UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
COMMONWEALTH HONORS COLLEGE (CHC) COUNCIL

Minutes

Date          October 10, 2014, 12:20 PM
Location      Commonwealth Honors College Building, Room 160, Events Hall – East

Approve Minutes of 9/19/14
Minutes from September 19, 2014, approved

Announcements
Updates from Interim Dean Daniel Gordon
• Provost Newman has an active interest in CHC and is considering a larger entering first-year class and ensuring honors housing for first-year students within CHCRC.
• Provost will attend a future meeting of the Council.
• The Dean may request email input from Council members between the monthly meetings for advice on issues that require quick response.

Updates from CHC Council Chair Julian Tyson
• Dean’s Search: All inquiries should go to John McCarthy, search committee chair.

New Business
Retention and Graduation Rates (J. Tyson)
• Handout provided of statistics compiled by OIR on CHC and other UMass students from Fall 2000-2009

Old Business
CHC Fee (Daniel Gordon)
• J. Tyson communicated with the Director of Financial Aid and learned that the only financial aid available to offset the CHC fee for UMass students who enter CHC are partial loans for credit-worthy applicants with a co-signer.
• Last year, CHC created 11 Opportunity Scholarships for first-generation UMass students entering CHC after their first semester on campus using its own funds. Efforts will continue to assist in this area.
Committee Reports

Course and Program (Meredith Lind)
- Clarification of online course proposal system.
- Several thesis seminar assessments will be coming this year.

Policy (C. Pols)
- Met one time. Discussion regarding the Good Standing policy. Handouts and implementation.

Academic Standards (C. Pols)
- Met four times.

Reports from CHC Council Representatives on other Councils
- Discussion at Academic Matters Council regarding possibility of Dean’s budget councils and that CHC Council could serve in that role for CHC Dean.

Next Meeting
Friday 11/14/2014, 12:20 pm – CHC, Room 160, Events Hall – East