

Rules Committee Meeting  
Minutes, March 8, 2013

Attendees: Joe Bartolomeo (chair), Marilyn Billings (note taker), Steve Brewer, Tony Butterfield, Ernie May, Brian O'Connor, MJ Peterson, Ralph Whitehead  
Guest: Rebecca Spencer, Co-chair, Athletic Council

The first item for discussion: Rebecca Spencer brought concerns from the Athletic Council regarding the Interim Ad Hoc Committee on Football.

The Athletic Council motion that was presented to the Rules Committee:

**REVISED RECOMMENDATION TO THE RULES COMMITTEE FROM THE ATHLETIC COUNCIL**

On February 20, 2013 the Athletic Council submitted to the Rules Committee the following statement:

*<sup>3</sup>Whereas the Athletic Council has discussed and deliberated upon the report and the charge, the Athletic Council offers this recommendation that indicates that the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football was not properly reviewed, deliberated upon or voted in a regularly scheduled meeting prior to submission to the Rules Committee for presentation at the Faculty Senate; that substantive information was withheld from review/deliberation and presentation to the Rules Committee and the Faculty Senate; that no minutes were approved or available for review; and that email correspondence and notification was most recently handled in such a manner as to exclude select members of the committee from participating; and that appropriate notification be released regarding the disregard for university and Faculty Senate governance procedures.<sup>2</sup>*

*We submit the following amendment to this statement:*

*The Athletic Council recommends that the Rules Committee withdraw the charge for response to the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football until the Ad Hoc Committee has had the opportunity to submit a revised interim report.*

*[This addendum to the previous comment was voted on and passed by the Athletic Council unanimously on March 1, 2013.]*

Discussion about this topic ensued with the decision that by the end of the semester there should be agreement on the committee. What's at issue is how the ad hoc committee has been run, including the lack of minutes, which reflects poorly on the committee as a whole, not on specific individuals. There's concern about process and having an interim report submitted to the Faculty Senate which wasn't seen by all members of the ad hoc committee but then which was distributed as though it was a final, voted on report.

Recommendation by Steve Brewer: that the Faculty Senate Office create an email list for each committee for more efficient communication. Ernie agreed that could be done and added that the Faculty Senate is in the process of automating many functions in the office.

Minutes approved for Dec. 6 and Feb. 22.

Faculty Senate agenda items:

More items will be coming in from Councils and Committees. AMC just passed a large number of courses in time for this agenda. RLC's annual report will be coming in.

Ask John Kennedy to speak about Inauguration events in April, also put on Tuesday's agenda. There is a supplement about UMass in the Boston Globe's Sunday magazine April 21. A Globe reporter is speaking mostly to students but is interviewing some faculty as well.

AMC has a big load of work, meets every 2 weeks, other subcommittees meet in between. What can we do to help? In Strategic Planning we need to ensure that service really matters for P&T, now there's no credit given for service.

Discussion items:

A. Program Revisions:

1. Online Certificate in Casino Management in Dept of Hospitality and Tourism Management: to AMC, PBC, APC
2. Online Certificate in Meeting & Event Management in Dept of Hospitality and Tourism Management: to AMC, PBC, APC
3. Revision to the RN to BS Online Program: to AMC, PBC

B. Update the Faculty Senate on the current status and future plans for articulation between UMass and the Town of Amherst by someone in the administration - talk about on Tuesday Gateway project. We should ask about Cushman project on Henry St. University is encouraging town to build housing away from University - we want to keep students as close to campus as possible. Traffic is a huge problem already with students further away from campus. Discussion ensued about university-town relations. The increase in students is certainly an issue that the university needs to address. If students come here, can the students get the courses they need in the order they need to get them to graduate on time and the correct major.

C. Revised Recommendation to the Rules Committee from the Athletic Council – done at start of meeting

D. 2015-2016 Academic Calendar: Calendar committee is meeting during break - complicated issue. Neal Abraham was at AMC yesterday to discuss calendar. Could we start before Labor Day (other 4 Colleges start after Labor Day). Could we start earlier in January? (Smith has 2 week intersession). Lots of discussion needed. Amherst is only one doing 14 weeks, others are 13 + weeks. David Gross and Carol Barr now on committee.

E. Strategic Planning Update - JTFISO meeting this afternoon.

Much discussion ensued.

One big thing in plan - Bachelor's degree in Integrative Studies - every student would go into some program - this would be default for those who are undeclared (2000 students) so students would be advised, etc. We don't consider their needs, only do majors, gen eds etc. This is the reason for why students can't get into courses they need in timely fashion. this is a course management / enrollment problem.

Jrs and Srs taking organic chemistry rather than earlier.

Resources are going to follow strategic direction. Some depts refuse to hire lecturers - now there are decent salaries, benefits, etc. There's still lack of academic freedom. There are still some obstacles for lecturers. Need to have a tenurable, teaching faculty - need roles and rewards.

Next meeting of JTFISO next Friday, then will wrestle the wording. Joe B will write the executive summary of the Strategic Plan. With the IE, UMA has something that no one else has – but we're starving the IE.

We want to be a destination of choice.

Is integrative studies a way to give them advising and other resources - will there be a degree in integrative studies? This would help with graduation rates and other assessment measures.

We're approaching the end of the beginning with strategic planning. Next year will do the nuts and bolts of it. We can't sustain all that we're currently doing in order to do new things.

Are there constraints that we can eliminate that would streamline efforts?

Reduce number of artificial constraints that we have in place.

Students need to come out with viable degree - these 2000 undeclared students get lost.

F. Revised Meeting Schedule for Spring 2013: distributed

G. Clay Christenson's meeting with BoT - Marilyn send notes to Rules.

Submitted by,  
Marilyn Billings