I. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Linda Griffin called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes
The minutes of December 14, 2011 were unanimously approved.

III. Comments by the Graduate Dean
1. The budget outlook from the Governor’s proposed budget is that there may be a budget cut of 3% which is better than the projected 15%.
2. The number of applications has increased and the number of complaints regarding the admission process has decreased. The Admissions Office was able to get the 30,000+ documents to departments within hours, not days as in the past with the on-line processing system and the ability to upload personal statements and resumes.
3. Carol Barr will be leading a study regarding ESL support on this campus and John has requested that the graduate School be included in the process.
4. There is some concern regarding off-campus externship/internships with regard to expectation, degrees of professionalism, and behavior on the part of both students and supervisors. There may need to be a review of various academic unit expectations.

IV. Old Business
John McCarthy reported on the preliminary findings of the Ph.D. review with Academic Analytics and distributed results from the review. Forty-one programs were reviewed and almost every program has one measured outcome above the median. The number of faculty per program appeared to be below the median in most cases. The findings have been distributed to almost all the colleges and schools. The School of Education and the Isenberg School of Management should receive their findings soon.

After reviewing the results John Mullin and John McCarthy feel UMass Amherst is doing better than we think and better than people think we are doing.

V. New Business
Report of the ASCC
Arthur Kinney reported there were 4 course proposals and one program proposal approved by the ASCC which could now be approved by the Graduate Council. The proposals were:
The four (4) course proposals were:

1. EDUC 501 – Classroom Assessment
2. EDUC 739 – Introduction to Inquiry
3. EDUC 740 – Monitoring & Evaluation in International and Domestic Contexts
4. Nursing 725 – Leadership in Health Systems

The one (1) program proposal was:

1. Name change revision of the Research and Evaluation Methods Program (REMP) to Psychometric Methods Education Statistics and Research Methods.

All five (5) proposals were unanimously approved.

VI. Committee reports as necessary
GEO negotiations have not started yet and the Professional Science Masters has had no recent action.

VII. Comments from Administrative Officers and others as appropriate
John Mullin announced the number of international students is growing on the undergraduate level from the outstanding recruitment efforts of the Undergraduate Admissions Office. In 2002 there was a drop in the number of international students but that number has continued to grow since.

Patrick Sullivan said the Graduate School web page is expected to be up and running by mid-February and the new Bulletin is now on-line.

Comments regarding Commencement
- The faculty thought they processed too early for graduate commencement.
- The faculty and administrators have a number of events to attend and it was suggested the University allow each school and college to have their own commencement ceremony for both their own undergrads and graduate students rather than have 3 separate events, as seen at other schools.
- Tony Butterfield would like to see the college signs up around the tent again so the graduate students can find their faculty advisors.
- Some faculty were concerned there wasn’t enough space on the stage to accommodate all he faculty who attended the ceremony. There were not enough seats so some faculty members had to sit behind the master’s students on the floor.
- Graduate Council members would like to see the stage revert back to the direction it was in 2009 to accommodate the number of faculty who want to attend.

VIII. Announcements
None

IX. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.