

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

RULES COMMITTEE

MINUTES: NOVEMBER 22, 2013

1. Tracy Schoenadel and Nelson Lacey, Co-Chairs of the Athletic Council, discussed the "Process for recruiting alumni to serve on the Athletic Council." An inventory of members is taken each year. There are two openings this year. The committee and guests discussed the possibility of adjusting the Senate bylaws on the nominating process. It was decided that more information was needed.
2. The minutes of the November 15, 2013 Rules Committee meeting were approved.
3. The Rules Committee decided to invite John Kennedy to a Rules Committee meeting to discuss publicizing the many outstanding faculty here at UMA. There was some feeling that presentations at Trustees' meetings by other UM campuses may be outdoing UMA presentations, so far as showing off our stars is concerned.
4. The Faculty Senate agenda items for the December 12, 2013 meeting were approved.
5. It was decided that in the future we will group motions which we expect will receive unanimous approval into large chunks under one motion. When the agenda is lengthy, we will use consent motions.
6. The Rules Committee discussed a bylaw change for the de-nomination process for Councils and Committees.
7. Two items for the Rules Committee/Administration meeting on Monday, November 25 were discussed:
  - A. The Vision Project - "Within Our Sights" - A Report to the People of Massachusetts from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, October 2013
  - B. From the Chronicle of Higher Education - "Attitudes on Innovation - How College Leaders and Faculty See the Key Issues Facing Higher Education"
8. It was decided that Richard Bogartz, in his capacity as Presiding Officer, would communicate with the GSS representative about more effective methods for communicating positions to the Faculty Senate. Specific suggestion concerned providing written material as handouts rather than reading long passages to the Senate, not keeping the Senate waiting while she searches through her computer for the next item to read, and generally presenting briefer remarks.

Submitted by,

Richard Bogartz