Presiding Officer Robert Wilson called the 682nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on March 12, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227.

A. PRESENTATION BY JANE FOUNTAIN, CHAIR, TASK FORCE ON REORGANIZATION
(QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW)
(See attached)

Chancellor Robert C. Holub thanked Jane Fountain and the Task Force for putting in all this hard work. There was a lot of time devoted to these difficult problems. Chancellor Holub stated he thought Jane soon understood that there are a lot of different opinions on the campus, and they are not all reconcilable. It is nice that the report recognizes this by suggesting various kinds of alternatives.

Chancellor Holub stated that most faculty members have probably read the memo that he wrote and distributed this morning. It honors the work of the Task Force and accords very well with the kind of principles that were outlined: to deliberate more in some areas and move forward in other areas. Those are the kinds of alternatives that Chancellor Holub is looking for. The University is not finished with Reorganization. There are processes that are still ongoing. There is also the possibility that the campus may have to seek further consolidations within the Colleges, depending what the budget situation brings in the future.

The budget is very much in flux. Chancellor Holub wishes he had some definitive news. This week, he is meeting with the Vice Chancellors and giving them budget reductions in terms of the scenario that the campus faces right now. The campus does not have any federal stimulus money. No money has come into campus funds from any stabilization fund. At some point, the administration felt it had to give the Vice Chancellors a budget. However, the administration is also looking to have the situation with the federal stimulus money resolved in the next month. The Office of the President has worked hard to push this stimulus money. Chancellor Holub was in Washington, DC and in Boston many times. He was in a high school last week and at the Ways and Means Committee meeting. They hope that the allocation comes out close to what it is in the Governor’s budget which would mean a higher amount of state stabilization funding. Some legislators are thinking a little differently about this. The campus does not know what the outcome will be. They will not be laying people off before April 1 as anticipated. In some offices, a 90-day notice is needed. The administration is not going to do that. They are going to wait until April with the anticipation that there will be more positive news.

The chief concern is to mitigate the necessity of doing layoffs on the campus. The Chancellor’s Office hopes that the federal money will enable them to do that. The process depends very much on what the actual allocations are by the legislature. Before you can apply for the federal money, you have to have certain levels of funding. Those levels of funding have to be guaranteed in legislative action. Once that is accomplished, the state can go ahead and apply for the money and see what transpires.

James Kurose, Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, stated there are many good things in the proposed Reorganization in terms of bringing the Life Sciences together and keeping the Life Sciences proximate to the Physical Sciences. He thinks this will help move the University forward. In terms of the Environmental Sciences, many of the synergies that exist between NRE and NSM and bringing those people together will be a very good thing as well.

He has heard several people, including Jane, refer to the new college as the “science college.” He is hoping that the campus does not think of the College of Natural Sciences (CNS) as the science college because science is something that cuts across the campus. Joint grants and gifts and external funding have come in over the last two years between NSM and every college across campus.

He thanked the Task Force, especially Jane. She and the Task Force put in a tremendous amount of work. He also thanked the Chancellor. He said there were some really clear wins. There are some thornier issues, and he thanked the Chancellor for opening up those thornier issues for discussion. He said there will be a lot of interesting discussions coming up in the next year. He was going over the Chancellor’s Convocation speech from the fall. Chancellor Holub spoke about an administration that provides support for faculty so that they continue to improve and succeed in research and scholarship. Dean Kurose thinks what the Chancellor has proposed is a really excellent step in making an administration that does that.
He wanted to reflect on the federal stimulus money and his concern with respect to what was in *The Boston Globe* today. There are legislators who are unclear about the idea that is contained in the Federal Stimulus Package about maintenance of effort. Maintenance of effort must be demonstrated by the state in order to receive the federal stimulus monies. That effort must be maintained at the FY06 levels. The state funding to higher education and K-12 must maintain FY06 levels which is tens of billions of dollars higher than the Governor’s proposed budget. If the state does not fund at those maintenance of effort values contained in the federal law, then the University is not eligible to receive the federal stimulus money. Call your legislators. If the legislators somehow get rolling on underfunding the University to a point where the University becomes ineligible for the federal stimulus dollars, the University will pay dearly.

**Senator Marta Calas** thanked Jane and the Task Force. They did a fantastic job. It is a very hopeful report. Senator Calas does not feel equally positive about the Chancellor’s recommendation because there is a sense of managerialism to what he said. The first time the Chancellor came to the Senate, Senator Calas asked how he would reconcile his managerial side with academic interests and the integration between units on campus. She does not think that the Reorganization Plan answers this question. For example, the Reorganization Plan puts the School of Management in a marginal position because it does not touch the School. The work that Senator Calas does is interdisciplinary and touches upon the humanities, social sciences and sometimes the sciences. Supposedly the School of Management is being privileged by not being touched. In many ways, it destroys the type of work the School does, making its work more difficult. She feels there is a disjunction between what the Reorganization Task Force and the Chancellor are trying to do. The Chancellor is still moving around boxes rather than questioning the campus culture. He should be improving organization and, at the same time, integrating College relationships.

**John McCarthy, Chair of the Rules Committee**, echoed the remarks of the previous speakers. He stands in awe of the work that the Reorganization Task Force has done. It is quite remarkable that they have accomplished so much in so little time. He has also been struck about how this discussion of reorganization has opened up the possibility of talking about issues that, in many cases, have not been discussed. He wanted to call attention in the Chancellor’s letter from today where he brings up the issue of resources and resource allocation among the Colleges and other units. He is impressed and pleased that the Chancellor did that. It is a discussion the campus has not had broadly. It has been an issue in the Provost’s Office, but it is an issue that needs to be more openly discussed, and having it in this document gives people license and permission to talk about it.

**Michael Sugerman, Assistant Professor of Anthropology**, stated there has been very widespread negative response to the proposal to merge SBS and HFA. He wonders why the Chancellor suggested in his memo that this was something that still needed further investigation and would likely still go forward. Is there a possibility that this merger simply will not happen?

**Chancellor Holub** stated he did not want to prejudice any outcomes. There are many structures that work at universities. There was initial resistance to some of the changes in the Isenberg School of Management. After having a few conversations, that resistance disappeared. Departments then became part of the Isenberg School of Management that would not have been considered before. Chancellor Holub is asking that people enter into a deliberative process with an open mind and see what comes of it. There may be other changes next year due to financial exigency. The campus has to keep itself open and nimble to different possibilities in order to be successful.

**Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate**, thanked the members of the Task Force, especially Jane Fountain, for producing such a fine and in-depth report in a relatively short amount of time. He also thanked the Chancellor for maintaining the deliberative nature of this process. Previous Chancellors have not ventured out into this area and allowed the campus to deliberate about fundamental issues such as organization. While many agree on the general principles of the proposal, not everyone agrees on the details. He suspects that the Chancellor will produce a document by the end of June that represents his view. The Senate is going to do the same thing. The Councils have been deliberating at the same time as the Task Force. Six councils were asked to produce preliminary reports by March 6. Three of these reports are now up on the web site. The others will be added over the course of the spring break.
The Councils were asked to indicate their response to the initial proposal from the point of view, for example, of graduate education, research and undergraduate education. The Academic Priorities Council has been asked to respond to the Chancellor’s overall vision for Reorganization. This overlaps with the Task Force’s mission, and there has been a fair amount of communication between the Task Force and the Academic Priorities Council. The Senate will be asked to vote on a proposal by the May 7 meeting. The Rules Committee is working on synthesizing these reports. It may also be useful for the Chancellor to communicate with the Academic Priorities Council and some of the other Councils involved.

Secretary May encouraged faculty members to go to the web site and read the reports. He encouraged senators to remain in touch with him, John McCarthy and with Councils and Committee members.

Joya Misra, Associate Professor of Sociology and Public Policy, thanked the Task Force, the Senate and the faculty for being so engaged in thinking about these processes. She asked Chancellor Holub why he thought the merger of HFA and SBS was intellectually a great idea. It seems to address some budgetary issues, but what is the other driving force that makes this an effective change for the University?

Chancellor Holub stated he was a faculty member for many years in German. Some of the best partnerships he had were with individuals in political science, sociology and anthropology. He has talked to people on this campus who are in classics and do collaborative work with people in the social sciences. The social sciences at Berkeley, where he was a professor, included the department of linguistics, history and women’s studies. These departments are all in the humanities here. This says that there are some commonalities between the departments in these colleges. Chancellor Holub stated that he does not want to exclude those kinds of partnerships from developing. Over the next year, he asked faculty to examine the potentially productive relationships between these two colleges.

Professor Misra asked why HFA and SBS need to be separate from the sciences.

Chancellor Holub stated that on an abstract intellectual level there is nothing wrong with a College of Arts and Sciences. He stated it is the size and constellation of the campus and the nature of the professional schools that lead him to his conclusions. This decision has nothing to do with divides between social sciences, humanities and the natural sciences. He also stated that the nature of the professional schools should be strongly incorporated into the campus. Chancellor Holub stated that he does not want a CAS or CHASS taking over the education of undergraduates. Undergraduates have to be exposed to various parts of campus. Except for one, every school on this campus includes undergraduate majors.

Chancellor Holub also stated that the divide between applied and basic sciences, or applied and theoretical sciences, is often broken down across the country. This is a very healthy interchange that has come about since he has been in higher education. These kinds of enabling moments are really important for a campus nowadays, and he wants to try to foster those.

Senator Richard Bogartz stated that when he hears Chancellor Holub speak, he gets the impression that he is dead set against a College of Arts and Sciences. Is there some constellation of reports and opinions that might persuade him otherwise?

Chancellor Holub stated he tries to keep an open mind. His concerns have to do with the particular constellation on this campus, not with any intellectual problems with a College of Arts and Sciences. He has not heard any solutions to the issues he raised that have been persuasive. Chancellor Holub stated that he has to see that an organizational structure is going to benefit the campus and faculty as a whole.

Elisabeth Selkirk, Head of Linguistics Department, suggested that the Chancellor ask the Reorganization Task Force to take a year and deliberate on these questions, addressing the administrative issues that the Chancellor has laid out. She stated that the campus would be incredibly grateful if a representative body could seriously look at how the campus is organized administratively. There may be people on the campus with deliberative purpose who are ready to engage in this process with Chancellor Holub and provide answers to many of the problems related to a CAS. Jane’s presentation suggested that the campus look at the Provost’s or the Graduate Offices. The default thought at the present is that the Reorganization Task Force has come to the end of its charge. The only charge that the Chancellor is actually offering is that there would be continued examination of the merger of HFA and SBS. It would make sense to continue considering the possibility of a College of Arts and Sciences.
Chancellor Holub stated that he looked at the Provost’s and the Chancellor’s Offices in December and announced that they were going to reduce the budgets in those offices by $0.5 million. The administration continues to look at the Graduate School and at possible collaborations in other administrative structures. The purpose of saving on administrative costs is to fund more faculty and increase instructional capacity for the campus.

Secondly, Chancellor Holub stated that he asked for a number of reports in his memo, including a report from the Deans of SBS and HFA. He considers this to be a deliberative process for the campus on a number of fronts. He is not looking at just one area but at the entire campus. Chancellor Holub stated he is concerned about the professional schools on campus. Many of these schools have excellent faculty, but he wants the schools to have a higher profile. The imbalance on this campus between professional schools and traditional Arts and Science departments is remarkable when you look at other AAU institutions.

Chancellor Holub has not disbanded the Task Force. The Task Force gave Chancellor Holub a preliminary report. His assignment to them was to look at various organizational structures for the campus. If they want to continue looking at organizational structures, they can do that. Chancellor Holub stated he is never against a deliberative process where people are going to examine different possibilities. He has laid out the concerns he has. Intellectually, he is not against a CAS, but he does not see how it is going to work on this campus. If someone can show him how it is going to work, he can certainly be friendlier to that kind of proposal.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Secretary May thanked everyone who has focused on the issue of Reorganization. He thanked the Chancellor for his willingness and his challenge to deliberate this in an in-depth way. There are also many other things going on, including the Budget Planning Task Force meetings. There are budget challenges and the issue of Strategic Planning which is in process and is going forward in an integrated way.

2. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

W. Brian O’Connor, Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees, stated he wanted to say a few things about the Board of Trustee meeting on February 27 in which the fee increase was passed. It was almost a three-hour meeting with a lot of comments. He applauded the trustees for their behavior. There was a student contingent there of about 60-65. It was their lack of civility that destroyed the whole tenor of the meeting. There were some trustees who actually said, “I’m on your side, but I am appalled at your behavior.” Trustee John DiBiaggio, who is the only academic on the Board, tried to rationalize with the students as to why this fee increase was necessary to ensure quality. Trustee Ruben King-Shaw brought up a good point. He stated that the little brothers and sisters of the students who were there voicing their opposition would not have a university to come to if this fee increase was not passed. Other trustees argued very rationally and politely for this increase. It was a situation in which there was no alternative. It was too late to hold off and wait for the Stimulus Bill to come. One of the new trustees is the Secretary of Education, Paul Reville. He was not very optimistic about when the University would see the Stimulus Bill.

It was an unfortunate meeting. The students shot themselves in the foot. Faculty Delegate O’Connor tried to talk with them afterwards, but he did not make any headway at all. The trustees did have a very thorough, thoughtful discussion. It was a 12-4 vote. The people who voted against it were very honest about it. Trustees Stephen Tocco and Jennifer Braceras voted against it. Matt Carlin voted against it, but Matt Carlin has made it clear that he will vote against any fee increase and any tenure case. The student trustee from Boston, Alexander Kulenovic, also voted against it.

3. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors

Steven Brewer, Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors, stated that the MSP contract was ratified last Friday. The vote on this campus was unanimous. They also bargained with the group at Boston. They have ratified the contract as well, so now it goes on for signatures and so on. On a positive note, this year, faculty will see their pay increases much faster than usual. In fact, faculty will see them immediately because it is zero this year.
D. ANNUAL REPORT


The report was received.

E. NEW COURSES

There is no report associated with the following motion:

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<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 666</td>
<td>“The River that Connects Us – Environmentally Based Education”</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 822</td>
<td>“Seminar in Special Education Research”</td>
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<td>EDUC 884</td>
<td>“Social Policy and Disability”</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBHLTH 620</td>
<td>“Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System”</td>
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MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses EDUC 666, 822 and 884 and PUBHLTH 620, as recommended by the Graduate Council.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

F. NEW BUSINESS


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Policy on Registration Appointment Modifications, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-029.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

2. Special Report of the Graduate Council concerning Revisions to the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T) in Latin and Classical Humanities, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-030 with Motion No. 31-09.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revisions to the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T) in Latin and Classical Humanities, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-030.

The motion was seconded and adopted.


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the General Education Designations for HISTORY 375, HONORS 392L and SPORTMGT 294B, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-031.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

The 682nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:48 p.m. on March 12, 2009.

The proceedings of this meeting are available on audiotape in the Faculty Senate Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest D. May,
Secretary of the Faculty Senate