide faculty resources dedicated to ensuring that General Education is explained and championed in advising during the New Students Program and other advising periods.**

**MOVED: 38-01 That the Faculty Senate urge the Provost to promote the importance of the General Education program, and to visibly encourage excellence in teaching in General Education courses.**

**MOVED: 39-01 That the Faculty Senate amend Sen. Doc. No. 85-024 to require all students, effective with the freshman class and transfers entering Fall 2002, to complete one of their two Social & Cultural Diversity requirements with a course that focuses on diversity in the United States, and the other with a course that focuses on diversity outside the United States.**

3. **Special Report of the Space and Calendar Committee concerning the 2004-2005 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-036 with Motion No. 40-01.**

**MOVED: 40-01 That the Faculty Senate adopt the 2004-2005 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-036.**

**This motion was seconded and adopted.**

4. **Special Report of the Foreign and International Studies Council concerning An Agreement of Academic Exchange between the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and the College of Engineering, The University of Massachusetts, Amherst and the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering Science, Osaka University, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-037 with Motion No. 41-01.**

**MOVED: 41-01 That the Faculty Senate extend, until August 31, 2004, the previously approved Agreement of Academic Exchange between the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and the College of Engineering, The University of Massachusetts, Amherst and the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering Science, Osaka University, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-037.**

**This motion was seconded but failed on a voice vote due to the inactivity of the program.**

5. **Special Report of the Foreign and International Studies Council concerning An Agreement regarding the Exchange of Students between the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, The United States of America and the University of Tsukuba, Japan, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-038 with Motion No. 42-01.**

**MOVED: 42-01 That the Faculty Senate extend, until August 31, 2006, the previously approved Agreement regarding the Exchange of Students between the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, The United States of America and the University of Tsukuba, Japan, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-038.**

**This motion was seconded and adopted.**

6. **Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning The Search for a Permanent Chancellor, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-039 with Motion No. 43-01.**

**MOVED: 43-01 That the Faculty Senate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst urge the President of the University to act expeditiously in the appointment of a search committee to select a permanent Chancellor for the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-039.**

**This motion was seconded and adopted.**

**C. ANNOUNCEMENTS (10- Minute Limit Per Speaker)**

1. **Principal Administrative Officers**

*Provost Cora Marrett* announced the conclusion of the Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series and expressed profound appreciation to the people who made it possible: Professor Ralph Faulkingham, Vice Chancellor Cevallos, and the four lecturers James Boyce, Sonia Nieto, Jose Mestre, and John Mullin. Her second announcement was that Neil Tyson, director of the Hayden Planetarium, would be giving a talk entitled "Adventures of an Urban Astrophysicist" Monday, April 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the Massachusetts Room of the Mullins Center.

*Vice Chancellor Javier Cevallos* mentioned that the format for open house has changed from a number of small open houses to one large one. It will be held in the Mullins Center as a one day event in October.

2. **The Secretary of the Faculty Senate**

*Secretary May:* The last two meetings of the Senate are coming up on May 10<sup>th</sup>, and May 17<sup>th</sup>. The agendas are quite full. On May 10<sup>th</sup> we'll include a presentation by Jim Cahill and Steve Goodwin, the Chair of the Campus Physical Planning Committee, on the upcoming physical improvement projects, some of which you can already see under construction. Jim will give a presentation with slides. There will be a special meeting of the Senate on May 17<sup>th</sup> to receive the report from the Academic Priorities Council regarding the proposal to terminate the Consumer Studies Program.

The Intercampus Faculty Council is meeting next week after the Trustees Meeting. We will be hearing from Vice President Julian regarding transitions in Campus Leadership; Vice President Lenhardt regarding the indicators which are reviewed annually by the trustees--the performance indicators, rough indicators of the performance of each campus, and the financial indicators which indicate the financial performance of each campus and also the system as a whole. We will then hear from Vice President Botman regarding various academic issues. The Law School matter certainly is something that is of concern to the system. There has been a suggestion from one senator that an outside review committee investigate the question of the Law School Proposal.

There's some news from the Committees and Councils. AMC is still hearing from Dean Slakey regarding Commonwealth College. The implementation of the Faculty Senate Document which established Commonwealth College a couple of years ago has very ambitious aspects. Just as the Gen Ed Council is finding it difficult to implement improvements in times of budget restrictions, Commonwealth College is facing a little bit of the same issue even though they have additional funding. For example, if we implement the culminating project requirement, that is that all the Commonwealth College graduates would have to write a thesis, or the equivalent of a thesis, that's about 600 per year. That means every other faculty member on this campus would be supervising such a project. That's the kind of capacity issue that needs to be figured in. But the Senate Document does talk about doing that. APC, of course, is discussing Consumer Studies and the possibility of updating its procedures. Every time we go through this, we find that our procedures were constructed to fight the last war. And so, I think, just as important as the consideration of this particular case, will be the consideration of the procedures that we're using. The Status of Women's Council has decided to probably submit a report on the Consumer Studies Issue. The Faculty Senate's University Computer and Electronic Communications Committee is discussing "technology across the campus" and will probably be coming forward with a motion regarding that at the next meeting; it is also considering the laptop requirement. Framingham State, of course, has adopted that. Another item that's come out of the Provost's Office in the technology area: apparently, the University of California at Berkeley has developed a program for detecting plagiarism. This is very good, because as long as work is submitted in electronic form, in a very short bit of time, faculty can have the student work checked against an incredible number of sources for possibility of plagiarism. The Outreach Council is considering the issue of the replacement of retiring Vice Chancellor Robert Helgesen. The Committee on Committees is seeking nominees for next fall so it can hit the ground running. The Rules Committee is trying to make sense of all the changes going on in the University and the state of affairs that the campus is in. I was recently out on an accreditation visit at the University of Washington. Believe it or not, there is an institution in the country that's probably facing a worse crisis than we are. In the past, I reported

about some states where they're undergoing budget increases--Maryland, Nebraska, and perhaps one or two others. But in Washington, they're actually going to have a budget decrease. This is mandated by voter initiatives that limit state expenditures and also state taxation. And so all Washington state agencies have to go through this. They do have a structured process though. On their website, which is obviously public, it's a pretty open process, we might want to use that as a template to think about for discussing and informing and then actually doing things that need to be done.

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

*Faculty Delegate Brian O'Connor* announced that there was a lot of discussion about fee increases at the meeting of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Audit. He noted that there hasn't been an increase in 5 or 6 years and that practice would probably have to change soon.

**4. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors**

*President Jane Giacobbe-Miller* announced that the MSP would be contacting all faculty over the next couple of days to urge them to attend undergraduate commencement exercises. She stated that it is a requirement that faculty attend the commencement exercises as part of a long-standing provision in the faculty contract with the administration.

**The 591st Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:50 p.m. April 26, 2001.**

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

**The proceedings of this meeting are available on audio tape at the Faculty Senate Office dated April 26, 2001.**