Committee Members Present:

Co-Chair Nelson Lacey

Guests: T. Anderson, J. Sarsynski, E. Sortino,

Absent: M. Billings, Robert Goodhue, D. Gore, S. Upton

I. Call to Order

Co-Chair Rod Warnick called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. All present introduced themselves to the new students and briefly described their role at the University.

II. Approval of the Minutes of May 6, 2011

Co-Chair Warnick opened the floor to any changes to the minutes. George Richason noted that in I. Call to Order: “role to the University” be changed to read “role at the University”. George Richason also suggested that “Submitted by George Richason” be changed to “Submitted by Pat Vittum” since she has returned from Sabbatical. With the noted changes, Pat Vittum so moved and Glenn Wong seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of May 6, 2011. All were in favor of approving the Minutes from the May 6, 2011 meeting with noted change.

III. Nominating Committee (Richason)

George Richason nominated Co-Chairs Lacey and Warnick for re-election to serve as Co-Chairs in 2011-2012. He also nominated Pat Vittum as Secretary to the Council for 2011-2012. Ed Ward so moved and Glenn Wong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Guest Administrator – Tim Anderson, Director UMass Marching Band

Tim Anderson is honored to be the new Marching Band Director at the University of Massachusetts. He spoke about his experiences as Band Director at Fresno State and University of Iowa and moving his family here in July. He also talked about the
UMass Marching Band’s nationally acclaimed program under the leadership of the late George Parks and his sensitivity to the band members’ loss of the legendary Band Director. Tim is excited about the FBS move and the wealth of opportunities this move offers the Band and the University. A lengthy question and answer session followed covering topics such as the student auditions for the Band, the University’s seven year review process, public appearances for the Marching Band, merchandise revenue, and the possibility of future Band Festival Contest at McGuirk like Tim coordinated at Fresno State.

V. NCAA Audit of Academic Support Services (Lacey and Subcommittee Members)

Co-Chair Lacey reported on the NCAA Audit of UMass Academic Services Assessment Report of the UMass Athletic Department, study completed in June 2011. The assessment team is charged with evaluating areas within the Athletic Academic Support Services. The team’s members (Marilyn Billings, Rebecca Spencer, Rodney Warnick and Nelson Lacey) analyzed the following eight areas:

1. Academic counseling/advising resources and services
2. Tutoring
3. Academic progress and monitoring
4. Assistance for student-athletes with special academic needs
5. Assistance for at-risk students
6. Academic support facilities
7. Academic evaluation of prospective student-athletes
8. Student-athlete degree selection

The overall assessment is that the Academic Support is addressing the broad-based needs of the student-athlete population. The areas of strengths include recruitment of high quality student-athletes, creation of new programs, and implementation of a strong academic monitoring and tutoring system. Also discussed at length was the implementation of the priority course registration system, RAM.

Areas needing improvement are more staffing within Academic Support Services, their meeting facilities needing more privacy for tutoring, and reinforcing full implementation of priority registration.

VI. Final Committee Reports from 2010-2011 Academic year and Request for Final Reports for Filing Annual Report for AC – Send Digital Copy to Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Lacey noted that the Gender Equity report would be available in late November or early December at the latest. He requested that all digital copies of the Subcommittee reports be emailed to the Co-Chairs for final submission to the Report to the Faculty Senate.
VII. **A-10 Compliance Review Update (Warnick/ Sortino)**

The A-10 completed a compliance review in June. Elaine Sortino noted that in the A-10 report, UMass Athletics Compliance is used as a benchmark for other schools in conferences. The A-10’s review showed UMass Athletics to have an exemplary and model compliance program.

VIII. **Priority Registration (Wong)**

Glenn Wong outlined the need to extend priority registration to a full academic year for all student-athletes. Currently, priority registration is available for the semester that student-athlete is in competition. However, competition in sports such as Men’s and Women’s Basketball, Hockey, and Men’s/Women’s Swimming overlap into both semesters. Joan Hopkins, Associate AD for Academic Support has requested that both semesters of priority registration is available to the student-athletes, not just for those in competition. Issues regarding Priority Registration were discussed such as the University not wanting to show favoritism to any particular group on campus and the NCAA Academic Progress Reports requiring a high ratio of academic success and graduation rates in the student-athlete population. The Co-Chairs will be seeking guidance from Joan Hopkins, Associate AD for Academic Services and Carol Barr, who serves on the Academic Matters Council regarding ways to advance full implementation of RAM.

IX. **Committee Assignments and Preferences for 2011-2012 (Lacey/ Warnick)**

Co-Chair Lacey distributed the Sub-Committee Assignment preference list and asked members to indicate which committees they would like to serve on this year. The sheets should be turned into Nelson at the close of the meeting.

X. **Athletic Department Update (McCutcheon)**

AD McCutcheon reported that Chancellor Holub asked him to update the Faculty Senate on the Football Transition (spotlighting the budget issues) next Thursday, 9/15. AD McCutcheon and the Council reviewed pertinent financial items surrounding Football for the Faculty Senate Presentation. In the past decades, the stumbling blocks were the facility and conference issues. AD McCutcheon discussed the exciting window of opportunity that now exists in moving to Division I Football and playing in Gillette Stadium. President Caret is fully supportive of the Football Transition.

The department is gearing up for fall and winter season ticket sales, launching a new marketing campaign, and completing an outsourcing contract to develop new corporate sponsorships. 2012 will be an exciting year for UMass Athletics.

Fall teams are off and running. Court Club Golf Outing is Monday, September 12th.

September 17th is the first McGuirk Football Game against URI under the lights with fireworks following the game.
XI. **Closing Remarks from Co-Chairs:**

Co-Chair Lacey announced the next Fall Semester 2011 Meeting Dates – October 7, November 4, December 9.

**Future Agenda Items:**
Faculty Senate Review of Athletics
Recreation Center – New Director and Status Report
New Director of Media Relations
New Outsourcing Director – Pam Batalis
Campus Planning and Facilities Update

Pat Vittum moved to close the meeting. Ed Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m