

DRAFT INTERCAMPUS FACULTY COUNCIL Minutes
Lowell 17 September 2014

Present: *Amherst* – Marilyn Billings, Ernie May *Boston* – Lynne Tirrell, *Dartmouth* – Steven White
Lowell – Lisa Abdallah, Eve Buzawa, Michael Carter (guest) *Worcester* - Leslie Shaw, Eileen Terrill

Guests: *Lowell*, Michael Carter, *UMass President's Office*: Robert Solis (12:20 pm)

The meeting convened at 10:55 am

The minutes of the preceding meeting were approved.

Campus Reports

Amherst

- Deferred report to allow for more interaction with Bob Solis, VP & CIO UMass President's Office.

Boston

- Construction remains on pace
- Integrated Science Building moving in soon
- Edward M. Kennedy Institute completed and ready to move in
- Student-only parking lot is currently a construction staging area. Bayside parking area serviced by 2 busses

Dartmouth

- Gerry Kavanaugh hired as Senior Vice Chancellor of Strategic Management
- The Law School opened a community law clinic called "The Justice Bridge" on Franklin Street in Boston
- Enrollments slightly up

Lowell

- Search underway for Management School Dean
- Two new Vice Provost's: Kathryn Carter, Graduate and International Affairs/Strategy; Don Pierson, Faculty Affairs
- College of Health Sciences dean reporting structure under discussion
- Turnover in Fine Arts department chairpersons
- Contract agreement/MOU complete

Worcester

- Three new buildings envisioned and under discussion
- Graduate School of Nursing Accreditation visit week of 22 September. Doctor of Nursing Practice & Graduate Certificates included in the assessment
- Task Force established to determine how to align and recruit department chairs (three departments without chairs, need to recruit for one additional)

IFC Minutes, 17 September 2014 (continued)

- Cancer Biology merged with another department
- Cell Biology department being disbanded. Faculty being assigned to other departments

12:20 – IFC joined by Robert Solis, VP & CIO, UMass System

Bob Solis recognized by Ernie May. After introductions, the IFC discussed IT related issues with Mr. Solis for approximately an hour.

Adjournment at 1:20 pm

Respectfully submitted, Steven White – secretary

Discussion with Bob Solis, 17 September 2014

Questions/Recommendations from the IFC regarding software platforms and costs.

Specifically, the IFC inquired why the University System selected PeopleSoft and BlackBoard as system-wide software platforms.

Open source options exist for BlackBoard – Moodle was specifically mentioned.

Other open source options exist for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations and databases (Open Office) and statistics (R). It was suggested that the University system lead the charge to both the adoption of open source software and open knowledge/open innovation.

Further discussion included University websites, content management systems, need for mobile-friendly websites (responsive design).

Finally, the merits of a system-wide integrated Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)-Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform that does a better job of CRM activities designed to increase student retention.