

INTERCAMPUS FACULTY COUNCIL Minutes
Lowell June 12, 2008

Present: *Amherst* – M. Billings, E. May, B. O'Connor, *Boston* -, L. Tirrell, *Dartmouth* – M. Baum, P.Gibbs, *Lowell* –M. Carter, *Worcester*- J. Singer

The meeting convened briefly while waiting for the Board of Trustees deliberation on rescinding an honorary degree.

Rescinding an honorary degree was the first topic. Burden of discussion, led by E. May, was that only the Board of Trustees can confer an honorary degree, and a degree honors the work done by the awardee up to that point. The 14th amendment gives an awardee (certainly a U.S.A. citizen) with a degree in jeopardy of rescinding, the opportunity to defend the degree.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read

Elections Nominations were previously received. No further nominations were made from the floor.

The President, Ernie May, and Secretary, Paige Gibbs, having previously accepted nomination, were elected by acclamation. Brian O'Connor moved, and it was so voted, thanks to the slate of officers.

Following BOT reconvening and announcing vote to rescind UMass Amherst honorary degree to Robert Mugabe IFC moved to the scheduled meeting room and reconvened.

Marcellette G. Williams, Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs & International Relations announced a new agreement with the China Continuing Studies Education Association. Tisinghua University is the UMass entrance point.

International Relations Advisory Council (IRAC) Susan Kelly demonstrated the international relations website from the President's office www.massachusetts.edu/international/index.html. This website includes searchability by type of opportunity. The program information is entered by each campus, the news is updated by the systems' office. Marketing the website and its services beyond UMass is under discussion. In response to a question it was pointed out that a system wide insurance plan (AIG) covers UMass participants in international programs. The International Relations Advisory Council will be advised to expand its membership. V.P. Williams asked the IFC to identify nominees.

UMassOnline China Agreement David Gray, Vice President for Information Services and Chief Information Officer; CEO, UMassOnline spoke to the IFC about the China Project. A multiyear agreement, which will be reviewed annually, has been entered. The China Continuing Education Association's China Research Network is investing in internet access to China. Presently there is a 20% internet access to in China. Rural internet center augment this access. Dialog is by video conference, email and in-person visits. Five UMassOnline programs with 40 courses will be offered in the spring of 2009. Instruction Design at UMass Boston is preparing a protocol to certify programs of study in China. The projected target audience is similar to current UMass Online students-professionals with some college background. There is a need to develop pedagogy for Chinese students, who are not used to class discussion. Research support for students hasn't been considered. Gray will speak to Marilyn Billings and others about this. The desire is to ramp up slowly to accommodate demand as it increases. Intellectual property will be held sacrosanct. Plagiarism will be seriously addressed and monitored. Credentialing and certification is the essence of what is desired, not merely the information and material to be disseminate. At this point the China Project does not mean a change in the UMassOnline business model.

Timing and Standards for Tenure Timing and standards for early tenure decisions vary by the faculty contracts across the system. At UMass Amherst early tenure must be approved by the Provost at the time of hire. UMass Worcester has the most recent agreement on tenure. A section is Peer reviewed "outreach" "Service" is a subset of "Scholarship of Engagement"

Revised IFC Principles of Association May called for the IFC to adopt the revised document proposed by the UMass Amherst faculty and recommended that each faculty governance body revise their document accordingly. Voted unanimously

Campus reports

Boston Winston Lanley will be the interim Provost

Dartmouth Standards for promotion to full professor have changed for faculty currently appointed rather than just for new hires

Lowell An invigorated atmosphere. People are pleased with the new Provost. There is a current search for a CFO. The interim Provost will now serve as vice Provost for graduate studies and research.

Worcester The new Provost appears to be committed to open dialog and is a good facilitator

General discussion about increase in enrollment- is it under the purview of the faculty? General agreement that it is not really a governance concern but is a working conditions issue

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Paige Gibbs- secretary

