Presiding Officer Richard Bogartz called the 732nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on December 12, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227. The meeting began with a tribute to Nelson Mandela. While the whole world is connected to Nelson Mandela, the University of Massachusetts has some particular connections. UMass awarded its first ever system-wide honorary degrees to Mandela and his wife, Graça Machel, humanitarian and educator, during a ceremony at the Nelson Mandela Foundation in Johannesburg in 2006. Also, Mandela's daughter Makaziwe Mandela studied at UMass Amherst, earning a master's degree in sociology in 1989 and a doctorate in anthropology in 1993. UMass Professors Stephen Clingman of English and Mzamo Mangaliso of the Isenberg School of Management, both native South Africans, were invited to speak to the Senate.

Professor Stephen Clingman’s tribute may be read at the Massachusetts Review website by following this link: http://www.massreview.org/node/309.

Professor Mzamo Mangaliso’s tribute may be accessed at this link: http://www.umass.edu/senate/fs/Minutes/2013-2014/732-MANGALISO.pdf

Presiding Officer Bogartz concluded the tribute to Nelson Mandela by showing Maya Angelou’s “His Day is Done: A Tribute Poem for Nelson Mandela.” This poem may be viewed at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqQzjit7b1w.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy announced that, after a great year of celebrating UMass’ sesquicentennial, the celebrations concluded with a dinner thanking all those who made the many events possible. As he said at the dinner, Chancellor Subbaswamy looks forward to the celebration in 25 years celebrating UMass’ demi-semi-sep-centennial.

Provost James Staros gave a progress report on two ongoing searches coming out of his office. The Dean Search for the Commonwealth Honors College, chaired by John McCarthy, is underway. Candidates will probably be seen on campus in the spring. The search for a successor for Mary Deane Sorcinelli as Director of the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development is nearing completion. There may be an announcement before the next Senate meeting.

Michael Malone, Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement, also had an update on a search. The committee has been formed to search for a new Director at the University of Massachusetts Press, following the retirement of long-serving Director Bruce Wilcox. The Committee is chaired by Marla Miller, History, and Joel Martin, Vice Provost and Dean of the Faculty. Also serving are Jay Schafer, John Bracey, Dara Wier, Clark Dugan from the Press, and Rachel Rubin from American Studies at UMass Boston.

Julie Buehler, Vice Chancellor for Information Services and Strategy and Chief Information Officer, noted that OIT is moving forward picking up strategy. Many faculty members are involved in these conversations. However, Vice Chancellor Buehler has received a lot of feedback about not solely focusing on strategy, but dealing with some urgent operational issues. With that context, she announced progress on two fronts and asked for some help from faculty members. A lot of people have told OIT that they are having issues with wireless service. An external consultant was brought in and major changes have been made in the last two weeks. There are still intermittent issues, and those are aggravated by the fact that data is largely unavailable; issues are not being reported. Vice Chancellor Buehler asked all faculty members to report any new issues to the OIT help desk at (413) 545-9400. It is very clear to Vice Chancellor Buehler that people are consistently frustrated with the long distance phone codes. It appears that the benefit of using them is not worth the cost of the time spent on using them. OIT has launched a pilot to remove those codes. It will end at the end of February, at which point Vice Chancellor Buehler will report to the Senate again.

John Kennedy, Vice Chancellor for University Relations, announced that WGBY would re-air “Radical Idea: UMass Amherst and America’s Education Revolution” on the night of the Senate meeting at 8:00 p.m.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, wished the Senators a happy holiday season and thanked them for their hard work this semester.
3. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

James Kurose, Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees, noted that, preceding every Trustees meeting, there are two half-day meetings of the Board of Trustees’ Committees. During the Science, Technology and Research Committee meeting, Prashant Shenoy of UMass Amherst and Manuel Garber from UMass Medical School gave a presentation on big data. The Trustees met at UMass Dartmouth on December 11. The meeting began with a tribute to Nelson Mandela. Particularly moving were the comments by former UMass Amherst Chancellor Marcellette Williams, who was instrumental in awarding the honorary degrees to Mr. Mandela and his wife. At that meeting, a story was told how Massachusetts Secretary of Education Matthew Malone made a surprise visit to UMass Amherst. Secretary Malone came with his niece and went on a tour of the campus. At the Trustees Meeting, Secretary Malone raved about the campus, the tour and the Commonwealth Honors College. He really went off about how great Franklin Dining Commons is. Apparently, Secretary Malone sat down for a meal and was approached by an employee of the Dining Commons, who thought he was the parent of a student. The employee told him all about the food at UMass and the processes that go into it. Finally, when the employee asked Secretary Malone who he was, his identity came out. UMass Amherst got some really good PR at the meeting. President Caret talked about a number of different items, first of all the Governor’s continuing support for the 50/50 plan. He also mentioned the Satellite Center in Springfield. He noted that all campuses are invited to participate in the Center, but Amherst is the lead campus on the project. The site for that was selected and an event was held celebrating it in Springfield in November. Finally, Chancellor Subbaswamy talked to the Trustees about the naming of the John Francis Kennedy Champions Center.

Marilyn Billings, Associate Delegate to the Board of Trustees, noted that the Trustees’ Administration and Finance meeting was held a week before the other meetings. An internal audit charter was discussed, including financial statements and other financial programs. Another discussed item was the establishment of the Seedworks Nursing Endowed Professorship for Social Justice here at UMass Amherst. That professorship was approved by the Board of Trustees later. There was also discussion about revisions to the quasi-endowment policy that is in place at each campus. More information about that will come out next semester. Before the Board of Trustees meeting, a Committee of the Whole took place. During these meetings, one topic is discussed. The Committee went into great detail on ongoing strategic planning, particularly prioritizing capital and budgets going forward into 2014-2018.

4. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors

Randall Phillis, President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors, congratulated everyone on nearly finishing a good fall semester. President Phillis doesn’t call the semester finished until final grades are submitted. On December 13th, a symposium will be held on workplace bullying. This is the culmination and initiation of a whole series of events coming out of a few years of work on a complex and important issue. MSP put out a survey over a year ago that showed that there is a significant level of workplace bullying at UMass Amherst, just like at many other worksites. In that regard, UMass is troubled and not unique. A coalition that has formed from the unions on campus and a variety of administrative entities, with full support of the Chancellor, has engaged to create a step forward that is truly unique in academic environments nationally. This level of cooperation between the administration and other campus units is not widely seen around this challenging concern. The symposium will be keynoted by David Yamada, a nationally well-known expert on workplace bullying. UMass needs to acknowledge the truth of bullying. It must consider what it is and how it behaves. Everyone at UMass must engage fully to build a campus that is truly one of mutual support, patience and encouragement of colleagues and students. If UMass can use this event and the next couple of years of efforts to truly effect institutional change, it will set a tone nationally for a great move forward.

5. The President of the Student Government Association

Zachary Broughton, President of the Student Government Association, introduced himself to the Senators who had not yet met him. He had not been to a Senate meeting this semester because he had a class during the time. Renée Barouxis, Secretary of University Policy for the SGA, has been able to attend, and has been updating the SGA on Faculty Senate developments. Next semester, Secretary Barouxis would return, as President Broughton again has a class conflict. President Broughton then updated the Senate on SGA business. Like everyone on campus, the SGA has received the campus security report, as well as the recommendations for the Division of Student Affairs report. The SGA will be working over the break to compile a report of recommendations for Chancellor Subbaswamy and Vice Chancellor Gelaye. Once the SGA has been able to look through the 215-page security report, it will share its findings. The SGA will be working on a newsletter for the end of the semester so the campus can see the projects and initiatives that student leaders are working on around campus. It should be a little shorter than 215 pages. Faculty members are encouraged to participate in any initiatives that they are interested in. President Broughton concluded by thanking the Faculty Senate. It was a great semester. Many student leaders were working with faculty members and administrators on Faculty Senate Councils and Committees and various search committees.
B. QUESTION PERIOD

Senator Steven Brewer noted that on Masslive.com, it was reported that the Governor allocated $1.8 billion for capital projects. Among that was $51 million for the “Merrill Science Center” at UMass Amherst. He wondered if anyone could tell him where the “Merrill Science Center” is and what these funds are intended to do.

Chancellor Subbaswamy noted that that was obviously a typo. The funds are for the Morrill Science Center, and this funding is part of the approved list of funded projects. It will continue the badly-needed renovation process of the entire Morrill complex.

A graduate exchange student from the University of Capetown asked the Senate to see the product of Nelson Mandela. Being far away from home when she heard the news, and being a flippant young person, she asked herself how it was possible that this man could die. UMass provided her with the space to reflect, to see what was happening in South Africa, and to understand how she has benefited from a system that has gone right and is trying. Things are not perfect in South Africa. The country is healing from apartheid. She thanked UMass for providing space for this reflection, one that has helped her understand that the struggle still goes on. If she were at home, she would probably be singing and dancing as a sign of her reflection. She hoped to represent the University of Capetown and support the partnership it has with UMass Amherst. She thanked UMass and all of the United States for its support at this time. Flags are at half-staff. The Empire State Building lit up with the colors of South Africa’s flag. It has been unbelievable.

Senator Frank Hugus had two questions. The first concerned heat in the academic buildings after five o’clock and during weekends. Occasionally, Senator Hugus comes in after normal business hours and sees his department’s doctoral students shuddering in their offices because it is cold. This has been a pattern. Senator Hugus brought it up on the floor of the Senate last year. He supposes it is a question for the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, but he would appreciate some action being taken. His second question is about the so-called satellite campus in Springfield. The faculty has heard very little about this other than the fact that it is imminent, opening in the fall of 2014. This could have great academic and budgetary implications for this campus. He wondered if more information could be shared about what is going on with this satellite campus. Senator Hugus directed this question to the Chancellor and asked the Secretary of the Faculty Senate to look into this.

Chancellor Subbaswamy, addressing Senator Hugus’ first question, stated that, to the best of his knowledge, there have been no changes in policies regarding heating buildings. Chancellor Subbaswamy will discuss this with the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance and report back to the Senate through the Secretary. The Springfield satellite campus is an initiative that has been driven out of the system office, with an understandable interest on the part of Governor Patrick and Trustee Chair Thomas. The city of Springfield and the region surrounding it need more help. This campus has always been very clear about engaging with Springfield. A memorandum of understanding was signed between Springfield and UMass Amherst five years ago with the intention of improving the educational and economic outcomes in Springfield. All along it has been clear that UMass Amherst will engage with Springfield to the extent that the necessary finances are provided. None of that has changed. The concept of the engagement between UMass and Springfield has evolved into something where all campuses participate. UMass Amherst’s engagement, for the moment, is about consolidating the various pieces of its work that is or could be beneficial to Springfield and bringing them under one umbrella. What was announced a couple weeks ago was that, through an RFP process, Tower Square has been chosen as the location for the satellite campus. What goes in and how the ongoing operations will be financed have not been settled. UMass Amherst’s position has not changed. Start-up funds have to come from elsewhere and any ongoing operations need to be self-supporting or supplied by other means.

Secretary May stated that it is appropriate for the Program and Budget Council to follow up on this initiative, and it will do that next semester.

C. INTERIM REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FBS FOOTBALL (ACFBS)

NELSON LACEY AND MAX PAGE, CO-CHAIRS

Senator Max Page, Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football, gave the following address:

“Good afternoon.

“I want to thank Nelson Lacey for riding the rollercoaster of this debate with a calm and thoughtful demeanor. I also appreciate the extraordinary work of Jamie Seguin of the Athletic Department who has spent an enormous amount of time explaining the athletic budget and answering our questions.
"I want to offer a special welcome to the Deans and other administration officials who magically seem to appear on days when football is being discussed.

"Our goal has been to present the financial costs of football and thereby assist with a robust and open debate. The findings of this, our second interim report, approved 11-1 by the committee, are fairly simple to summarize:

"Before we moved into the FBS, we used to spend about $3.1 million dollars in university resources to run a football program; now we spend more than double that - $6.3 million. That is after we count all the revenues from game guarantees and ticket sales, etc., we have doubled the subsidy to the sport.

"Next year, when we start paying off the debt on the football training facility and press box designed specifically for the MAC's television requirements, and operating those facilities, we will more than triple the amount we spend to $9.5 million.

"Over the course of the two years in the MAC, we have cumulatively spent a total of $8.3 million beyond what we used to spend.

"Those are the facts. Let the debate continue.

"Here are my views, which are shared by many of the critics in this room and across the campus and state:

"There are far, far better uses for the millions -- $6.3 million this year; over $9 million next year. $6.3 million. That is about 50 tenure-system faculty -- a nice down payment on the once and future 250 Plan. It is several hundred graduate fellowships. Hundreds of needy student scholarships. It is 250 full in-state scholarships to the Commonwealth Honors College. It is books and journals for the library. It is debt service on a new student union. It is new equipment for our labs. For the coach at Alabama, it may not be much, but for a university like ours, $6 million a year is a lot of money. It is, frankly, obscene that the administration would choose to spend this amount of money chasing an ever-receding dream of big-time football.

"The costs have only grown, not shrunk. The building was to cost $30 million, then it was 34.5 million, then it was 36.8. In each year, the operating budget grew beyond what was expected. Senators can expect to see all these numbers grow as the years go on.

"I believe there are many as yet uncounted financial costs. The cost of staff time, including that of the Chancellor who has said he spends about a ¼ of his time on football.

"Higher costs for coaches. They cannot fire the current coach because doing so would require our university pay him $2 million to buy out his contract. But whenever he leaves, they will want to pay the next one much more. We were, just a few years ago, ready to pay the old basketball coach over $1 million a year to stay.

"The higher salary for the Athletic Director and other staff. Now that we are in the ‘big time’ -- despite awful performance -- it is rumored that we have to pay a lot more for our Athletic Department staff.

"It is an open secret that the next step, from Gillette, and back home to McGuirk is, drum roll, a new stadium. Chancellor Lombardi warned us that this was the natural progression and you can expect this idea to move forward in the coming years.

"Potential new costs that the NCAA will vote on at its annual meeting in January -- it may mean pay for players or at least dramatically higher ‘scholarships.’

"I urge everyone to beware of promises about the future of the program coming from the administration....given that none of the promises about the program have been realized. The attendance is far below what we were promised. The revenues are less than expected. The team has not performed well; the coach has behaved worse. The move to Gillette -- thought to be the ace in the hole -- has been a resounding disappointment, to say the least. This has been a failure of epic proportions.

"And many knew it was coming. Had the previous and current administrations consulted experts in the field of college sports, or even just read the dozens of studies about the fate of the vast majority of schools who try to go ‘big time,’ they would have recognized that this was a train wreck waiting to happen. Many on the pro-football side will say: ‘give it time. Let’s see what happens.’ How much of our precious resources and our tax dollars and our student tuition dollars should
we waste on the enterprise -- is the number $10 million? $20 million? $50 million? I ask everyone to consider at what point will they agree that enough is enough. For me, the question is simply how much longer the train wreck rolls down the hillside and how much of our university it takes with it.

"Let me conclude by explaining why so many of us have been so dogged in our criticism of this move.

"Do we hate college sports? No. Many of us enjoy watching or taking our kids to UMass sports events. All of us have cheered on the basketball team's amazing run?

"Do we hate the Chancellor and wish him ill? Quite the contrary. We find Swamy a refreshingly thoughtful and mature leader, who is doing many good things for our university and treats disagreements as part of university life and not an attack on his character. That is a wonderful change. Many of us, in fact, are motivated in part by the fear that the costs of football -- monetary and otherwise -- will undermine Swamy's ability to advance the university's core mission.

"Rather, our passionate critique of the move to FBS football is motivated by an equally passionate love of this institution and what it stands for. We believe the investment in and emphasis on football is detrimental to our flagship campus.

"We think it is a waste of money.

"We think it has already brought negative publicity to our campus. We are now losing -- and losing badly -- to schools that are far less outstanding institutions than ours. We lost to our FCS former rival, Maine. And two separate NCAA complaints by players, alleging mistreatment, and a video showing what appears to be some kind of hazing, sullied our reputation.

"And we can’t stand that we are banking our reputation -- and applications, and donations, and state funding -- on the success of a football team. We have all received emails urging us to attend games. Even my friend, Mr. Schafer from the Library has sent out a message to the Friends of the Library urging that those library supporters show up at the football game! Our Deans have been directed to show up, not just to Herter Hall, but to Foxboro, to show their support. In my 12 years at UMass, I have never seen anything like the push around football. Is this truly the most important thing we are doing here?

"This obsession with building a big-time football team speaks of a lack of confidence about our ability to get students, and state and alumni support for what we really do, and do very, very well at UMass: educate students, conduct research, serve the Commonwealth. The implicit message of this football mania is that we can’t focus wholly on investing in the core mission of the university because that will never draw students and their families.

"I will end with the elephant in the closet: the human costs of football, due to concussions. You all read the papers and know about the growing research on concussions. The NFL is settling huge lawsuits related to concussion; the NCAA is facing many lawsuits as well. And hundreds if not thousands of former players are facing shorter lives, and lives of diminished quality.

"It is not illegal to have this sport. But is pushing football as the centerpiece of our effort to reach the top ranks of public universities part of our values? Is this how we want to launch our next 150 years? Is this the kind of university at which you want to teach and conduct research?"

Nelson Lacey, Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football, echoed Senator Page’s statement on cooperation. About two years ago, the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football was a polarizing event in the Faculty Senate. That afternoon, Professor Lacey sensed that some members of the Senate had a distrust of reports coming from the Athletic Department. He also sensed that some members of the Athletic Department had a distrust regarding a hidden agenda that might have been there for some members of the Faculty Senate. After two years of serving on this Ad Hoc Committee, Professor Lacey believes that distrust has evaporated. That is a very good sign. One thing that that fact tells Professor Lacey is that the data presented in the Committee’s Interim Report can be taken at good faith for what the financial picture of the football program is right now. Having said that, Professor Lacey emphasized that he was speaking of the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football. There were two other documents in the back of the room. One was titled “A UMass Football Index.” That document did not come from the Ad Hoc Committee. Professor Lacey had not seen that document previously, and therefore could not endorse any of the figures on that report. There was another report titled “A Failure to Launch.” That also did not come from the Ad Hoc Committee. Professor Lacey commented that this year’s presentation went much differently than the current one.

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The charge of the Ad Hoc Committee is to analyze the facts about the financial status of the University’s football program. Right around the 10% mark in Senator Page’s previous comments, he stated: “Those are the facts. Let the debate continue.” After that point, when Senator Page used the term “we,” he was not referring to the Ad Hoc Committee; those were Senator Page’s personal opinions. The Ad Hoc Committee did not spend time talking about a lot of the things that Senator Page brought up. Professor Lacey spoke to the numbers in a different and briefer way. He does not see increased budgets as being necessarily bad, especially during an incubation period. Higher budgets, in fact, may be necessary to build a program and create the benefits that have been alluded to by the previous Chancellor and from the Athletic Director. That is, enhanced budgets might be exactly what are necessary in order to get things like increased ticket sales, increased guarantees, and maybe even increased giving to the University related specifically to football. Just seeing a budget go up is not necessarily a bad thing. What Professor Lacey is seeing is that institutional support as a percent of the budget has actually decreased in 2012, 2013, and 2014. That is something that everyone on campus wants to see continue.

Professor Lacey’s personal view is that the multi-year upgrade program for football is off to a weak start. That is not terribly surprising, given that it will take some time for very young recruits to mature and perform better on the field. However, it is disappointing. Looking at this as an experiment or investment over, say, five years, we are at the lower end of the expectation of that timeline. That is very disappointing. Like Senator Page, Professor Lacey encouraged the Senators to take the financial figures, interpret them, and articulate their opinions.

Randall Phillis, President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors, asked about how the attendance values are determined. Is it the number of tickets printed, the number of tickets purchased at full price, or the number of turnstile turns and butts in seats at the stadium? He wondered how the math was done.

Senator Page noted that it is complicated. The information in the report is what is reported to the NCAA. It involves some combination of butts in seats and full-priced tickets purchased. If you buy a full-priced ticket but don’t show up, that still counts.

Professor Lacey added to Senator Page’s comments. If you buy a ticket at full price and don’t go, it is counted as “one in attendance.” People that do not show up are counted if they buy the ticket at one-third of face value.

Senator Susan Whitbourne wished to explore two areas of this topic. One is about what Senator Page said about the experiment. Last year, Chancellor Subbaswamy stated that the move to FBS football was, indeed, an experiment—one that he wants to continue. Senator Whitbourne wanted to know how long UMass should continue the experiment. At what point, using the social science terminology, do we decide that P > .05 in terms of success or failure. It is great to have this report, and it makes Senator Whitbourne wonder when the trajectory goes up, down, or in between in a way that makes the University rethink this decision. Related to that, Senator Whitbourne resonated to what Senator Page said about the good feelings about Chancellor Subbaswamy. Personally, she feels that, having this dynamic set up where there is tension over a decision that Chancellor Subbaswamy did not even make, there has been so much dispute and energy directed to this issue that could be directed to moving forward in other areas. Senator Whitbourne feels bad about that and wishes that all of this wasn’t happening right now. Her second question regards the human cost of football and the cost to the student-athletes. Senator Whitbourne teaches a large introductory psychology class and she always has a lot of student-athletes. Just last week, a football player came up to her and said that he had suffered a concussion in the game against Central Michigan, and that that injury was really affecting him. He was one of countless football players that Senator Whitbourne has spoken to in the last two years who feel they are getting pummeled week after week. It feels irresponsible to put UMass students in a situation like that where physical discrepancy can take such a toll. There is so much anguish surrounding this issue.

Senator Frank Hugus wondered how many Senators had seen the first page of the business section of the New York Times on December 1. An article on that page carried the headline “The Big Ten’s Bigger Footprint.” The first two paragraphs of that article are informative:

“Neither Rutgers University nor the University of Maryland has been considered a traditional football powerhouse. In the last decade, though, both have invested heavily in coaches and facilities in the hope of competing with the likes of Ohio State and Alabama. On the field, the outcomes have been mixed. Financially, the results have been dismal.

“A year ago, the Rutgers athletic department’s deficit was nearly $28 million, bringing the hole it has dug since 2005 to $190 million. To offset the losses, student fees have been raised and state funds reallocated. Last summer, Maryland’s athletic department cut seven varsity sports in trying to patch a $21 million shortfall.”

Senator Hugus stated that the situation does not get better. This is a cautionary tale. As Senator Hugus’ father used to say, “A word to the wise ought to be sufficient.” Not only the New York Times is writing articles like this. Virtually every week,
The Chronicle of Higher Education has a story telling of a different university’s trials and tribulations—mostly monetary, sometimes ending up in criminal courts—that UMass should not want to get involved in. Senator Hugus is a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football. That Committee is charged with discussing the financial implications of FBS football for the University: here they are, writ large.

**Senator Audrey Altstadt** noted that she hears what both her colleagues, Senator Page and Professor Lacey, are saying. The football expenditure as a numerical figure is going up, but as a percentage of the budget they are going down. She introduced a non-technical term: This is a boatload of money, no matter which way it is counted. Senator Altstadt is a strong advocate for public higher education. She has spent here career of over twenty years at UMass and is concerned that the other ways of promoting the University—the faculty and its excellent research, the excellent programs, etc.—are being neglected. She further introduced a link that she has not discussed before, that between the University and the community of Amherst. One example can be indicative. There are a number of high-achieving students at Amherst Regional High School. Some of these students are able to take college classes. What they are told when this is explained to them by high school counselors is that they can sign up for classes where there are seats available. If they want to take a class at UMass, they must pay the CPE rate for this taxpayer-funded University. If they would like to take a class at Amherst College, they can get a seat in the class for free. What bothers Senator Altstadt about this—aside from the obvious things that bother her about this—is that she is afraid that this is part of a larger, negative image that the University has in the community in which it exists and where most of its faculty and staff live. UMass does not have a very positive image in the community. Other parents have said this to Senator Altstadt. When you ask what is going on at UMass, most will say that the last thing they heard about was the “Hobart Ho-Down” and troubles with drinking. This is unfair, but it is the public image UMass has. When people speak to Senator Altstadt, as taxpayers and, sometimes, as alumni, they say that they are not going to contribute to the University any more, and they are increasingly angry that the University will not, for example, let a high-achieving high school student take a class, but it has millions to spend on football. For some, it is an added galling component that the team keeps losing. That is not, however, Senator Altstadt’s point. She believes many other, more productive things could be done with that money. She is not against sports; she is not against football, but she believes academic priorities should be higher than football.

**Senator Marta Calas** stated that before she came to the Senate meeting, she was thinking that she did not want to talk about football. She wants to talk about things that bother her in terms of what UMass is doing, and what it could do better to make it well known with a great reputation. That is not what the Senate usually talks about. The Senate should be discussing the accomplishments of the University, instead of discussing what makes its community miserable, like this very bad football program. The earlier celebration of Nelson Mandela was wonderful. There wasn’t, however, a celebration of UMass’ great basketball team. Senator Calas likes that the team is doing well. On the homepage of the University, there is a story noting that three economists at UMass, one of whom is a doctoral student, received an award as one of the hundred most influential global thinkers, awarded by Global Policy in Washington, D.C. The work that they are being celebrated for is a great accomplishment. It has basically proven that a theory on which much global economic policy is based is actually wrong, and that, in many ways, the global austerity programs that have been going on in major economic think-tanks and governments around the world are based on false numbers. The Senate should be talking about this. UMass Amherst, perhaps differently from the other campuses in the UMass system, does not have a single image to sell as being unique to the campus. Senator Calas thinks that there are a lot of unique things at UMass Amherst that can affect public policy in a way that has implications not only regionally or even nationally, but globally. The Senate never talks about that. The Senate should discuss the good things that can make the University famous, and not the terrible football program. It is somewhat of a travesty.

**Vice Chancellor John Kennedy** spoke to some of the great things happening at UMass, some of which were brought up by Senator Calas. UMass Amherst is getting good coverage around the country on its Life Sciences Initiative, for which the University was awarded $95 million to do life sciences research. The Political Science Department partnered with the Boston Globe to do polling for the Boston mayor’s race. UMass faculty members—including some at the Senate meeting—were on PBS Newshour to talk about Nelson Mandela. It has been a spectacular year for UMass Amherst. The sesquicentennial and the Stand for UMass Day in Boston both got huge coverage in the Boston Globe, including a huge photo spread and all-day coverage on Boston.com. There is a television commercial campaign currently running in the Boston area that talks about the impact that UMass Amherst has in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The campaign is designed to create pride in the institution, for both students and alumni. It is making the case that UMass Amherst plays a vital role in the success and the future of Massachusetts. If you go around Boston, you will hear people talking about UMass Amherst in incredibly positive terms right now. The “Hobart Ho-Down” and instances like that are important things that the University has to address and that UMass is working hard with the town of Amherst on alleviating. But those are local issues. Looking at the big picture, seeing the international coverage of the work of doctoral student Thomas Hearndon and other economists at UMass Amherst, it is clear that UMass Amherst is doing remarkably well right now.
Senator Amilcar Shabazz wanted one thing that Senator Altstadt raised to really resonate and be thought more about. He does not know if there is a component of the Faculty Senate that could take it up or not. One of Senator Shabazz’ earliest conversations with Chancellor Subbaswamy was about the issue of the policy with respect to Amherst Regional High School and the inability of students to take a seat in a class and be instructed without expense. Even the children of faculty members must pay. Senator Shabazz sits on the Town-Gown Steering Committee. At the meetings, he hears what he believes to be an unfair resentment toward the University. The simple issue of allowing high-achieving Amherst area high school students to sit in on classes free of cost could be a beneficial development. Chancellor Subbaswamy spoke to this in an early conversation with Senator Shabazz, mentioning a scholarship program or some other way to make this happen. If there is a seat in a class, the student qualifies, and that student’s counselor recommends taking it, that student should be able to be instructed and earn credit without being charged. Senator Shabazz hopes that some group in the Senate could help push that along. It could go a long way towards improving UMass’ perception in the town. The University does not contribute to the tax base in the area, which is often seen in poor terms, but it does contribute in many other ways and could go a long way further. Senator Shabazz knows that many variables will have to be worked out to let high school students into classes, including a workload issue that must be considered by the MSP, but it would add a lot to the University’s perception.

Senator Shabazz continued by adding another element to the football discussion. He and his son traveled to Foxborough on October 26 for the homecoming game. They went through the hoopla and listened to the band. His son had his face painted. On the first play of the game, a UMass player returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown. Everyone erupted. UMass didn’t win that game, but it was very exciting. It raised a lot of spirits. UMass is a lot of things. It is a mission-driven institution. We are here about research. We are here about teaching and learning. We are about broader service to the community and Commonwealth. That is what brings the students, staff, and faculty out every day and night. But we are also a community. And there is more to being a community than the academic work we do every day. There are other things to the creation and sustaining of a community. The athletics program can play a part in the sustaining of a wholesome and good sense of community. Senator Shabazz was not particularly supportive of the top-down decision of moving in the FBS. He was very skeptical of the promise that over time the subsidy would at least not be higher than it was. He still worries about the decision and the course that UMass is on. But he thinks the UMass community should do everything it can to make sure that football—along with all the other programs on campus—are successful. It should be part of the larger institution that creates a sense of pride, belonging, and mutual love and respect for each other. Finally, on the “Failure to Launch” report that a number of Senators put together, a quote from Athletic Director John McCutcheon is included about the state contribution. He wondered if there was a separate contribution that UMass receives from the state specifically for athletics.

Vice Chancellor Kennedy clarified that the “Failure to Launch” document is not the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football’s report. Vice Chancellor Kennedy wanted a further clarification from the committee, related to Senator Shabazz’ question. He understands that about $1.5 million of what is considered institutional support is in tuition waivers and another $1.9 million is from the student athletic fees. Is that the way that the Committee calculated it as well?

Senator Page stated that the Committee spent a lot of time going over the question of what constitutes institutional support. The figures included in the report—which were voted on and passed by an 11 to 1 margin—are a fuller estimation. One of the goals of creating the Ad Hoc Committee, as opposed to simply accepting the numbers of the Athletic Council (not that they were doing anything untoward), was to consider the many resources that are expended for athletics that are not usually counted in their budgetary figures. In this report, things like the marketing budget and other costs are included in the budgetary figures.

D. BYLAW CHANGES


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Bylaw Changes, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-005B. 03-14

(This motion was read at the 730th and 731st meetings of the Faculty Senate on October 10 and November 14, respectively. The final vote will be taken at this meeting.)

Senator MJ Peterson called to the Senate’s attention to a number of provisions in the proposed Bylaws. As Senator Peterson mentioned at the last meeting, in the suggested change to section 1-1-5, a provision has been added that a motion to put an item on the agenda for the next meeting would always be in order during the consideration of new business. The Rules Committee believes that this will solve the potential problem that some Senators brought up, that the rules would have to be suspended to accept such a motion. There is a forthcoming amendment to section 4-3-4. The Rules Committee is
suggesting that a Council have the ability to indicate that a council member is a persistent absentee and ask the Nominating Committee (the proposed new name of the Committee on Committees) to replace that member in order to keep the Council at full strength. The next noticeable change relates to the International Studies Council, in section 5-11-1. The proposed changes add to the responsibilities of the ISC, charging it to review and approve international activities that carry academic credit. These are not formal exchange programs. They include winter vacation trips and other short-term experiences. The proposed change would put the ISC on par with the systems for approving academic credit for things within departments by charging the ISC to review proposals without having to bring those proposals to the full Senate. The full Senate would continue to have to approve formal exchange arrangements with other universities. Finally, in section 5-20-1, the Council that has been called the Council on University Service, Public Service and Outreach would like to renamed the Council on Public Engagement and Outreach. Their thinking is that this name better reflects the work of the Council and the current way that these issues are talked about in academia throughout the country. Like the Committee on Committees, this Council would like to adopt a name that would be better understood.

Secretary May moved an amendment on section 4-3-4, the section regarding replacing council members that are absent from meetings, changing the word “shall” to “may.” The sentence would read: “Council and Committee members who are absent from five consecutive meetings in an academic year may be replaced by the Nominating Committee.” The motivation of this replacement clause is not to replace someone who is on a one-semester sabbatical. However, sometimes, for whatever reason, members do not show up for extended periods of time, and it would be beneficial to be able to replace them.

Senator Marta Calas wondered if the proposed amendment should be modified to qualify that the five absences should be “unexcused absences.” In some ways, the question goes back to the issue of faculty members being on sabbatical or missing meetings for another legitimate reason, but active in the Council otherwise.

Presiding Officer Bogartz asked if the issue raised by Senator Calas was covered by the word “may,” which allows the Nominating Committee to take those issues into account.

Senator Calas stated that the word “may” is a little wishy-washy. Why not make it less ambiguous. Senator Calas moved to amend the section to read: “Council and Committee members who are absent without excuse from five consecutive meetings in an academic year shall be replaced by the Nominating Committee.”

Senator Peterson stated that the reason that the drafters settled on the number of five or more consecutive meetings is because most of the Councils meet once a month and tend not to meet over the summer. A one-semester sabbatical would not bring this provision into force at all.

Senator D. Anthony Butterfield, with all respect to Senator Calas, stated that he was going to vote against this amendment. He believes the word “may” covers it. With Senator Calas’ proposed amendment, he is going to have to ask who excuses these absences. Is it the Council Chair? The Secretary of the Senate? Will he need a note from his mother at home? “May” allows some discretion on the part of the people who need to have their Councils fully staffed.

The motion to amend the provision to include the words “without excuse” was defeated.

The motion to amend the provision to change “shall” to “may” so that the provision reads, “Council and Committee members who are absent from five consecutive meetings in an academic year may be replaced by the Nominating Committee,” was seconded and approved.

Senator Frank Hugus commended the Rules Committee for the very thorough work that it has done on the changes to the Bylaws. Regarding the provision to replace inactive members, Senator Hugus could not agree more. Serving on many Councils and Committees of the Faculty Senate, what bedevilled him most was that members would not show up to meetings yet include their membership on their AFRs. He is pleased with the proposed changes and strongly endorses the motion.

The motion to approve the Bylaw Changes was adopted as amended.
E. NEW COURSES

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<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 343</td>
<td>“Women in Cinemas of the African Diaspora”</td>
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<td>COMM 437</td>
<td>“Global Communication Theories &amp; Issues”</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP-LIT 261</td>
<td>“Modern Arabic Literature”</td>
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<td>MIDEAST 377</td>
<td>“Popular Culture in Israel and Palestine”</td>
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<td>NATSCI 289</td>
<td>“Integrated Scientific Communications”</td>
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<td>NATSCI 389</td>
<td>“Team-oriented Lab Discovery in Renewable Energy (iCons 3 Renewable Energy)”</td>
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<td>POLISCI 260</td>
<td>“Fixing American Domestic Policy”</td>
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<td>POLISCI 320</td>
<td>“Research Methods for Political and Social Science”</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLISCI 379</td>
<td>“Race, Class and the Politics of Education”</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>THEATER 105</td>
<td>“Drama &amp; the Media Performing Mythologies in the Contemporary World”</td>
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MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses COMM 343 and 437, COMP-LIT 261, MIDEAST 377, NATSCI 289 and 389, POLISCI 260, 320 and 379 and THEATER 105, as recommended by the Academic Matters Council.

Senator Ralph Whitehead expressed his delight in learning that there is someone in the Political Science Department that knows how to fix American domestic policy, and he hopes that this course will be taught as quickly and widely as possible, maybe as a MOOC.

Senator Curt Conner stated that there is absolutely no information provided about these courses, and this has been the way that it has been for as long as he can remember. He would like to know, for example, if the course on renewable energy would be open to all students or only those in the iCons program. He wondered if further description of courses could be provided in an addendum or in some other way, so that more information would be known about the courses.

Professor Cynthia Suopis, Co-Chair of the Academic Matters Council, stated that the courses are all posted on the Faculty Senate’s website with all information about them available. The AMC has a Course Subcommittee that thoroughly reviews each proposed course for all the things mentioned by Senator Conner and more. In direct answer to Senator Conner’s question about the iCons course in renewable energy, students must be in the iCons program to enroll.

The motion was adopted.

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<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>BIOCHEM 576</td>
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<td>GERMAN 609</td>
<td>“Debates and Issues in Modern German History”</td>
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<tr>
<td>HISTORY 609</td>
<td>“Debates and Issues in Modern German History”</td>
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MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses BIOCHEM 576, GERMAN 609 and HISTORY 609, as recommended by the Academic Matters and Graduate Councils.

The motion was adopted.

F. NEW BUSINESS


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Name Change to the Major in Environmental Design to the Major in Sustainable Community Development and the Online Certificate in Sustainable Business Practice, as presented in Sen. Doc. Nos. 14-017 and 14-018.
Senator Frank Hugus noted that he was confused by the fact that there are two motions here. He wondered if there was a reason to group these motions.

Secretary May stated that it is an attempt to streamline the agenda. Some people have wanted to put everything onto a consent agenda, which would put all the motions together at the same time. The Rules Committee has compromised by putting all of the motions from a single Council together. Any Senator who wishes to divide and discuss a particular motion may ask to do so. Otherwise, this development will streamline the business section of the agenda.

The motion was adopted.


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision of the M.A. in Comparative Literature Requirements, 16-14 as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-019.

The motion was adopted.


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees and the 17-14 Nominations to the Academic Honesty Board, as presented in Sen. Doc. Nos. 14-020 and 14-021.

Senator Arthur Kinney, Chair of the Nominating Committee, noted the historical significance of this motion, the first by the Nominating Committee.

The motion was adopted.

The 732nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 5:35 p.m. on December 12, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest D. May
Secretary of the Faculty Senate