

SPECIAL REPORT
of the
RULES COMMITTEE
concerning
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE
ON
STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT
(AHC SO)

Presented at the
685th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
May 7, 2009

Amended and adopted
by the Rules Committee,
acting on behalf of the Faculty Senate,
May 26, 2009

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Marilyn Billings
Alexandrina Deschamps
Robert Faulkner
Ernest May
John McCarthy, Chair
W. Brian O'Connor
Robert Wilson
Ralph Whitehead
Donna Zucker

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT

Background: The 2008-2009 academic year has been challenging for the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Chancellor Holub and the campus have been challenged by budget cuts and ongoing financial uncertainty, proposals for reorganization, and strategic planning. The campus responded in a variety of ways: formation of a broadly representative task force to advise on matters of budget planning; formation of another task force to consider options for school/college reorganization; and development of a short-term budget strategy to guide the campus through a chaotic year. These temporary measures were accompanied by development within the central administration of the Chancellor Holub's "Framework for Excellence: The Flagship Report, Spring 2009" (http://www.umass.edu/chancellor/budget_planning_041309.html), setting the stage for a subsequent consultative process that will assist the campus in understanding its goals and options in a more broadly systematic way.

This consultative process will move forward in two ways. First, Chancellor Holub has requested a formal review of the "Framework for Excellence" during the Fall 2009 semester. Second, academic and administrative units will be asked to develop their own plans within the campus framework.

Charge: To support this consultative process, the Faculty Senate is hereby establishing an Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Oversight. The Committee is charged to:

- Lead the faculty discussion of the "Framework for Excellence," involving appropriate councils and committees;
- Develop a coordinated and unified response to the framework;
- Monitor the development of administrative and academic unit plans, and lead the faculty discussion of and response to them.

Membership:

- 1) Ten Faculty and/or Librarians, with at least one from each college, school and the library, to be appointed by the Rules Committee of the Faculty Senate;
- 2) The Secretary of the Faculty Senate or designee;
- 3) The President of the MSP or designee;
- 4) The Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees;
- 5) The Chair of the Rules Committee or designee;
- 6) The Chair of the Academic Priorities Council or designee;
- 7) The Chair of the Program and Budget Council or designee;
- 8) The Chair of the Research Council or designee;
- 9) The Student Trustee;
- 10) The President of the Graduate Student Senate;
- 11) The President of the Student Government Association;
- 12) Two *ex officio* non-voting members of the central administration, appointed by the Chancellor; and
- 13) Two *ex officio* non-voting members of the central administration, appointed by the Rules Committee.

The Committee will elect a Chair from among its members.

Subcommittees: At the discretion of the Chair, the Committee may form subcommittees which may include other members of the campus community.

Reporting Dates: The Committee will issue progress reports as appropriate, but at least once per semester. The Committee's Final Report to the Chancellor will also be broadly disseminated to the campus community.

Sunset: The Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Oversight is established for a maximum period of three years, subject to possible renewal by vote of the Faculty Senate. If its work is completed prior to that date, the Committee may vote to dissolve itself.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Oversight (AHCSO), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-042A.
47-09