

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

MINUTES: Presiding Officer Jerome Mileur called the 619th meeting of the Faculty Senate to order May 8, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall 227.

A. ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR JOHN V. LOMBARDI

For the full text of Chancellor Lombardi's address please visit our website at:
http://www.umass.edu/senate/minutes02_03.html

Dave Falvey, a UMass student asked if any particular athletic teams have been targeted as a way of handling impending budget cuts. He stated that he has heard rumors on campus about the elimination of specific teams.

Chancellor Lombardi answered that he doesn't know how athletics will be affected yet. He stated that the size of the cut to the overall budget will dictate how much money will be removed from the Athletic Program. If the University is faced with a choice between sustaining an athletic team and maintaining an academic department, academics will be chosen since it is part of the core business of the University.

A UMass student stated that cuts made to the Athletic Department last year occurred with little communication between the Athletic Director and coaches and athletes. He asked if something could be done to avoid that problem this year.

Chancellor Lombardi stated that the goal is for everybody in the University to have the same information regarding the budget cuts. He stated that as new information is received it will be distributed it to everybody.

Faculty Senate Secretary Ernest May asked Chancellor Lombardi to comment on the role of different levels of administration at UMass.

Chancellor Lombardi stated that there are two different "conversations" going on in dealing with the budget process. He stated that there is an administrative conversation in which administrators are working with information they have and trying to provide enough information to work with. The other conversation involves advisory committees. Their purpose is to reach into constituencies that may not be captured in the normal process of governance that goes on in the University: undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, alumni, the Foundation Board. The goal of these conversations is to provide information to everybody who has an interest and stake in this institution and to make sure that there's a mechanism for them to speak back.

Senator Roland Chilton asked if the University should record this crisis as an educational opportunity to convince parents, students and alumni of the damage that this type of politics does and to help them understand the link between taxes and services.

Chancellor Lombardi stated that the administration has been so explicit in this process as a way of making outside constituencies a part of this larger conversation. They have been using various communication devices that reach parents, alumni and friends to talk about these issues. He then stated that it's important to understand that the University will survive and be first-rate. The only question is what exactly we will look like as we prevail.

Dave Falvey stated that numerous students on campus have said that professors have told them in classes that 6-8 teams could be cut, and that the Athletic Program might be reduced to the NCAA minimum of 14 teams. He asked where this type of specific information was coming from when the information at this meeting has been so broad.

Chancellor Lombardi stated that nobody knows how much athletics will be cut any more than they know how much other parts of the institution will be cut because nobody knows how big the budget problem is yet.

Senator Janice Irvine asked Chancellor Lombardi to talk about the cancellation of the bond and the implications of that for this campus. She then asked him to speak about the growing political pressure between the Governor's Office and President Bulger's Office.

Chancellor Lombardi: The Governor's staff sent a letter to the University saying they would not approve the bond proposal sent forward by the University that had been reviewed and approved by the previous administration. They made the following argument: that the basis on which this capital plan had been forwarded had now changed because of the impending cuts that were part of House One. In the light of those impending cuts in House One, did the university system really know that it could carry the debt service if its income from state funding seriously reduced by the \$79 million that was proposed in House One? That was the ostensible reason for pulling these bonds and sending them back. The residence hall issue in Boston is complicated by the fact that it's not really a bond that has to be carried by the institution. It is a bond paid for by the students who live in the residence halls. It doesn't produce a drain on the resources of the institution, but rather this issue refers to some confusion and unhappiness in Boston about these residence halls, the details of which I don't understand because I don't live there. The Trustees and the President have decided to re-forward the bond proposal in two pieces to the Governor, the first piece being the bonds associated with academic facilities. At the same time, they'll forward the bond for the dorms in Boston. We think the bonds for these kinds of core academic facilities will go forward. We are not changing anything in our scenarios because we believe those are essential to our strategy of being first-rate and successful in the future.

The tension between the Governor and the UMass system is clearly politics. You've been here longer than me, so who am I to explain to you what's going on in Boston? On the other hand, as an outsider, this is an extraordinary event. We have this tug-of-war, the content of which does not appear to be fundamentally substantive in every way, although there are some substantive issues involved. The level of the conversation appears to be remarkably personal for such a structural issue that we are all faced with in this Commonwealth.

Student Government Association President David Carr asked Chancellor Lombardi what he expects of students to help keep morale up and what he intends to do in that effort.

Chancellor Lombardi stated that the most important thing for students to do is to be engaged in the conversation and the process themselves. Fear is produced by lack of knowledge. The University will make every possible adjustment to buffer students, faculty and staff who are caught in some kind of problem if a budget reduction or change occurs in their department.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Vice Chancellor Jo-Anne Vanin spoke about what has been described as riotous behavior that occurred over the past weekend at Hobart Lane, Puffton Village and North Village. She stated that the University is reviewing all the information available from the Amherst Police Department on the 54 arrests, 34 of which are active UMass students. Students will be held accountable as is appropriate under the terms of the Code of Student Conduct. She then put the activity in proportion for the Senate stating that the campus-sponsored activities in all of the residential areas during that same period of time went off well with no problems due to the work of students in leadership roles in working with UMass police and housing staff.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Secretary Ernest May stated that the Senate is committed to assuring that the academic units, faculty, staff and students are treated with appropriate respect in the course of the budget cuts and what appears to be an unbelievable situation for our campus.

3. The Chair of the Rules Committee

Rules Committee Chair Roland Chilton stated that the Rules Committee was denied access to and use of the all-faculty email list maintained by the Provost's Office when they requested that an email be sent to faculty notifying them of the rally in Boston that took place April 29th.

4. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

Faculty Delegate Brian O'Connor reported on Board of Trustee meetings on May 6th and 7th on the UMass Dartmouth campus. He stated that he had a chance to speak with President Bulger about his current relationship with the Governor. Dan Georgianna, President of the UMass Dartmouth Faculty Union gave a speech praising President Bulger and the Board of Trustees for their efforts in fighting the reorganization plan proposed by Governor Romney, and an AFSCME representative spoke about morale problems on the Dartmouth campus.

There is one new endowed chair at the medical school and three on the Amherst campus: one in the School of Management, one in Commonwealth College, and one in Psychology. Fergus Clydesdale of the Food Science Department has been named Distinguished Professor. 100% of the trustees have donated over \$60,000 to the University and the development goal of \$85.5 million has been exceeded with one more quarter left in the year. The Board approved new parking regulations on the Amherst Campus.

Faculty Delegate O'Connor then presented the Senate with a series of slides from the Committee of the Whole meeting.

5. The President of the Graduate Student Senate

GSS President Jennifer Martin stated that there has been massive underfunding in departments making it difficult for graduate students to find assistantships inside and outside of their departments. She stated that teaching needs will go up with the projected increase in students and retirement of faculty, and there will be a great need for graduate students and assistantships. She asked that faculty bring this problem up in their departments. She then asked for support in trying to keep student health care costs affordable.

6. The President of the Student Government Association

Representative Brian Long stated that there has been a lot of speculation about the weekend activities at Hobart Lane, and that the SGA is not jumping to conclusions regarding that activity. The SGA will be in contact with students involved and administrators to discuss and find resolutions. He then stated that student interests should be kept at top priority as budget cuts occur, and that the SGA passed a motion about students not being involved in the UMass mascot research process.

7. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors

Representative Jenny Spencer announced that there would be an MSP meeting held by the Union's Retrenchment Committee May 15th to discuss what's happening, field rumors, look at the MSP contract and talk about alternatives to laying off faculty and librarians.

C. QUESTION PERIOD

A student asked if students receive Code of Student Conduct violations when they are charged with a crime or when they are convicted.

Vice Chancellor Vanin stated that the administration will use the information provided to them by the police to determine whether or not violations to the Code exist. She then stated that judiciary processes can continue to completion separate from what occurs in the court.

Senator Richard Bogartz told the Senate of a story he had heard of a near fatality at the Hobart Hoe-down. He stated that this event will eventually lead to serious injury or death if it is allowed to continue and that something must be done to change the tradition.

Vice Chancellor Vanin stated that nobody in authority is letting this event go on. The Hobart Hoe-down is not a University-sponsored event; it is student behavior generated in the student community. The agencies responsible are responding appropriately within the limits of their authority and of the law.

Senator Mokhtar Atallah stated that his car was towed illegally in October. After he petitioned, it took 4-5 months to hear that he was not at fault, and he still had not yet received the money that he paid to the towing company. He asked how long the process was supposed to take.

Vice Chancellor Joyce Hatch stated that she didn't realize that the process was taking that long and that she'd check into it to see why there has been such a delay.

D. ELECTIONS

1. PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE FACULTY SENATE

NOMINEE: Jerome Mileur, Political Science

There were no further nominations from the floor and Jerome Mileur was re-elected Presiding Officer by acclamation.

2. FACULTY DELEGATE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOMINEE: W. Brian O'Connor, Biology

There were no further nominations from the floor and W. Brian O'Connor was re-elected Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees by acclamation.

E. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning Resident Credits Required for Graduation with Latin Honors, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-029 with Motion No. 32-03.**

MOVED: 32-03 That the Faculty Senate set at 45 the minimum number of graded credits required for graduation with Honors (*cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *summa cum laude*), as recommended by the Academic Matters Council in Sen. Doc. No. 03-029.

This motion was adopted.

- 2. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning Changing the Name of the Department of Military Science to the Department of Military Leadership, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-030 with Motion No. 33-03.**

MOVED: 33-03 That the Faculty Senate approve Changing the Name of the Department of Military Science to the Department of Military Leadership, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-030.

This motion was adopted.

- 3. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning a Minor in Military Leadership, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-031 with Motion No. 34-03.**

MOVED: 34-03 That the Faculty Senate approve a Minor in Military Leadership, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-031.

This motion was adopted.

4. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council and the Program and Budget Council concerning A Proposal for a Minor in Education, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-032 with Motion No. 35-03.

MOVED: 35-03 That the Faculty Senate approve the Proposal for a Minor in Education, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-032.

This motion was adopted.

5. Special Report of the Committee on Committees and the Rules Committee concerning Membership of the Academic Honesty Board, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-033 with Motion Nos. 36-03 and 37-03.

MOVED: 36-03 That the Faculty Senate approve the Nominations to the Academic Honesty Board, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-033.

This motion was adopted.

MOVED: 37-03 That the Faculty Senate approve the Identification of Alternate Members to the Academic Honesty Board as recommended by the Rules Committee and as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-033.

This motion was adopted.

The 619th meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 5:10 p.m. May 8, 2003.

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

The proceedings of this meeting are available on audiotape at the Faculty Senate Office.