

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Presiding Officer Robert Wilson called the 662nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on May 10, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Robert Francis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities and Campus Planning, stated that the University is entering a phase where forms to request capital funds from the state need to be completed.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Secretary Ernest May stated that the Faculty Senate Constitution had been revised and a paper ballot was sent out to all faculty for a vote on the changes. It passed with a vote of 57-3.

There will be an additional Faculty Senate meeting on May 17th in Herter 227 at 3:30 p.m., to discuss additional business before the end of the semester and hear a presentation on facilities from Vice Chancellor Joyce Hatch and Associate Vice Chancellor Robert Francis.

Senator W. Brian O'Connor is running for another term as Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees, despite rumors that he is retiring. It is important for the faculty to have a presence at the Board of Trustees.

There was a special meeting of the Faculty Senate on May 3rd with Chair of the Board of Trustees Stephen Tocco. The meeting was attended by a number of students who wanted to talk about the awarding of an honorary degree to Andrew Card.

Secretary May asked to observe a moment of silence for Walter Chestnut, a widely known faculty member who recently passed away.

3. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors

Max Page, President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors, stated that PHENOM (Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts) coordinated a Lobby Day on April 25th that brought several hundred students and faculty members and over 16,000 signature cards from across the system to the State House to lobby for public higher education on the issues of affordability and access.

Contract negotiations for faculty are currently underway, and the bargaining team will be meeting with President Jack Wilson soon regarding salaries.

In regards to the proposed academic calendar for 2009-2010 that will be voted on later in today's meeting, the MSP believes that it is a bargainable issue, and that they support the new compromise calendar that is being proposed.

Lastly, the MSP endorsed the student petition to the administration to rescind the honorary degree to Andrew Card. The Graduate Employee Organization, Graduate Student Senate, and Student Government Association all endorsed the petition as well. The MSP wanted to stress that they are not encouraging violence at the Graduate Commencement, but rather are interested in protecting the rights of free speech.

4. The President of the Graduate Student Senate

Jeff Napolitano, President of the Graduate Student Senate, stated that he felt that the Graduate Student Senate had underutilized their space to speak at the Faculty Senate meetings, and he hoped that they would be more regular attendees in the coming year. In addition, the GSS appointed graduate student representatives to a number of Faculty Senate Councils and Committees this past semester.

He spoke briefly about the issue of funding for graduate students of color, and how the funding is now considered illegal because of the new affirmative action law.

Finally, he mentioned the issue of the honorary degree for Andrew Card. The Student Government Association and the Graduate Employee Organization have passed resolutions asking for the degree to be rescinded, and the GSS was set to do the same on May 10.

B. QUESTION PERIOD (10-Minute Limit)

Senator Roland Chilton stated that Chair Tocco had said, at the May 3rd meeting, that the Board of Trustees intended to review and revise, if necessary, the process for selecting honorary degree recipients. What is the current process? Who appoints the selection committee? What role, if any, do the deans have? Who does the committee report to? What is done with the recommendation from the campus once it has been made?

Chief Information Officer John Dubach replied that he did not know the process, but that someone from the administration would find out the details and report back to the Faculty Senate at the next meeting.

Secretary May stated that there is a Campus Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees who put out a notice to the campus community asking for nominations. They receive the nominations and deliberate, and give their decisions to the Chancellor. The Chancellor, the President, and the Board of Trustees may, in succession, add or subtract from the list proposed by the campus. The Board of Trustees makes the final decision.

Senator Richard Bogartz stated that President Wilson's e-mail to the senators addressed the process.

C. ELECTIONS (10 Minutes)

1. PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE FACULTY SENATE

NOMINEE: Robert Wilson, Hospitality and Tourism Management

There were no further nominations.

Presiding Officer Wilson was elected by acclamation.

2. FACULTY DELEGATE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOMINEE: W. Brian O'Connor, Biology

There were no further nominations.

Senator O'Connor was elected by acclamation.

Senator Steven Brewer made a motion to suspend the rules to introduce the following motion:

Whereas, Andrew Card, Jr., during his tenure as Chief of Staff for President George W. Bush, presided over an administration that put ideology ahead of knowledge or ability in making policy and appointments; and

Whereas, Andrew Card, Jr., as the Chair of the White House Iraq Group, led the planning for an unprovoked invasion of a sovereign state, an invasion that has killed untold numbers of men, women, and children, and contravenes both the Geneva Convention and the Charter of the United Nations, two treaties ratified by the United States Legislature and therefore the law of the land according to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas these actions demonstrate that Andrew Card, Jr. neither possesses the high ethical standards nor exemplifies the ideals of the University of Massachusetts, criteria that are explicitly required by the University of Massachusetts policy on awarding honorary degrees (Trustee Document T93-060 as amended February 16, 2005);

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst disapproves of the award of the honorary degree to Andrew Card, Jr.; and

We urge the Trustees of the University to rescind the degree.

Presiding Officer Wilson asked to verify that enough senators were present to constitute a quorum.

Secretary May counted the senators present, and there were only 27, one short of a quorum.

Senator Chilton asked if ex officio members of the Faculty Senate counted in the calculation of quorum.

Senator Bogartz asked if the body could appeal the decision of the chair and how they would do that.

Senator Chilton stated that some administrators who were ex officio members of the Faculty Senate were eligible to vote, and should be counted in the quorum.

Senator Maria Tymoczko read the section from Robert's Rules of Order outlining how the body can challenge the decision of the chair by a majority vote.

Senator Marios Philippides suggested that the issue of what constitutes a quorum be passed on to the Rules Committee, and that the motion could be added to new business for the May 17 meeting.

The motion to refer to the Rules Committee was approved.

D. BYLAW CHANGES (Third Reading)

Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-026B with Motion No. 25-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-026B.
25-07

Secretary May made a motion to amend the Bylaws as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-026C.

Senator Marilyn Billings added a change to the Research Library Council bylaws. The title "Director of the Learning Commons" should be "Coordinator of the Learning Commons."

Senator Bogartz stated that he did not understand the change of name from Status of Minorities to Status of Diversity.

The motion to amend was seconded and adopted.

The original motion was seconded and adopted.

E. NEW COURSES

There are no reports associated with the following motions.

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
W&FCONSV 120	"Basic SCUBA"	2
W&FCONSV 121	"Advanced SCUBA – Warm Water"	1
W&FCONSV 122	"Advanced SCUBA – Cold Water"	1

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses W&FCONSV 120, 121 and 122, as recommended by the Academic Matters Council.
35-07

The motion was seconded and adopted.

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
EDUC 628	"Prevention and School Psychology: Foundations, Methods, and Applications"	3
EDUC 637	"Nonparametric Statistical Analysis in Education and Psychology"	3
EDUC 638	"Collaboration for Student Achievement"	3
EDUC 646	"Leadership for Curriculum and Instruction"	3
EDUC 678	"Cultural Studies and International Development"	3

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses EDUC 628, 637, 638, 646 and 678, as recommended by the
36-07 Graduate Council.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Special Report of the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities and Program and Budget Councils concerning The Creation of a Five College Certificate in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (REEES), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-033 with Motion No. 37-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve The Creation of a Five College Certificate in Russian, East European
37-07 and Eurasian Studies (REEES), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-033.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

2. Special Report of the Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning the Special Education Ed.D. Concentration, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-034 with Motion No. 38-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Special Education Ed.D. Concentration, as presented in Sen. Doc.
38-07 No. 07-034.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

3. Special Report of the Research Library Council concerning A Resolution on Scholarly Publishing, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-035 with Motion No. 39-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the recommendations of the Research Library Council and encourage
39-07 faculty, librarians, staff, and administrators to be supportive of new and innovative models of scholarly communication and utilize these options whenever possible.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

4. Special Report of the General Education Council concerning A Proposal to Require Submissions of General Education Designation Requests in Electronic File Format (Microsoft Word), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-036 with Motion No. 40-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate require that all proposals submitted for General Education designations be
40-07 accompanied by an electronic version of the proposal in Microsoft Word Format, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-036.

Senator Brewer stated that the Faculty Senate should discourage the use of proprietary software, like Microsoft products.

Senator Mokhtar Atallah made a friendly amendment to strike out “Microsoft Word” and change it to “University-supported readable electronic format.”

The motion was seconded and adopted.

5. Special Report of the General Education Council concerning Recommended General Education Designations for ANTHRO 205, COMPLIT 391B, HONORS 291J and 292S, POLISCI 181 and SPORTMGT 202, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-037 with Motion No. 41-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the General Education Designations for ANTHRO 205, COMPLIT
41-07 391B, HONORS 291J and 292S, POLISCI 181 and SPORTMGT 202, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-037.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

6. Special Report of the Committee on Committees concerning Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-038 with Motion No. 42-07.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 07-038.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

G. OLD BUSINESS

(Tabled from the 654th, 655th and 656th Regular Meetings of the Faculty Senate.)

Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 06-043B with Motion No. 48-06.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate adopt the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 06-043B. 48-06

Senator Tymoczko stated that Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is against this proposed change because losing even one week in January has a negative effect on faculty research and the Five College relationship. They would recommend shortening the semester by ending a week earlier in the spring and keeping the January Term intact, as it currently is.

Senator Atallah stated that the Calendar Committee of the Academic Matters Council considered the proposed calendars in conjunction with the Five Colleges, and decided that this was the best compromise. Students overwhelmingly favored the change. Also, it was important to be careful not to give the impression to the public that the faculty want to have shorter semesters.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

The 662nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:55 p.m. on May 10, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest D. May
Secretary of the Faculty Senate