

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

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018
8:45 A.M.
CAMPUS CENTER, ROOM 801**

Attendees: Bruce Baird, Marilyn Billings, David Gross, Frank Hugus, MJ Peterson, Marinos Vouvakis.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the April 13th Rules Committee meeting submitted by Rebecca Spencer was postponed.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Developments in IT (9:00 a.m.)

Guests: Joe Malinowski (President, AFSCME Local 1776), Mary Malinowski (incoming co-chair, Professional Staff Union), Carl Erickson (outgoing co-chair, PSU)

Report from this group about workplace climate issues in IT. UnITed formed spring 2017 among staff who were concerned about workplace climate. There have been extended discussions, with several different consultants from both campus and external brought in to conduct surveys and provide mediation. They've been trying to work out this situation, but from their perspective there has been little progress.

They are asking for time on the agenda of the April 26th Faculty Senate meeting to read out letter they've written to Chancellor if matters have not been resolved by then. They also have plans for publicity at the Founders Day celebration on April 27th. [The Rules Committee later devised a way to accommodate having the letter read, but the request to read it was withdrawn before the April 26th meeting began.]

B. Mount Ida Veterinary Technology Program

Closure of the college requires all current Mount Ida students to find another place to complete their degrees. They have been offered admission and transfer of all credits by UMass Dartmouth. However three very specialized programs -- Dental Hygiene, Funeral Services, and Veterinary Technician -- cannot be accommodated at UMass Dartmouth. After exploring a different possibility, the administration is now willing to provide a teach-out of the Veterinary Technician Program. At this time we understand that the teach-out would be supervised through the UMA Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. UMA will run the program in the Vet Tech facilities on the Mount Ida campus, with the current Mount Ida faculty and providing housing there for the students. More details will be forthcoming as the final agreement is reached. The Rules Committee had agreed yesterday by e-mail to add the question of approving provision of this teach out to the agenda of the April 26th Faculty Senate meeting. A decision to keep the program on a permanent basis would need separate approval.