

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
RULES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**JANUARY 27, 2017
8:15 A.M.
CAMPUS CENTER, ROOM 801**

Present: Bruce Baird, Marilyn Billings, Richard Bogartz, David Gross (chair), Yemisi Jimoh, MJ Peterson, Susan Krauss Whitbourne. Guest: Lisa Green

1. MINUTES

Minutes of the December 16, 2016 minutes were approved.

Minutes of the January 13, 2017 minutes were approved as amended.

2. FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For February 16, 2017)

The suggestion was made that a presentation about demographic trends and comparison be made by Bryan Harvey based on the Educational Advisory Board (EAB) presentation to the December meeting of the Board of Trustees be added to the agenda. We had a discussion about adding an amendment to Senate Document No. 16-018A, Amendment to the Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning the addition of a librarian to the Joint Task Force on Student Success Learning Outcomes (JTFSSLO).

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Items for Rules Committee/Administration meeting on February 6, 2017

Progress in faculty diversity was proposed as a topic for this meeting.

B. Bylaw Changes to Propose

Bylaws changes were discussed.

C. Referral of Proposals to Councils for Review

There was discussion about how proposals should be referred to Councils via the Secretary and the Rules Committee and how course vs. certificate proposals should be referred.

D. Guidelines for Diversity Requirement

The question of where guidelines for faculty developing courses to meet the diversity requirement should be posted – the Faculty Senate vs. the General Education Program site in a tab under suggestions for instructors – was raised in the course of a wider discussion about providing oversight to assure that guidelines are consistent with Faculty Senate policies.

E. Likely Impact of EPA (and other?) De-Funding

Discussion of this item was deferred in favor of bringing it up at the next Rules-Administration meeting. Concerns about forthcoming executive orders regarding the issuing of visas from certain countries were mentioned.

Additional Item

Procedures for the upcoming elections of a Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees and an Alternate Delegate to the Board of Trustees were discussed.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Krauss Whitbourne