

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
RULES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**MARCH 27, 2015**

Attendance (Bogartz, Brewer, Cohen, Jimoh, May, Peterson, Rinderle)

**1. MINUTES**

**Minutes from the February 27, 2015 Rules Committee meeting submitted by Marilyn Billings.**

Cohen moved approval, Rinderle seconded, minutes accepted unanimously.

**2. FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For April 9, 2015)**

**A. Election – Secretary of the Faculty Senate**

Secretary's notes preceding meeting (by April 2nd) will include voting procedure. Voting procedure undefined in bylaws – Rules Committee may want to amend bylaws to include voting procedures.

Subsequent Faculty Senate meeting will include elections for Presiding Officer and Representative to the Board of Trustees.

**B. Presentation by James Sheehan, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance  
“Amazon Textbook Online Bookstore”  
(Questions and Discussion to follow)**

Suggested time: 10-minute presentation, 10 minutes for questions: 20 minutes total.

**C. Elizabeth Chilton, Co-Chair, Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation (JTFRA)  
Continued Questions and Discussion, from the March 12, 2015 meeting**

Suggested time: 15 minutes.

Discussion of general principles about transparency that would be desirable to include in any ultimate Resource Allocation system. Plan to take APC and PBC reports and form joint conference committee with Elizabeth Chilton and Tim Anderson to find common language to guide creation of College Budget Councils.

**D. Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-031A with Motion No. 23-15. (Second Reading)**

**E. 1. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning a Revision of the Certificate in American English Linguistics, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**

**Consent Agenda:**

- 2. Special Report of the Academic Matters and Program and Budget Councils concerning Revision of the Actuarial Concentration in the Mathematics and Statistics Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**
- 3. Special Report of the Academic Matters and Program and Budget Councils concerning Revision of the Computer Systems Engineering Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**

4. **Special Report of the Academic Matters and Program and Budget Councils concerning Revision of the Electrical Engineering Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**

**Consent Agenda:**

5. **Special Report of the Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning a Master of Science in Nursing Studies (MSNS), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**
  6. **Special Report of the Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning a Graduate Certificate in Climate Change, Hazards and Green Infrastructure, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**
  7. **Special Report of the Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a Focus in Sport Management, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. with Motion No.**
- F. Special Report of the Nominating Committee concerning Nominations to the Academic Honesty Board, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-036B with Motion No. 26-15.**

Rules Committee discussed how to organize items into a consent agenda: currently items are grouped by the subcommittee proposing the motion. It was proposed the Bylaws be modified to describe the principles by which the consent agenda should be constructed.

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **Special Report of the University Writing Committee concerning Proposed Policy on Junior Year Writing Course Substitution and College Writing Prerequisite to all Junior Year Writing Courses**

Report to be sent to AMC, Gen Ed Council.

- B. **Rules for Presiding Officer to give his/her opinions at Faculty Senate meetings**

The presiding officer may make statements as any other senator may, but should avoid using a privileged position (i.e., time or space on the agenda) not available to all senators. In event of making an extended statement, the presiding officer should yield the gavel to the secretary.

- C. **Topics for Rules Committee/Administration meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Topics to add to RC/Admin Agenda:  
Defunding of Masters Programs  
Smaller Graduate Programs Better Supported  
Department Bylaws (if Randy Phillis there)

Submitted by,

Steven D. Brewer