Due to a technical malfunction, this meeting was not recorded and, therefore, these minutes offer only an outline of the proceedings.

Presiding Officer Richard Bogartz called the 735th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on March 13, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227 and began the meeting by reading a portion of “Endymion” by John Keats:

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever:
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,
Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils
With the green world they live in; and clear rills
That for themselves a cooling covert make
‘Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms:
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

A. PANEL DISCUSSION
"OVERVIEW OF THE PLANS FOR THE UMASS CENTER AT SPRINGFIELD" (30 MIN.)

PRESENTER
LYNN GRIESEMNER, CO-DIRECTOR OF START-UP FOR UMASS CENTER AT SPRINGFIELD AND ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UMASS DONAHUE INSTITUTE

MODERATOR
JOHN CUNNINGHAM, CO-DIRECTOR OF START-UP FOR UMASS CENTER AT SPRINGFIELD, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND CEO OF UMASSONLINE

PANELISTS
JOHN WELLS, ASSOCIATE DEAN, PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS, ISENBERG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
LINDA LEWANDOWSKI, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, COLLEGE OF NURSING
LINDA GRIFFIN, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
INGRID BRACEY, DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY WITHOUT WALLS

(QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW) (10 MIN.)

The detailed presentation that accompanied this discussion is accessible on the Faculty Senate website.

Professor Karen Stevens noted UWW’s longstanding commitment to providing access to higher education to non-traditional students, including those from the Springfield area. UWW has had a presence in Springfield since 1978 with onsite programs at Springfield Technical Community College and MassMutual. These programs have offered a direct path from STCC and Holyoke Community College to the UMass Amherst. UWW has graduated approximately 650 students from the Springfield
area. Graduates from Springfield include former students as diverse as Jim Ross, an executive in international telecommunications, and Rebecca Willoughby, a community organizer whose concentration was Black History and Culture in the Americas. City Councilor Orlando Ramos is currently a UWW student studying Public Policy.

Springfield city data indicate that while at least 74% of residents over the age of 25 have at least a high school degree, only 23% have a bachelor’s degree or higher. This means that 51% of this population may be good candidates for UWW. UWW can offer these potential students concentrations in business, health, human services, early care and education, criminal justice, and other areas.

UWW is excited to be a part of this project and is ready to start teaching at the Springfield Center in the fall of 2014; in the meantime, UWW will be engaged in community outreach and will continue its recruitment efforts.

Associate Dean John Wells acknowledged ISOM’s long relationship with the Springfield area, which began with its part-time MBA program offering courses in Holyoke.

Senator Susan Whitbourne asked if plans were being made to have regular bus transportation available between the UMass Amherst campus and the Springfield Center. There are many logistical issues that make this important, particularly for students, but for faculty as well, such as finding parking in the city and spending so much time driving, when productive work is more possible on public transportation. She then mentioned the potential for the Springfield Center to recruit more diverse students to UMass Amherst, referring to the work of the Posse Foundation (www.possefoundation.org).

Associate Vice President Lynn Griesemer agreed that transportation was an important issue that needs to be addressed. Currently, you must make two transfers to get from Amherst to Springfield, or vice versa, meaning that the trip entails three different buses. This issue has yet to be resolved, but it is very important and is being looked into very diligently.

Senator Frank Hugus noted that the presentation mentioned a FY14 budget of $750,000 plus “in-kind” expenses. He asked if all the funds (both cash and in-kind) were in place. He continued to ask whether, in the case of future expenses for the Center exceeding its income, the various UMass campuses would be responsible for paying the difference.

Associate Vice President Griesemer stated that the Center would always be independently supported. It is not expected that the Center be self sufficient or profitable, as that is not its intent, but the Center will not be funded by the campuses. Although UMass Amherst is the principle campus involved with the Center, it is itself a system project and not the responsibility of any campus to fund.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Provost James Staros announced that Robert Feldman, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, has been chosen to serve as Deputy Chancellor. The Senate congratulated Dean Feldman.

John Kennedy, Vice Chancellor for University Relations, noted that the University had retained former Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis to assist in the review of the events surrounding the disturbances and arrests around Amherst during the so-called Blarney Blowout.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, announced that there would be an additional meeting of the Faculty Senate to be held on April 3, 2014. At this meeting, the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation will present an update on its Draft Final Report.

In response to the recent disbanding of the Board of Trustees’ Committee on Science, Technology and Research, the Intercampus Faculty Council wrote a letter to the Board of Trustees, which follows in its entirety:
Dear Chairman Thomas, Trustee Johnston, and President Caret,

The Intercampus Faculty Council was surprised and dismayed to learn that the Trustees committee on Science, Technology and Research (STR) has been disbanded. In a state whose economic activity is fueled by the “knowledge economy,” the research activity of the Commonwealth’s public university – whether in the sciences and engineering, social sciences, humanities, arts and the creative economy – is of critical importance. Indeed, the Commonwealth has spoken to this importance with recent significant capital investments in our campus’ infrastructure (e.g., hundreds of millions of dollars in capital projects funded through the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center). These represent investments in our research, investments not made in other segments of Massachusetts’ public higher education where research plays a less vital role. Additionally, the Commonwealth’s investments have been more than matched by the federal government’s investment in research-related activity and infrastructure (including capital expenses for new buildings/renovations for the research enterprise).

At a time when federal investments in research are undergoing historic shifts following decades-long post-WWII growth, state support for higher education is decreasing, real concern about the rising cost of higher education limits tuition and fee increases, and we compete with many other institutions for the “best and brightest” students, we believe the University and its Trustees should be strategically re-doubling and re-affirming their focus and efforts on research, as many other universities and their Boards have done.

We hope that the Trustees will ensure that the decision to disband STR is neither perceived to be, nor represents, a weakening of the Trustees’ strong and long-standing commitment to the University’s research mission. Indeed we hope that the Trustees will explicitly introduce new opportunities – whether individual campus visits to learn about research firsthand, meetings with industry and state research leaders, or briefings at Committee of the Whole or CASA meetings – to proactively and strategically address the opportunities and challenges for the University’s critically important research enterprise.

Sincerely,

Ernest D. May, Chair
Intercampus Faculty Council

6. The President of the Graduate Student Senate

Samantha Sterba, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate, announced that the GSS had passed a resolution to add diversity as a core principle in the JTFRA, Motion S2014-10. She asked the Faculty Senate to show its support for this issue in whatever way it can. The motion reads as follows:

WHEREAS the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation (JTFRA) is charged with organizing alternate resource allocation models for the Chancellor’s consideration,

WHEREAS in executing that charge, the JTFRA has identified six (6) Model Guiding Principles, based on JTFRA Budgeting Values,

WHEREAS the six (6) Model Guiding Principles, as defined by the JTFRA, do not explicitly include or define diversity, access, or equity, nor are they explicitly stated as part of the “common good,”

WHEREAS the Graduate Student Senate values and defines diversity as the inclusion of people of all races, ethnicities, socioeconomic status, religions and creeds, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, age, abilities, citizenship, language ability, veteran status, marital status, and status as parents,

WHEREAS the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus has a responsibility to provide access and opportunities for all people, while demonstrating a commitment to inclusion of historically underrepresented groups as stated in their Diversity Matters Mission Statement,
WHEREAS a lack of retention and recruitment of students of color and diverse populations is a systemic and structural problem that creates an inequitable cultural climate,

WHEREAS issues of equity, diversity, and access within the cultural climate of each unit are systemic issues, and as such, are the responsibility of the University as a whole and not the exclusive responsibility of each unit,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Graduate Student Senate demands that the University include the promotion of diversity, access, and equity among administration, faculty, students, and staff as a Model Guiding Principle of the University under the JTFSO (Joint Task Force on Strategic Oversight) and JTFRA chosen funding model,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the University must provide quality education and equitable opportunities for advancement and success to people of all races, ethnicities, socioeconomic status, religions and creeds, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, age, abilities, citizenship, language ability, veteran status, marital status, and status as parents.

C. QUESTION PERIOD

Senator Marta Calas brought up the events surrounding the Blarney Blowout. A number of her students have criticized the Chancellor’s communications leading up to the weekend and his response following it. Many students feel that the warnings issued before the event encouraged bad behavior.

Carol Barr, Vice Provost for Undergraduate and Continuing Education, spoke in place of Chancellor Subbaswamy, who could not attend the Faculty Senate meeting, and Vice Chancellor Kennedy, who had to leave. Efforts are being made by herself, the Chancellor, the Dean of Students, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and University Life, and others to discuss any disagreements with students about the event.

Senator Howard Peelle praised the Chancellor’s efforts leading up to the Blarney Blowout and his strong response following the disturbances and arrests.

Senator Amilcar Shabazz, Faculty Advisor for Diversity and Excellence and Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force on Strategic Oversight, responded to the motion made by the GSS regarding making diversity a guiding principle for the Joint Task Force on Resource Allocation.

D. SPECIAL MOTION FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COUNCIL

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the granting of voting membership to all five duly elected Student 26-14 Trustees.

Senators Susan Whitbourne and W. Brian O’Connor both voiced their support of this motion, which supports the granting of voting status to all five Student Trustees serving the Board of Trustees. Currently, only two of the Student Trustees have voting membership.

The motion was approved with one vote opposed and one abstention.

E. NEW BUSINESS


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate adopt the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-029.

Senator David Gross noted that he has previously criticized the 13-week calendar at Faculty Senate meetings and was, therefore, offered a seat on the AMC’s Calendar Subcommittee. Because of issues related to the Five College Consortium, there is no way to avoid the 13-week calendar. This calendar is the best available, and he supports it.

The motion was adopted.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revisions to the Undergraduate B.S. Degree and Minor in Building and Construction Technology, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-030.

The motion was adopted.

3. Special Report of the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning the Dissolution of the Department of Art, Architecture, and Art History to create a new Department of Art, Department of Architecture, and Department of the History of Art and Architecture, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-031 with Motion No. 29-14.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Dissolution of the Department of Art, Architecture, and Art History to create a new Department of Art, Department of Architecture, and Department of the History of Art and Architecture, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-031.

Senator Marinos Vouvakis asked if this was a proposal to create more administration on campus. He wondered if there would now be three department heads instead of one, and if those heads would be compensated more than they currently are.

Senator Monika Schmitter, of Art History, stated that each program currently has a director that will serve as department head in the new structure and that, as far as she knows, there will be no additional compensation provided.

Senator Audrey Altstadt asked if this dissolution would affect district representation in the Faculty Senate.

Secretary May stated that current Senators would serve out their current terms and that, if necessary, redistricting would happen as usual. It is likely that the three new departments will remain in the same district as the current department and, given that there will not be an increase in faculty members, there may be no need for redistricting.

The motion was adopted.

F. OLD BUSINESS

Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Amendments to the Principles of Association of the University of Massachusetts Intercampus Faculty Council, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-014B with Motion No. 11-01.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Amendments to the Principles of Association of the University of Massachusetts Intercampus Faculty Council, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 01-014B.

The motion was adopted as amended.

The 735th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 5:07 p.m. on March 13, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest D. May
Secretary of the Faculty Senate