

Annual Report of the Faculty Senate Rules Committee

Academic Year 2016-2017

General Overview

In addition to setting the agendas for nine regular meetings of the Faculty Senate, reviewing Senate documents from all Faculty Senate councils and committees, and working on behalf of the Faculty Senate during winter and summer breaks, the Faculty Senate Rules Committee convened thirty-three meetings of the Committee and of the Committee with the University administration during the academic year 2016-2017, including summer 2017.

The Rules Committee agenda meetings convened as follows: 9 September 2016; 23 September 2016; 7 October 2016; 21 October 2016; 28 October 2016; 18 November 2016; 16 December 2016; 4 January 2017; 13 January 2017; 27 January 2017; 17 February 2017; 24 February 2017; 10 March 2017; 24 March 2017; 7 April 2017; 21 April 2017; 28 April 2017; 10 May 2017; 9 June 2017; 24 July 2017; 22 August 2017.

The Rules Committee-Administration met as follows: 19 September 2016; 17 October 2016; 21 November 2016; 12 December 2016; 6 January 2017; 6 February 2017; 6 March 2017; 3 April 2017; 24 April 2017; 15 May 2017; 24 July 2017; 22 August 2017.

Rules Committee membership: Bruce Baird, Marilyn Billings, Richard Bogartz, Lisa Green (Spring and Summer), David Gross (Chair), A Yemisi Jimoh, MJ Peterson, James Rinderle (Fall), Marinos Vouvakis, Susan K. Whitbourne.

Faculty Senate Agendas

- The agenda for the 760th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 6 September 2016 features Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy's State of the Campus Address. Also included are elections for two members of the Rules Committee and an election for the Chair of the Rules Committee. The first reading of a bylaws change is scheduled.
- The agenda for the 761st meeting of the Faculty Senate on 6 October 2016 includes a presentation by Professor Richard Bogartz on the budget algorithm. Also on the agenda are several annual reports from committees and the second reading of a change in the Senate Bylaws.
- The agenda for the 762nd meeting of the Faculty Senate on 8 November 2016 includes a Committee of the Whole discussion of proposed General Education Council changes to the diversity requirement and the final reading of the proposed bylaws changes.
- Included on the agenda for the 763rd meeting of the Faculty Senate on 13 December 2016 is a Committee of the Whole discussion of the process of creating the academic calendar.

- On the agenda for the 764th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 24 January 2017, the Rules Committee invited Ellen Story, recently retired State Representative, to receive thanks from the Faculty Senate for her years of representation of Amherst and Pelham at the State House.
- The agenda for the 765th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 14 February 2017 included a resolution concerning a recent Presidential Executive Order, the election of a member of the Rules Committee, and the first reading of a change to the Senate bylaws.
- On the agenda for the 766th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 7 March 2017, the Rules Committee invited Bryan Harvey, Associate Chancellor and Chief Planning Officer, to report on the changing demographics of the college age population. Also on the agenda is the second reading of a change to the Senate bylaws.
- For the 767th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 4 April 2017, the agenda included a presentation on the Board of Trustees' Efficiency and Effectiveness Task Force and its relation to campus activities by Deborah Gould, Chief of Academic Finance and Administration. The third reading of the proposed change to Senate bylaws was also on the agenda.
- For the 768th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 25 April 2017, the Rules Committee invited State Senate President Stanley Rosenberg for a presentation. The agenda also included the annual report of the Athletics Council and elections of the Presiding Officer and the Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees.
- Included on the agenda for the 769th meeting of the Faculty Senate on 4 May 2017 is a report by Professor Jennifer Normanly, Chair of the Campus Planning and Resource Committee (CPARC), on the past activities and future plans of the committee. (The cybersecurity presentation on the agenda was postponed.) Further discussion of the proposed general education diversity requirements was on the agenda as is the postponed election of a Presiding Officer.

Rules-Administration

The Rules Committee meets regularly with members of the Administration in order to stay up-to-date on issues facing the campus. Specifics of this year's meeting agendas are as follows.

- 19 September 2016: UMass Amherst's activities with the Worldwide Universities Network; new students orientations and September move-in; campus fundraising; First Year Seminar survey.

- 17 October 2016: Town-Gown relations; campus capital planning; Shorelight initiative; accelerated Masters programs; campus water restrictions in response to the drought.
- 21 November 2016: Continuing and Professional Education organization and plans; First Year Seminars and student retention; Board of Trustees Academic Efficiency and Effectiveness; core facilities financial support structure.
- 19 December 2016: strategy toward attaining US News & World Report top 20 status; future capital projects; Board of Trustees Academic Efficiency, Quality and Innovation study
- 6 January 2017: student mood on campus.; UMass Amherst branding; external stakeholders' interests; differentiators between UMass Amherst and regional universities.
- 6 February 2017: progress toward meeting diversity aspirations in faculty and staff hiring; analysis of Campus Climate Survey responses; federal visa changes and impact on the campus; building construction and public-private partnerships.
- 6 March 2017: Shorelight program update; projected future enrollments; endowment performance; data archiving capacity and strategies; tuition waiver recharge.
- 3 April 2017: Athletics Department update; planning for the Spring social season; Immigration Task Force; report from CPARC; UMass Press; course scheduling.
- 15 May 2017: proposed (by the Board of Higher Education) changes in program proposal approval; UMass Boston's finances; online SRTIs; First Year Seminars; institutional adaptation to new program initiatives.
- 24 July 2017: campus budget prospects; update on proposed changes for program proposals; Board of Trustees' interest in enrollment strategies and outcomes; planning for the upcoming NEASC self-study and report.
- 22 August 2017: update on Vice Provost search; dean reviews; academic affairs landscape; expanded revenue-generating academic programs; IT data center.

Rules Committee

During its meetings this year, the Rules Committee conducted routine business (including discussions of academic policy changes, campus and Faculty Senate governance, new programs, program reorganizations, and more) as well as invited sixteen individual guests to discuss campus-wide issues during ten different Rules Committee meetings.

- 9 September 2016: A discussion with John Hird, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS), and Julie Caswell, Associate Dean of SBS, on revisions to the SBS Global Education requirements. Routine business including changes to the Senate Secretary transition and General Education Council Diversity proposal.
- 23 September 2016: Routine matters. Composition of the Campus Planning and Resource Committee (CPARC). GenEd Diversity proposal. Bylaw changes for Status of Diversity Council.
- 9 October 2016: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including discussion of a report from the meeting of the Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) and a discussion of communication received from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE).
- 21 October 2016: A discussion with Claire Hamilton, Chair of the General Education Council, to discuss the proposed changes to the diversity requirement for general education courses; Anna Branch, Faculty Advisor for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence, discussed the general education diversity proposal and the update to the Diversity Strategic Plan.
- 28 October 2016: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including agenda items for the upcoming meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on System Structure and System Performance (ACOSS) with Senate President Rosenberg and MSP President Eve Weinbaum and changes to Senate bylaws relating to the Secretary transition.
- 18 November 2016: The Rules Committee conducted routine business.
- 16 December 2016: The Rules Committee luncheon meeting included an assessment of changes to the membership of the Board of Trustees, discussion of the general education diversity proposal, a report on the campus budgeting process, a review of the Fall semester, and a look forward to the Spring semester.
- 13 January 2017: Discussion of the Graduate Certificate in Trust, Assurance and Cybersecurity; replacement of a member of the Rules Committee.
- 27 January 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business.
- 17 February 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, and discusses the revised changes to the Bylaws as well as topics for upcoming Senate meetings.
- 24 February 2017: Tracy Mitrano, Academic Dean of Cybersecurity Programs, College of Information and Computer Sciences, and Matthew Dalton, Chief Information Security

Officer, presented a draft Information Security Policy for Rules Committee comment; the Rules Committee conducted routine business.

- 10 March 2017: Ruth Yanka, Executive Director, A & F Operations, and Alyson Gill, Associate Provost for Instructional Innovation, discussed the Amazon textbook tool; the Rules Committee conducted routine business and empowered the Secretary and Rules Committee Chair to discuss funding and staffing at the University Press with Vice Chancellor Malone.
- 24 March 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including discussion of recruitment of a new faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, elections under the new Bylaws, and a preliminary report from the Joint Task Force on Student Success and Learning Outcomes (JTFSSLO).
- 7 April 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including a delegate to the Board of Trustees, remaining conversion of 3-credit general education courses, the UMass Press report, and the impact of the Student Response to Teaching and Instruction (SRTI) on personnel actions.
- 21 April 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including discussion of the change to the program approval process as proposed by the Board of Higher Education and activities of the Intercampus Faculty Council.
- 10 May 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routine business, including a proposal from the International Studies Council and implementation plans for the general education diversity requirement.
- 9 June 2017: The Rules Committee approved four courses and changes to three programs for the Senate; the transition in Senate office staffing due to Anne Benz's retirement; discussion of the policy for reviewing non-credit offerings by third parties; other routine business.
- 24 July 2017: The Rules Committee conducted routing business, including Senate office staffing, upcoming vacancies on the Rules Committee, a report on the Council on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), and a report on the recent Board of Trustees meeting; the Rules Committee approved a new course on behalf of the Senate.
- 22 August 2017: Tracy Mitrano, Advisor to the Vice Chancellor for Information Technology, (via Zoom) and Matthew Dalton, Chief Information Security Officer, presented the current draft Information Security Policy for Rules Committee comment; the Rules Committee conducted routine business including progress toward implementation of the general education diversity proposal.

Rules Committee Policy and Governance Major Discussions

Restructuring the degree requirements in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
General Education diversity requirement
Structuring the Campus Planning and Resource Committee
Updating the Faculty Senate Bylaws
Response to the Board of Higher Education proposal to revise program approvals
Response to the Board of Trustees Efficiency and Effectiveness directives

Committees, Task Forces, Special Motions, Resolutions, and Other Activities

Campus Planning and Resource Committee
Special Motion of Thanks to Representative Ellen Story
Resolution on Recently Adopted Additional Restrictions on Certain Individuals' Ability to Enter
the United States of America
Moment of silence to remember Tom Lindeman
Rules Committee representation (Senate Secretary and Chair of the Rules Committee) on the
Campus Planning and Resource Committee