

INTERCAMPUS FACULTY COUNCIL Minutes
Amherst August 22, 2006

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

The first agenda item was a consideration of a request by the UMass Lowell Faculty Senate to endorse a resolution (text concludes the minutes)

Following discussion, including the reminder that a Graduate Dean is a vital advocate to employers outside the academic community, it was unanimously voted to endorse the resolution.

Reports from campuses

Boston A new academic building is being planned, which will serve as a contingency in the event of failure of the buildings above the garage. A reduction of enrollment is under consideration to accommodate possible space limitations, but the administration is still working to increase enrollment at this time. The Provost is considering dismantling all college constitutions. The university counsel has informed the UMass Boston Faculty Council that the Wellman Document has no support for individual college constitutions. In February, the Dean of the College of Community and Public Service, Adenrele Awotona, received a “no confidence” by that college’s faculty and staff. A member of the college is a member of the Faculty Council Executive Committee, intended to assure that Faculty Council will consider the situation.

Worcester For approximately the last 15 years the Chancellor and the Dean of the School of Medicine were the same individual. With the review of the Chancellor by the President’s Office and the Board of Trustees a decision was made to separate the two positions. Dr. Lazare will remain Chancellor, and there is a search for a Dean. The new Governance Document reflects the split of the Chancellor/Dean position. A new Dean is seen by many of the clinical faculty members as being important for helping to preserve their academic contributions to the Medical School. In the governance document departments will elect members to the Scientific Council instead of having them appointed by the Chairs. The Scientific Council will also make recommendations directly to both the Chancellor and the Dean. The Faculty Council and the Chancellor hope that this will provide the faculty with a stronger voice in the research mission. In the new Academic Personnel Policy criteria for appointment and promotion are spelled out in great detail. Also, department chairs will be evaluated for tenure using a different set of criteria than is used for the rest of the tenure track faculty.

Dartmouth A new Provost has been appointed and is assuming his post this month.

Lowell Interim Chancellor David MacKenzie will serve on the Chancellor search committee. The search committee hopes to submit three names to the President's office by May 2007. The ideal candidate will have a strong commitment to fundraising and a background in the sciences.

WHEREAS, the effective functioning of a Graduate School requires its leader to be a senior academic, knowledgeable in the functioning of the Departmental Graduate Coordinators, and with experience as a researcher and the supervision of Teaching and Research Student Assistants;

WHEREAS, the UMass Lowell Faculty Senate in accordance with the provisions of its by-laws exercised its primary responsibility for oversight of Academic Policy and Program Development and voted in Spring 2006 to retain the existing Graduate School administrative structure headed by a Dean with substantial experience in academic research and graduate student supervision;

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate reaffirmed its support for retention of this traditional Graduate School Administrative structure, voting by over a 2/3 majority to override the Chancellor's veto of its initial notion;

WHEREAS, the by-laws of the UMass Lowell Faculty Senate require the UMass President's Office to mediate disputes between the Senate and the campus Administration following override of a veto;

WHEREAS, this mediation has not yet occurred;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Intercampus Faculty Council: 1)deplores the dismantling of the UMass Lowell Graduate School and replacement of its academic Dean with a non-academic clerk prior to Presidential Office mediation; 2)urges the President's office to initiate mediation of this dispute in timely fashion to forestall further deterioration in the quality of graduate school recruitment, programs and student experience.

Respectfully submitted, Paige Gibbs- secretary