

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST**  
**FACULTY SENATE RULES COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2018**

**8:15 A.M.**

**CAMPUS CENTER, ROOM 901**

Present: Bruce Baird, Marilyn Billings, David Gross, MJ Peterson, Marinos Vouvakis, WilmoreWebley

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 16<sup>th</sup> Rules Committee meeting (submitted by Marinos Vouvakis) approved with amendments.

2. Faculty Senate meetings

Discussion of possibly changing the location of the Faculty Senate Meetings to a more congenial and comfortable room. MJ to explore possibilities. Also need reminder for people to speak directly into the microphone.

3. Agenda of the 777<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate.

A. Discussion of the Annual Report of the Athletic Council, Academic Year 2016-2017. Marinos Vouvakis has submitted the financial segment of the report already so that RC can preview this. There is one place where there is discrepancy between two different reports. Discussed ways to clarify these reports so there are no misunderstandings.

B. Discussion of whether to include Report of Academic Calendar Committee. Discussion ensues about changing the date for the Withdrawal date, and also changing length of the semester. Recommendation to refer matter to the Calendar committee, and also propose this as a future discussion for Rules-Admin.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presiding Officer—Need to hold election on April 26<sup>th</sup>. We may need to get nominees.

B. Key points of Meehan's "State of the University" speech—we did not get to this item.

C. Online Education Group--Discussion about involving faculty in governance of Online Education Group. Also, discussion of compensation for online courses, and discussion of whether faculty or university owns intellectual property of courses. Additionally, discussion of who teaches the courses, and how they are trained. Does there need to be a change in the course approval process to reflect changing conditions (in which courses may always have some online or blended component)? What kind of security issues are related to the teaching of online classes with faculty who may not be as computer savvy as their students?

D. Items for April 2<sup>nd</sup> Rules-Administration meeting.  
Enku Gelaye, undergraduate mood and impact of "Hate has No Home at UMass"  
campaign (20 mins)

Anna Branch, current stage of dealing with the climate survey (20 mins)

E. Items for future Rules Committee and Rules-Admin meetings

-- John Wells, Online Education Group --need to bring him to Rules instead of Rules-Admin.

--Do we need to have discussion of rules and requirements for appointing Associate and Assistant Deans? Who does the search? What is the review mechanism for such positions? Also, what are the mechanisms for providing support staff for faculty and Deans on the college and departmental level?

--Addressing semester start date and calendar questions. Who to bring in? Anyone from the Five Colleges?

--Carol Barr/Matthew Dalton—online and cyber security and how this relates to academic honesty, etc.

--UMass teaching evaluation working group (Martha/G Weaver). We need to get a report from them.