

INTERCAMPUS FACULTY COUNCIL Minutes
Dartmouth (Law School), September 29, 2010

Present: *Amherst* –W.R. Adrion, M. Billings, E. May; *Boston* –V. Konstam *Dartmouth* –P. Gibbs; *Lowell* –E. Buzawa, M. Carter; *Worcester*- R. Weinstein

Guests: K. Harrington

Meeting was called to order

Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

The Resolution moved at the June meeting was discussed. The resolution had been sent to the President and the Board of Trustees but there was no response from either party. Now that fees are discussed at the June meeting there is less possibility of student trustee objection or student demonstrations. Discussion continued about affordability of a UMass education. Secretary Reville is putting emphasis on the community colleges as the access to public higher education in the commonwealth. During the discussion it was noted that the IFC is a coordinating group among campus governance bodies and is therefore an informal organization not subject to UMass BOT regulations. To move the BOT spring meeting to May would mean changing the on-campus tenure schedules to provide the necessary information earlier for BOT deliberation at the spring/summer quarterly meeting.

New Academic Programs Kate Harrington, Associate Vice Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and International Relations spoke to the meeting about submitting New Academic Program information on the Board of Higher Education electronic form. She urged that new programs “try out” the proposal by preparing information according to the form and submitting it to her office prior to beginning the official approval process. Not everything on the form is important to UMass programs, but everything does need to be addressed. The rigid form exists because of the limited number of BHE staff and the great amount of data required by the BHE. Dr. Harrington will have a conversation with the Provosts about what information is important to emphasize for new program proposals. She will also annotate the form template with what is the appropriate level of information for each section. The possibility of doctorates being offered by the newly named state universities was discussed. None of these campuses supports the high level of research expected at the UMass campuses. Doctorates of practice would be the degrees they may eventually offer. Funded research, significant for UMass, is not addressed on the BHE form. In further discussion about new programs concern was expressed about under-resourced programs. There are different campus approaches. At Lowell high level faculty are hired for a new program who bring funding and access to additional funding with them. It was observed that a rule of thumb is that a doctoral program costs 9 times what an undergraduate program costs and a masters program cost 5 times what an undergraduate program cost. It was suggested that departments preparing a new program contact the people in the Provost’s office who prepare documents for guidance in supplying information at the appropriate junctures. Programs articulated with other campuses and advising need to be considered.

UMass President Search Michael Carter, BOT faculty representative from Lowell and a member of the UMass Presidential search committee accepted an invitation to share what could be publically reported about the search. The committee met recently and discussed the search with the search consultants. The search consultants emphasized that a successful candidate will have to be an entrepreneur, finding financial support apart from the state, although the next president must have a good relationship with the legislature. Based on 400 contacts made by the consultants, and names put forward otherwise, the list had been reduced to 35 potential candidates who might be contacted to explore their interest in the position. The list remains open so there could be additional candidates added. There are a few “non-traditional” candidates on the committee’s list. Interviews are expected in October and a possible slate could be determined by the end of this semester. An announcement may be made in February.

Campus Reports

Amherst

- The \$34 million anonymous unspecified donation announced at the BOT meeting was partly “in kind” rather than a 100% monetary gift.
- Enrollment is up with more students from out-of state without reducing in-state enrollment.
- The out-of state tuition retention was \$2 million which has been partly distributed to the departments. This money has been coming to the departments to replace diminishing state funds.

- A mini-building boom is underway. There is a shortage of classrooms and dormitory rooms. A newly approved dormitory may be home for the Commonwealth College. A new academic building is in design.
- Discussion of possibility of merging the colleges of Humanities and Social Sciences discussion is underway.
- Dean searches in the colleges of Engineering and Nursing have begun.
- Major administration personnel changes (at the staff level) have occurred.
- Conversion of general education courses from 3 credits to 4 credits is complete. Incoming students will be taking 3 fewer general education courses over the course of their undergraduate careers but will generate the same number of credits as the previous general education course model.
- Effective with this year's incoming first year students and transfers, all students will have an integrative experience in the senior year as part of the general education program.

Worcester

- The 125 first year students began the new learner-centered integrated curriculum (LInC) in August
- Convocation, investiture and a "white coat ceremony" took place in mid September. Each of the five learning communities cuts across all years of enrollment. Each first-year student was presented with a white coat by their mentor. The previous year's students paid for the embroidery of each first-year student's name on their coat.
- A presentation on open access was made at the June Faculty meeting. The resolution was tabled. More support is being sought from the Basic Science departments. The benefits have to be articulated, and the draft resolution less prescriptive. Another effort is planned for the December meeting.

Lowell

- In-state enrollment has increased
- There is a shortage of classrooms
- Parking places are difficult to find. One former parking lot is now a construction site. There is a graduated parking fee but adjuncts are not charged a parking fee.
- Classes are being scheduled past 4:00pm
- A greater stress is being placed on recruiting out of state and international undergraduate students
- Preliminary program development proposals have passed easily from the campus to the President's office

Boston

- University College (previously known as Continuing Studies) is confined to one program this year as set by faculty governance.
- 4/4 Teaching loads and courses continue under investigation. The central issue is that quality not be compromised.

Dartmouth

- The NEASC review has been completed. A copy of the report is expected to be posted on the campus website
- Enrollment at the Law School exceeded the projection

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Paige Gibbs-secretary.