

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
RULES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

NOVEMBER 14, 2014

Present: Steven D. Brewer, Richard Bogartz, Ernest May, Nancy Cohen, MJ Peterson, Marilyn Billings, Susan Whitbourne

1. GUESTS

**Jay Schafer, Director of Libraries and Leslie Button, Associate Director of Library Services
“Top 40 Most Expensive Journals”**

Jay Schafer presented a list of periodicals prices showing which discipline shows the highest percentage increase. This discussion is relevant to the open access policy which the RC discussed in October. Jay presented data showing that materials buying power has decreased substantially; a decrease of \$5.5 million in annual buying power. Serial expenditures have increased since FY09 compared to book expenditures. Elsevier is the largest in terms of number of titles and cost, but it is not the highest in cost per use. The largest expenditures are for journals published by Elsevier, next by Wiley-Blackwell. Nature package renewals are increasing significantly (4 to 23%). Very difficult to unbundle packages particularly from Elsevier. Interlibrary Loan also incurs a cost of from \$30 to \$50. The costs apply to the current 5 years. Path to the future would be for faculty to deposit their manuscripts in the university's open access repository. It's important to educate faculty about open access to learn about the effects of commercial academic publishing and advances in open access publishing.

2. MINUTES

Minutes from October 24 were approved; Minutes from the October 31, 2014 Rules Committee meeting submitted by Jim Kurose were approved.

3. FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS (For December 11, 2014)

The agenda was discussed for the December 11, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Senate. Questions were raised about which items to include and in what order they should be included- specifically, the JTFRA report and the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football (ACFBS).

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Honorary Degree Advising Committee was discussed in terms of composition and role. We will discuss this at the next RC meeting with the administration. Also to add to that agenda is the proposal for the first-year small seminars proposed by the Provost.

More faculty members are needed for JTFSO and we will review the list to determine how to add more members, paying attention to balance among schools and colleges, gender balance, diversity.

We will need two RC replacements- one for 2.5 years and one for a semester.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Krauss Whitbourne