

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
RULES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 21, 2016
8:15 A.M.
CAMPUS CENTER, ROOM 801**

Present: Bruce Baird, Richard Bogartz, David Gross, Yemisi Jimoh, MJ Peterson, Jim Rinderle, Marinos Vouvakis and Susan Whitbourne

1. GUESTS

Claire Hamilton, Chair, General Education Council

Prof. Hamilton presented background on the changes in Diversity General Education requirements. In an October 7, 2016 memo, the Rules Committee expressed concern about the decision to adopt a three diversity course requirement without changing the number of courses students must take by substituting the new DIV course for the fourth Social World course in the current requirements. The memo also suggested providing an Executive Summary laying out the key features of the proposal. A the design of the DIV course and how it would be delivered to students, given the number of sections that will need to be taught by multiple instructors both in terms of resources and faculty expertise. The General Education Council recognizes that this will be a difficult objective to achieve, but believes it is possible.

Anna Branch, Faculty Advisor for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence

The discussion of the DIV course continued, with concern expressed about inclusion of active bystander in the list of pedagogical structures. Others wondered about how material would be incorporated into existing courses that are delivering similar content to small sections? The question is not whether we should do this but how do we do this? What are the broader supports we can use? Also discussed was the issue of why some departments

After Professor Hamilton left, discussion with Professor Branch focused on the Diversity Strategic Plan Update described in an Oct. 21 memo.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the October 7, 2016 Rules Committee meeting submitted by Marinos Vouvakis will be reviewed on October 28.

3. DISCUSSION ITEM

This was postponed until October 28.

Susan K. Whitbourne