

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

MINUTES: Presiding Officer Jerome Mileur called the 620th meeting of the Faculty Senate to order May 22, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall 227.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Vice Chancellor Joyce Hatch stated that Physical Plant would be making improvements on campus over the summer and into the fall such as groundswork, power-washing buildings and washing windows.

Vice Chancellor Frederick Byron gave an update on campus grants and contracts. He stated that they total in excess of \$86 million, and may reach \$100 million, which is about 11 percent higher than last year. Also, Intellectual Property income exceeded the annual level of \$1 million this year for the first time.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Secretary Ernest May: The Massachusetts State Senate Budget passed today with a 12 percent cut to the University of Massachusetts with tuition retention factored in. So, the parameters for next year are now clear; somewhere between a 12 percent and 18 percent cut in state appropriations. In millions, this works out to approximately \$25 million to \$38 million. This is probably the largest single cut to a flagship campus in the history of American Higher Education. There appears to be little political support for prioritizing Higher Ed above support for the aged, the infirm, K-12, local aid, health care, etc. State support for this campus and for the other campuses in our system, appears headed to just above zero. Like the Medical School, Higher Ed has come to be viewed as a private necessity but not a public good deserving of direct state funding. Access seems to be supportable at the state level by scholarships rather than direct support to institutions, which appears to the public to end up invested in what some call wasteful bloat, symbolized by the President's Office. Tuition retention seems to be the best hope in the long run for preserving a flagship campus in Massachusetts, and the handling of fringe benefits and tuition waivers presents significant challenges to making this work for us rather than against us. Faculty, staff, departments and colleges must prepare now for a greatly restricted and constrained environment, greater self-sufficiency, efficiency, cooperation, restructuring, mergers, etc. We may have to fundamentally reexamine the way in which we do business in many, if not all, areas. Whether this is good, abstractly, I am not at all sure, but I am sure this is the direction we will be taking in the next few weeks and months. As Chancellor Lombardi told us at the last meeting, at the same time that we are being cut, we'll be attempting to enhance our competitive position in the world of Research I campuses. The Senate looks forward to working with the Administration in this endeavor. And I would say that this is actually borne out by the statistics of the activities of the Councils and Committees. After today's meeting, there will remain only eight vacancies on the Councils and Committees, out of the 262 faculty slots on those Councils and Committees (and there's probably another couple hundred slots for staff and students). There is great interest, perhaps an all-time high that I recall here, in the work of the Councils and Committees.

3. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

Faculty Delegate Brian O'Connor thanked outgoing Vice Chancellors Jo-Anne Vanin and Frederick Byron for their service to the University.

B. QUESTION PERIOD

Senator Brian O'Connor asked about the status of the Art Department's Foundry that burned down earlier in the year.

Vice Chancellor Hatch stated that they had to hire a company to come and demolish the building and that the demolition should happen soon.

Senator Einhorn asked how quickly the campus could raise tuition and fees if the Legislature granted UMass tuition retention.

Vice Chancellor Hatch stated that tuition retention will only be helpful as a long-term goal. She stated that it will not be helpful next year, and that the numbers of both in-state and out-of-state students will need to grow in order for tuition retention to be beneficial in the future.

C. ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Report of the University Writing Committee 2001-2002, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-034.

There was no representative from the Committee present at the meeting and this report was tabled until the Fall.

D. NEW COURSES

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses EDUC 619, 624, 626, 627, 639, 654, 688, 713, 38-03 782, 804, 821 and 888, as recommended by the Graduate Council.

This motion was adopted.

E. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council and the Program and Budget Council concerning Adding a Family Economics Option to the Resource Economics Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-035 with Motion No. 39-03.**

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the establishment of a Family Economics Option within the 39-03 Resource Economics Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-035.

Senator O'Connor stated that School of Management courses are difficult for non-majors to get into and asked if the School of Management was aware that certain SOM courses were requirements in the Family Economics Option.

Deputy Provost Cunningham stated that Dennis Hanno, the Associate Dean in the School of Management, was on the Academic Matters Council when they approved the Option.

This motion was adopted.

- 2. Special Report of the Undergraduate Education Council concerning Preserving the Quality of Undergraduate Education and Student Success, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-036 with Motion No. 40-03.**

MOVED: 40-03 That the Faculty Senate approve the Guidelines for Preserving the Quality of Undergraduate Education and Student Success, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-036.

This motion was adopted.

3. Special Report of the Committee on Committees concerning Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-037 with Motion No. 41-03.

MOVED: 41-03 That the Faculty Senate approve the Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-037.

This motion was adopted.

4. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council's Subcommittee on Calendars concerning the 2006-2007 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-038.

MOVED: 42-03 That the Faculty Senate adopt the 2006-2007 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 03-038.

This motion was adopted.

The 620th meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:02 p.m. May 22, 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.