

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
RULES COMMITTEE
Minutes
FEBRUARY 27, 2015

Attendees: Marilyn Billings, Richard Bogartz, Steven D. Brewer, Nancy Cohen, Ernest May, MJ Peterson, James Rinderle, Susan Krauss Whitbourne

Guest: Alyson Gill

1. GUEST

**Alyson Gill, Associate Provost for Instructional Innovation
“Plans for Curriculum Innovation”**

She comes out of faculty ranks, and has a faculty position in art history at UMA, so is tuned to listen for those needs and wants and “translate” to services that can be provided by IT. Highlights of conversations in her first 6 weeks: video conferencing facilities, scheduling, adaptive learning products (McGraw Hill, Pearson), instructional learning tools and pedagogy that would engage students in higher level tasks, leveraging existing resources, emphasis on teaching and learning, advances in learning outcomes and assessment, how to support faculty in transitions. Discussion ensued.

2. MINUTES

Minutes from the February 20, 2015 Rules Committee meeting submitted by Susan Krauss Whitbourne.

Minutes were approved as amended.

3. FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For March 12, 2015)

**A. Presentation from the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation (JTFRA)
Elizabeth Chilton and Timothy Anderson, Co-Chairs
(Questions and Discussion to follow)**

Ernie will be in touch with Elizabeth re the time allocation: 15 minutes presentation; 15 minutes discussion. The Senate will receive the report at this meeting and vote in April. After this, there'll be a road show to departments during which the co-chairs will receive feedback. Based on feedback, there could be changes to the model.

B. Interim Report of the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation (JTFRA), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No. (*Report will be submitted on March 2nd*)

Ernie will amend language on Faculty Senate agenda for March 12 to state “That the Faculty Senate receive the Interim Report of the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation (JTFRA), as presented in Sen.Doc. No.”

C. Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.

D. Approval of a new course by the Academic Matters Council

E. Special Report from the Nominating Committee for the Secretary of the Faculty Senate, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. (*Report will be submitted on March 4th*)

Ernie will change wording of this item to clarify the difference from the Nominating Committee in H. below.

F. Special Report of the Academic Matters and Graduate Councils concerning an Accelerated Master’s Program: Civil and Environmental Engineering, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.

G. Special Report of the Academic Matters and Graduate Councils concerning an Accelerated Master’s Degree in Biostatistics, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.

H. Special Report of the Nominating Committee concerning Nominations to the Academic Honesty Board, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.

All items from AMC will be consolidated into a consent agenda.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Draft – Process for Review of Undergraduate Certificates (2/20/15) AMC is reviewing this as a procedure, will come back to Rules Committee, then on to Faculty Senate for a vote.

B. Faculty Senate Meeting Schedule April 30 is a Monday class day due to many winter storms. The April 30 meeting will be in in the Integrative Learning Center, Room S331.

- C. **Chancellor Evaluation Memo** being drafted. Rules is meeting with Review Committee March 4.
- D. **Exploratory Tracks/First-Year Seminars** Some concern that these have not yet gone through any Senate Councils or Committees.
- E. **Thanksgiving Recess – 2016-17 Calendar** (*Sen. Doc. No. 14-029A*) now will be whole week. Tuesday and Wednesday are terrible travel days. Students have been voting with their feet to not be here that week for years.
- F. **Advisory Committee on Graduate Student Admissions** The members of this committee were announced last night, Yemisi and Eliot Moss are both on it, along with a graduate student representative.
- G. **College Planning Budget Councils**
- H. **Rules Committee/Administration meeting topics for Monday, March 9th** meeting now cancelled due to scheduling issues. Next meeting is March 30.
 - 1. **Developmental Tracks, First-Year Seminars, Burning-Glass, . . . Anything else?**
 - 2. **JTRFA Report**
 - 3. **Other?**

Submitted by,

Marilyn Billings