Spring General Meeting
March 6, 2022

Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Amy Bronson, Aninda Barat, Bernadette Carr, Christie Ryan, Craig Pavlik, Dana Wade-Smith, Emily Iem, Gina Fishman, Etiksha Goyal, Jody Troderman, Lynne Malone, Maryrose Sylvester, Maureen Provost, Penny Nichols-Cordero, Tracy O’Neill, Tim King, Wayne Goldstein

**Members Absent:** Andrew Ehrlich, Christina Maria Brooks, Eric McRoy, Juliette Rooney-Varga, Kathleen Small, Lolli Fleming, Lori Lamson, Mary Millett, Nancy Boyle, Tara Schneider

**Staff Present:** Pallavi Bandalli, Rose Boulay

**Council Members Welcome and Intro of New Members – Turn and Talk**

The meeting started at 3 p.m. Members introduced themselves and gave updates on their students. Everyone welcomed new members Tim and Emily to the Council!

**Keynote Speaker – Dr. Kerri Thompson Tillett, Associate Vice Chancellor, Equal Opportunity & Access, & Title IX Coordinator**

Rose introduced Dr. Tillett to the Council who then talked about her office; what she does; how cases of sexual harassment are investigated; and programs they have put in place with students’ input to tackle this issue and keep students safe. She talked about sex discrimination in higher education; explained what Title IX is and how her office deals with Title IX issues. She spoke about some of the incidents that happened last fall and emphasized the importance of reporting because without reporting it’s almost impossible to investigate. She also talked about the Survivors Bill of Rights and the task force her office helped create and encouraged everyone to read the Survivor Bill of Rights and to discuss it with their students. More information about the Equal Opportunity office is available here [https://www.umass.edu/equalopportunity/](https://www.umass.edu/equalopportunity/).

**UMassGives**

Amy shared some information about UMassGives 2022 to take place April 28 & 29. It is agreed that the Council will raise funds for SCERF and the Family to Family Fund to sponsor programs that can support Council’s initiatives, events, or activities for UMass families and students.

**Nomination of Officers**
Bernadette is currently serving as a stand-alone Chair for the council this spring. Wayne is interested in being Chair-Elect. Council members are urged to consider running and vote for the next Chair-Elect.

**Important Dates**

**Upcoming Webinar Dates:**
- Education Abroad 101, March 9 @ 6:30pm
- Online Room Selection 2022, March 14 @ 5:30pm
- Allyship Webinar, March 17 @6:30pm
- Supporting Your Student in Times of Stress, March 23 @ 6:30pm
- Renting Your First Place, April 6 @ 6:30pm
- Life After UMass Amherst, April 20 @ 6:30pm

- **UMassGives:**
  - April 28-29

- **Summer Ready for the U – Call for Participation (Online and on campus)**
  - Months and days (June and July, Mondays/Tuesdays and Thursdays/Fridays)
  - Check-in/Registration (Day 1)
  - Reception (Day 1)
  - OPS Presentation

- **Family Weekend:**
  - October 14-16, 2022

- **Council Group Conference Calls:**
  - Tuesday, April 5 @5:30pm
  - Monday, May 2 @5:30pm

**Campus Update**
- The Princeton Review has named UMass Amherst as one of “Great Campus Food” list in its 2022 edition of The Best 387 Colleges.
- “UMass Magazine” received three gold awards and a Judge’s Choice award at the 2021 Creative Awards given by the Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts on Sept. 14.
- A University of Massachusetts Amherst epidemiologist has received a five-year, $3 million Outstanding New Environmental Scientist (ONES) grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) in his ongoing effort to discover more about the origins and risk factors of autism.
• A University of Massachusetts Amherst professor in biochemistry and molecular biology received an NIH (National Institutes of Health) grant for two years and $700,000 for working on developing an innovative technology to treat Alzheimer’s, chronic traumatic encephalopathy, and other neurodegenerative diseases.

• Isenberg’s Online MBA (master’s in business administration) program ranks #12 in best online MBA programs listed by U.S. News & World Report.

• In the area of graduate education, the College of Nursing ranked 11th for its online master’s program and sixth in nursing education.

• We’re among the top research universities nationwide for our commitment to leadership in Sustainability.

• Our graduates work in such dynamic places as Broadway, NASA, Google, Fenway Park, IBM, the Brooklyn Museum, CNN, General Electric, Alaska’s Denali National Park to name a few. They are leaders on Beacon Hill and Capitol Hill, on the stage and on the field, in the board room and in the laboratory.

• Campus Pride has named UMass Amherst to their 2021 list of Best of the Best Colleges and Universities for LGBTQ Students in the United States.

• The UMass Amherst food science department maintained its number-one ranking in the U.S. and jumped to seventh in the world, according to the 2021 Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, part of the annual Academic Ranking of World Universities.

**Helpful links**

Student Success Office: [https://www.umass.edu/studentsuccess/](https://www.umass.edu/studentsuccess/)

Office of Parent Services: [http://www.umass.edu/parents/](http://www.umass.edu/parents/)

UMass Amherst Parents Advisory Council: [http://www.umass.edu/parents/advisory-council](http://www.umass.edu/parents/advisory-council)

Family to Family Facebook Group: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/1511631422486897/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1511631422486897/)

Family to Family Blog: [http://blogs.umass.edu/fam2fam/](http://blogs.umass.edu/fam2fam/)

Students Care and Emergency Response Fund: [https://minutefund.umass.edu/project/20457](https://minutefund.umass.edu/project/20457)

Single Stop Resource: [https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/single-stop](https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/single-stop)

*Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.*

*Christie Ryan, recording secretary*