

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

GENERAL FACULTY MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

3:30 P.M.

CAMPUS CENTER 101

ROBERT WILSON, PRESIDING OFFICER

ERNEST MAY, SECRETARY

AGENDA

I.

Introduction of any Officers of the University, Members of the Board of Trustees, or representatives of State government who may be present.

II.

Report on developments since the last session of the General Faculty Meeting on June 21, 2007.

Secretary Ernest May, MSP President Max Page, members of the Executive Advisory Council.

Questions and discussion.

III.

GF 01-08 WHEREAS Chair Tocco, at the Board of Trustees meeting on September 19, 2007, at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, announced that the Board of Trustees would hold a Retreat and private dinner on November 2-4, 2007, which, according to Chair Tocco, will result in a series of action steps for the Trustees,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty and Librarians of the University of Massachusetts Amherst express their lack of confidence in this closed process, specifically with respect to the failure of the President and Board of Trustees to consult faculty and other university constituencies with respect to critical matters of long-range planning, reorganization, and other specific actions, in apparent violation of the spirit and letter of AAUP documents, Trustee governance documents, and the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

IV.

GF 02-08 That the Faculty and Librarians of the University of Massachusetts Amherst reiterate their insistence that any and all reorganization plans strictly adhere to the spirit and letter of established governance documents of the Board of Trustees, particularly the Wellman Document, requiring the full participation of faculty and other constituencies in all such planning processes, and express lack of confidence in any and all such plans created or promulgated without such participation.

V.

GF 03-08 WHEREAS the proposal to the Davis Foundation entitled “Achieving Liberal Outcomes,” which contains substantial curricular and unfunded budgetary implications, burdens and expenses for the faculty of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, was prepared by the President’s Office staff and other administrators with zero participation by faculty, thereby clearly violating faculty primary responsibility for the curriculum, and is expected to be delivered to the Davis Foundation on October 1, 2007,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty and Librarians of the University of Massachusetts Amherst express lack of confidence in this proposal as it stands and request the Davis Foundation to defer action until such time as an appropriate level of faculty participation has been achieved.

VI.

GF 04-08 The Faculty and Librarians of the University of Massachusetts Amherst are disappointed that the Subcommittee of the Governor’s Readiness Project focusing on the UMass system, which this body insisted on last June, does not include any current students, faculty, or staff, from any of the five UMass campuses. It is these constituencies who have the best understanding of the needs of our public university system.

Therefore, we call on the UMass and Public Higher Education Subcommittee to hold at least one open forum on each of the five UMass campuses over the coming six months so that the Subcommittee hears from people who actually learn and work at the University.

VII.

GF 05-08 That the Faculty and Librarians of the University of Massachusetts Amherst will reconvene this General Faculty Meeting not later than December 20, 2007, or at any other date during the Academic Year 2007-2008, with the final date to be set by the Secretary of the Faculty Senate in consultation with the Rules Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Society of Professors.