

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
RULES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Friday, February 5, 2016

Present: Marilyn Billings, Richard Bogartz, Steven D. Brewer, David Gross, Yemisi Jimoh, MJ Peterson,
Jim Rinderle and Susan K. Whitbourne

1. GUESTS

Julie Buehler, Vice Chancellor for Information Services and Strategy and Chief Information Officer
V.C. Buehler described the process for developing the IT strategic plan and the process for rolling out the plan. The plan will establish priorities for IT.

John Bryan, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Dave Hart, Director of the Center for Education Software Development

Our guests briefed the RC on the Personnel Workflow System. They reported on reactions from users and efforts, including the convening of many focus groups, to obtain feedback and to direct the future development of the system. One potential direction for development which is being discussed is the creation of a variety of “user profiles” which would have the effect of presenting specialized interfaces to specific groups of users.

2. MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the November 13, 2015 Rules Committee meeting and the January 15, 2016 Rules Committee meeting were tabled, pending revisions.

3. FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For January 28, 2016)

Additions to the agenda reflected actions of various Senate councils.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Special Reports of the University Writing Committee concerning:

A. A Proposed Policy on College Writing Prerequisite to all Junior Year Writing Courses

B. A Proposed Policy on Using Non-UMass Courses to Satisfy Junior Year Writing Requirement

The reports were referred to the Academic Matters Council and Undergraduate Education Council.

C. JTFRA Presentation on February 18th

Guidelines for the scope and duration of the presentation were discussed.

D. Presentation by John Bryan at the March 10th Faculty Senate meeting – “Workflow System”

Vice Provost Bryan will be invited to address the Senate on March 10th.

E. Situation in the College of Education

The situation, resulting in and the interim plan resulting from the recent resignations of the college dean and associate deans, was discussed.

F. Appointment of 2 members for the Campus Task Force on Procedures for Tenure-System Faculty Searches

Yemisi Jimoh and Melinda Novak will be asked to serve.

G. Discussion topics for the Rules Committee/Administration meeting on February 22nd

The budget, football and the College of Education will be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,
James Rinderle