



University of Massachusetts
Boston
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Boston, MA 02125-3393

University Governance
Faculty Council
https://www.umb.edu/faculty_staff/faculty_council
Monday, October 4, 2021
1:30-3:30
Zoom Webinar

Minutes for October 4, 2021

Members present: Matthew Bell (CSM); Lillian-Yvonne Bertram (CLA); Kui Du (CM); Joel Fish (CSM); Sommer Forrester (CLA); Priscilla Gazarian (CNHS); Margaret Hart (CLA); Maria John (CLA); Werner Kunz (CM); Sharon Lamb (CEHD); Lusa Lo (CEHD); Kibibi Mack-Shelton (CLA); Jeffrey Melnick (CLA); Pamela Nadash (MGS); Dimity Peter (CEHD); Neil Reilly (CSM); Heike Schotten (CLA); Eduardo Siqueira (HONORS); Eve Sorum (CLA); Robert Stevenson (CSM); Betsy Sweet (CLA); Michael Tlusty (SFE); Phil Troped (CNHS); Kiran Verma (CM); Kevin Wozniak (CLA); Kai Zou (CNHS)

Members absent: Roberta Wollons (CLA)

Representatives present: Marlene Kim (Representative to the Board of Trustees); Michael Mahan (PSU); Steve Striffler (CLA)

Representatives absent: Undergraduate Student Government (TBD); Graduate Student Assembly (TBD)

Ex Officio members present: Joe Berger (Provost); Marcelo Suárez-Orozco (Chancellor)

Ex Officio members absent:

I. Approval of the Agenda

Vote: Voice vote

Approved unanimously.

II. Motion to approve the September minutes

- An FC Rep. requested the minutes be amended to more accurately reflect that she submitted an appendix on the first bullet point during her report.

Vote: Voice vote

Approved unanimously.

III. Chair's Comments

- The Chair explained that the FC will do elections for a spot on the Ex. Com. and noted that there may only need to be one meeting this month since the agenda was short. She also informed the FC that the new constitution was passed by the Board of Trustees (BoT) and will be posted to the website shortly.

IV. Reports – 5 mins each

a. Chancellor – Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

- The Chancellor provided an update on the state of the campus in relation to coronavirus. He noted that the student population is 99.4% vaccinated. Around 84 students were dropped from their classes and about half of those remain in remote or online classes. The vaccination rate for faculty and staff is 97.8% and those who are not vaccinated will be furloughed. There has been a total of fifty positive cases so far this semester and he noted that University Health Services does contact tracing for each positive case. He explained the guidelines and protocols for positive cases and shared that there are no known hospitalizations. He thanked all involved in this endeavor and while they prefer to have zero positive cases, in comparison to other campuses UMass Boston is currently doing well and at the moment cases in Massachusetts are not rising.
- The Chancellor noted that the Provost will be providing the academic programs update.
- Welcome Week had approximately forty events and student affairs hired sixteen ambassadors to help students return to campus and provided more than two hundred hours of community service. The Convocation was held safely in person. They were able to celebrate the return to campus with guest speaker Tyrone C. Howard.
- The Chancellor wanted to inform the FC about the hate speech that has occurred recently on our campus and sister campuses. He declared that UMass Boston will not accept any form of discrimination, hate, and intolerance. The Chancellor noted that the George Floyd Fund has grown from \$50k to triple that amount from across the globe to support students. The University will be planning multiple events with various organizations that support anti-racist and restorative justice campaigns.
- The Chancellor reminded the FC about the \$15 million gift from the Manning family for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. This will allow the University and College to take the education of these students to the next level of excellence while focusing on equitable care in all disciplines. This is the largest gift UMass has received. The Chancellor noted the importance of diversifying nurses across the Commonwealth. The Nursing School will be renamed in the donors' honor as the Manning School of Nursing.
- The Chancellor thanked all committees for the strategic planning process and that the University looks forward to getting underway with academic and program planning, as well as the physical plans of the University in relation to the Master Plan.

b. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs – Joseph Berger

- The Provost began by congratulating the FC for their constitution approval by the BoT and noted that he looks forward to shared governance moving forward.
- He echoed the Chancellor's report about the health and safety of the campus community and that while it remains a challenging health environment, that universities in the Commonwealth have a lower transmission rate than the rest of the community. He also explained that they will continue to learn from each other regarding this based on our student needs, including the addition of Beacon Flex for some students. He referenced the procedure faculty that need to stay home if they are sick or need to move remotely in the short term. Requests should go through the Chairs and Deans. The Provost's Office is planning for the spring semester so that instructors can apply for remote instruction if need be due to health guidelines and that there will be new faculty who will also have to go through the same process for vaccinations and exemptions.
- The Provost will be working with the Chairs and Deans closely to try and avoid cancellations of low enrolled classes in the spring. He also wants to use data moving forward to work together to avoid this in the future. He encouraged faculty to participate in the early alert system in order to help students with continued success and retention.
- He announced that the winter session will be kept remote. They found a large increase in enrollment as a result of this from last year.
- The Provost also provided an update on the strategic planning process and how great it was that there were over four hundred nominees. They will work together collaboratively at each level moving forward as they begin to institute the process.
- He echoed the Chancellor's statement that the University has a strict anti-racism policy and that hate speech and all other forms of racism have no place on the campus. He called on all to address racism in all its forms. He also explained that restorative justice and anti-racism will be built into every part of the strategic planning process.
- The Provost explained the notice that was given for CPC and DPC guidelines were suggestions and that the only goal was for there to be a consistency of processes and standards across the entire campus. He recognized that they need to look carefully at the implementation of these guidelines but clarified that these are guidelines, not mandates. They are glad to continue to support the structure that is already there and looks forward to working with others to have a consistent process moving forward.

DISCUSSION:

An FC Rep. asked about the modalities that the Provost mentioned and wondered if the administration has thought about these various modalities moving forward, and what the long-term goals are. The Provost responded that they are looking at this going forward since they are learning things as they happened through this pandemic and aim to look at best practices so that they can adapt the modalities to fit the unique UMB campus. He also stated that we should be looking at all of this together as we embark on the strategic planning process in reference to student success.

An FC member thanked the Provost for allowing the major reviews to continue this time without changes since many were well under way. The FC member also encouraged the Provost's Office to look into the differences between the various disciplines, such as scholarship and what qualifies as such, to make sure that all are on the same page based on

what is considered most important in each review. The Provost responded that they are happy to work together in these important areas of dialogue.

An FC member asked for an update on the alternative scheduling plan as well as whether there could be smart white boards added to classrooms. The Provost responded that they will certainly look into adding more white boards to classrooms and that they are looking at a working group to launch the implementation group about alternative scheduling.

An FC member asked about domestic travel policy since there seems to be a breakdown in communication. The Provost responded that they will make sure to get something out to the faculty by next Wednesday.

An FC member asked about the cancellation of low-enrolled classes to hopefully avoid last minute cancellations. She wanted to caution the Provost about doing this since often times classes are cancelled too early and they may have enrollment if they were able to stay open and was not sure if the data supported this. The Provost responded that they would look at all data and not just general numbers since within programs and departments, a lot of effort goes into putting the schedule together to invent tools and data that works for each department. It doesn't mean that all must use the same tools but be able to provide them and ideally save a lot of time.

An FC member thanked the Provost for the training that was offered for CPC and DPC chairs and thought it might be helpful to have the training in May instead of at the start of the school year. The Provost responded that they seem to be set up to do this next year. The FC member also asked the Provost about some form of early alerts for graduate students. The Provost responded that he would check with Graduate Studies about it. Another FC member also thanked the Provost for the training and commented that moving forward they can hopefully structure the process a bit more so that there are more materials covered that all feel needed.

c. Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance – Kathleen Kirleis

- SEE APPENDIX.

DISCUSSION:

An FC member asked about the projected \$9 million deficit for UMass Amherst and whether or not it was requested that they make that up. The Vice Chancellor responded that that was stated and they need to align UMB budget with the University deficit guidelines. The FC member also asked about the 8% debt service the BoT requires. The Vice-Chancellor responded that it has always been 8%, but for last year, due to the pandemic, it was re-financed. However, in the current year there is no refinancing. They expect it to go back up to the 8% and she believes that all campuses are in that percentage range, and that is not what caused budget cuts.

An FC Rep. asked about the qualifications for those on the committee for master planning and if they would have access to that five-year projection. The Vice Chancellor responded that the strategic planning, master planning, and financial planning will all be intertwined since they rely on each other. She explained that there will be a good deal of communication with the campus community.

d. Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees – Marlene Kim

- SEE APPENDIX.

DISCUSSION:

An FC member asked about the fact that Robert Manning, who donated to UMass Boston, is on the BoT. The Rep. responded that she was not sure and asked the Provost. The Provost stressed that individuals are not given positions on the BoT based on donations to various institutions.

e. Representative from the Faculty Staff Union – Steve Striffler

- The FSU will have its fall assembly meeting during the third week of October and invited all to attend.
- The FSU has received emails about raises but there seems to be some misunderstandings. He explained the process for raises and that the FSU has not received a proposal from the administration, except for the 0% one in 2020. He noted that other colleges have been getting updates. He explained that merit negotiations have not been discussed yet and that it is unlikely there will be merit raises.

The administration does not want to continue with expanded bargaining and the FSU is not sure why since it should be open to everyone.

DISCUSSION:

The Provost wanted to offer some clarification on merit pay. The Provost's Office does also not know anything about it. The FSU Rep. noted that some faculty are getting information from Chairs, who are getting that information from Deans, so there seems to be confusion on how this will work.

f. Representative from the Professional Staff Union – Michael Mahan

- SEE APPENDIX.

g. Representative from the Graduate Student Assembly – TBD

h. Representative from the Undergraduate Student Government – TBD

V. Election for Replacement Member of FC Executive Committee

DISCUSSION:

An FC member nominated Betsy Sweet for the Executive Committee of the FC; the nomination was seconded. Professor Sweet agreed to be nominated. The Board of Trustees Rep. encouraged those from colleges other than CLA to run for a position on the EC. She then nominated Phil Troped, who did not agree to be nominated, but thanked the Rep for the nomination, saying he would like to learn more about FC first since this is his first year in the body.

Vote: Zoom poll

23 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. EC MEMBER ELECTED.

VI. Approval of Membership of FC Standing Committees

(1) FC Standing Committee Membership –

Executive Committee	*Heike Schotten	CLA	2020-2022
	Kevin Wozniak	CLA	2021-2023
	TBD		
	Kiran Verma	CM	2020-2022
	Eduardo Siqueira	SE	2020-2022
Academic Affairs Committee	*Steve Ackerman	Honors	2021-2024
	Victoria Weston	CLA	2021-2024
	Adenrele Awotona	SE	2021-2024
	Lillian-Yvonne Bertram	CLA	2021-2024
	Aroon Manoharan	MGS	2020-2023
	Robert Kim	CM	2020-2023
	Ling Shi	CNHS	2020-2023
	Valerie Corrente	Registrar	<i>Ex officio</i>
Academic Technology Committee	Foad Mahdavi Pajouh	CM	2021-2024
	Aroon Manoharan	MGS	2021-2024
	*James Soldner	CEHD	2021-2024
	Janna Kellinger	CEHD	2021-2024
	Shan Jiang	CM	2021-2024
	Suha Ballout	CNHS	2019-2022
	Lusa Lo	CEHD	2019-2022
	Wenshua Shi	CLA	2021-2024
	Zong-Guo Xia	SE	2019-2022
	Margaret Hart	CLA	2019-2022
	Kenneth Fletcher	CSM	2020-2023
	Travis Johnston	FSU rep	2020-2023
	Youseff Fannichi	Student rep	2020-2023
	Andrew Perumal	Provost's Ofc	<i>ex officio</i>
Budget and Long-Range Planning Committee	*Alice Carter	CLA	2021-2024
	Sharon Lamb	CEHD	2020-2023
	Laura Hayman	CNHS	2020-2023
	Greg Sun	CSM	2020-2023

	Adenrele Awotona	SE	2019-2022
	Zong-Guo Xia	SE	2021-2024
	Christine Brenner	MGS	2021-2024
	Surjit Tinaikar	CM	2020-2023
	Libby Fay	CLA	2020-2023
Financial Aid, Admissions, and Records Committee	*Richard Hung	SE	2021-2024
	Cuf Ferguson	CLA	2021-2024
	Aroon Manoharan	MGS	2020-2023
	Mona Abozena	CEHD	2021-2024
	Serra Acar	CEHD	2020-2023
	Randy Corpuz	CLA/Honors	2020-2023
	Werner Kunz	CM	2021-2024
Graduate Studies Committee	James Soldner	CEHD	2020-2023
	Laura Bozeman	CEHD	2019-2022
	*Priscilla Gazarian	CNHS	2019-2022
	Duc Tran	CSM	2019-2022
	Harry Konstantinidis	CLA	2019-2022
	Pat Paugh	CEHD	2018-2021
	Arthur Millman	CLA	2019-2022
	Andre Maharaj	CEHD	2020-2023
	Kai Zou	CNHS	2020-2023
	Holly Jackson	CLA	2020-2023
	Silvia Dorado Banacloche	CM	2021-2024
	Heather MacIndoe	MGS	2021-2024
Library Committee	*Jonathan Kim	CM	2019-2022
	Neil Reilly	CSM	2021-2024
	Tejaswini Dalvi	CEHD	2020-2023
	Kibibi Mack-Shelton	CLA	2019-2022
	Xiaolu Xu	CM	2019-2022
	Susana Domingo	CLA	2019-2022
	Jeffrey Stokes	MGS	2019-2022
	Tejaswini Dalvi	CEHD	2020-2023
	Karen Ross	MGS	2021-2024

Joint Athletics Committee	Matt Brown	CLA	2021-2024
	*Dana Commesso	CNHS	2021-2024
	Eugene Gallagher	SE	2021-2024
	Vin Cannato	CLA	2021-2024
	Eben Weitzman	MGS	2021-2024
	Sangwan Kim	CM	2021-2024
	Laurie Milliken	CNHS	2021-2024
Joint Discipline & Grievance Committee	*Jacqueline Fawcett	CNHS	2021-2024
	Maria John	CLA	2021-2024
	Chandra Yelleswarapu	CSM	2021-2024
	David Patterson	CLA	2021-2024
	Lisa Rivera	CLA	2021-2024
	Laura Bozeman	CEHD	2021-2024
	Eddie Zhao	CM	2021-2024
	Adenrele Awotona	SE	2020-2023
	Mridula Satyamurti	CSM	2020-2023
	Sarah Hamblin	CLA	2021-2024
	Steven Jackson	CSM	2021-2024
	Robert Kim	CM	2021-2024
Research Committee	Alice Carter	CEHD	2018-2021 (FA21 only)
	Dolly Daftary	CM	2019-2022
	Aaron Lecklider (pending CLA replacement)	CLA	2020-2023
	Manu Thakkar	CNHS	2021-2024
	Rosalyn Negrón	CLA	2021-2024
	Phil Troped	CNHS	2019-2022
	Alan Wiig	SE	2019-2022
	Dan Dowling	CSM	2020-2023
	Rep. from CES Subcommittee (TBD)	CES Subcommittee	2021-2024
	TBD	MGS	2021-2024
Community Engaged Scholarship Committee (sub-committee of RC)	Sommer Forrester	CLA	2021-2023
	Pacey Foster	CM	2021-2022
	Michael Johnson	MGS	2021-2023

	Sun Kim	CNHS	2021-2023
	Lusa Lo	CEHD	2021-2023
	John Saltmarsh	CEHD	2021-2022
	Tim Sieber	CLA	2021-2022
	Betsy Sweet	SE/CLA	2021-2022
	Cynthia Orellana	Provost's office	<i>ex officio</i>

DISCUSSION:

FC members and attendees in the audience offered corrections to committee lists, the spelling of names, and chairships, until the list was deemed complete and free of error.

Vote: Voice vote

Approved unanimously.

**(2) General Education Committee and Subcommittee
Membership Recommendations AY 2022**

General Education Committee*

Serra Akar, CEHD (Early Childhood Education and Care)
 Cassandra Alexopoulos, CLA (Communication)
 Kibibi Mack Shelton, CLA (History)
 José Martinez-Reyes, CLA (Anthropology)
 Shannon McHugh, CLA (Modern Languages, and Literatures)
 Yijia Eddie Zhao, CM (Finance)

Ex Officio

Neal Bruss, Convener, Seminars Assessment Subcommittee, Convener
 Laurie Marks, Director, Writing Assessment
 Daniel Messier, Davis Fellow, Electronic Writing Proficiency Assessment
 Brittany Peterson, Davis Fellow, Electronic Writing Proficiency Assessment
 Laurel Wainwright Chair, Quantitative Reasoning Subcommittee
 Sindiso Mnisi Weeks, Chair, Diversity Subcommittee

Distribution Subcommittee*

Lorenzo Buonanno, CLA (Art)
 Neal Bruss, CLA (English)
 Patrick Clarkin, CLA (Anthropology)
 Leila Davis, CLA (Economics) (sabbatical fall 2021)
 Nino Keadze, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies)
 Sheldon Kovitz, CSM (Mathematics)
 Shuai Jin, CLA (Political Science)
 Elizabeth Marran CLA (Art)
 Tim Poynton CEHD (Counseling and School Psychology)
 Jeremy Wanderer CLA (Philosophy)

Ex Officio

Aimee D'Avignon, CEHD

Diversity Subcommittee

Isabel Gómez, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies)
Ayesha Irani, CLA (Asian Studies and Religious Studies)
Luis de León Reyna CSM (Biology) Chair
Denise Patmon, CEHD (Curriculum and Instruction)
David Pruett, CLA (Performing Arts)
Tim Sieber, CLA (Anthropology)
Elizabeth Sweet, School for the Environment and CLA (Africana Studies)
Sindiso Mnisi Weeks, CEHD SGISD (on leave AY2022)

Quantitative Reasoning Subcommittee*

Elizabeth Brown CLA (Sociology)
Neal Bruss CLA (English) Convener
Arthur Eisenkraft, Physics, CEHD and Honors College
Anne Fitzpatrick, CLA (Economics)
Phil Gona, CNHS (Exercise and Health Science)
Eric Grinberg, CSM (Mathematics)
Anne Fitzpatrick, CLA (Economics).
Georgia Mavrommati, School for the Environment
Josephine Namayanja, CM (Management Science and Information Systems)
Elizabeth Sweet, CLA (Anthropology).
Laurel Wainwright, CLA (Psychology)
Jeffrey Stokes, MGS (Gerontology)
Lin Zhu, CLA (Communication)

Ex officio:

Jie Chen (University Senior Statistician)
Charles Wibralske (Mathematics Department, Coordinator of Quantitative Reasoning)

Seminars Assessment Subcommittee*

Shoshanna Ehrlich, CLA (WGS)

Meesh McCarthy, Undergraduate Studies (faculty)
Shannon McHugh, CLA (Modern Languages)
Denise Patmon, CEHD (Curriculum and Instruction)

Ex Officio

Neal Bruss, Coordinator, First-Year Seminars, Convener
Lauren Sullivan, Coordinator, Intermediate Seminars CLA (Anthropology)

Writing Proficiency Subcommittee*

Neal Bruss, CLA (English) Convener
Jennifer Gregg CLA (Communication)
Rachel Skvirsky CSM (Biology)
Raul Ybarra CLA (English) 2019-22
John Hess CLA (English)
Manu Thrakal CNHS (Nursing)

Ex Officio

Kathryn Archard CM, Director, Writing Programs
Hadi Banat, Director of English as a Second Language, Academic Support Programs
Lauren Bowen, CLA (English) Director, First-Year Composition
Laurie Marks, Academic Support Programs, Interim Director of Writing Assessment

Daniel Messier, CLA (English) Evaluation Consultant, Davis Project
Brittany Peterson, CLA (English) Evaluation Consultant, Davis Project

*Chairs to be elected at first meeting

DISCUSSION:

The Chair of the General Education Committee offered the correction that Laurel Wainwright will now be the Chair of Psychology and is stepping down as Chair of the QR committee. The committee will inform the FC of the new chair.

Vote: Voice vote

Approved unanimously.

VII. Motions from the Graduate Studies Committee

Motion #1 (related to Motions 2 & 3)

From: CEHD (SGISD)

Request for a program change to the GISD MA: Replace 2 courses (GISD 606, GISD 801/802) in the GISD MA with 3 new courses (GISD 602, 803, and 804). Students would lose one elective so number of credits stays the same.

Rationale: The GISD faculty started a full review of the GISD Program curriculum, which was carried out over 11 months, beginning in February 2020. As well as needing updating to focus on anti-oppression and anti-racism, the current research methods course (GISD 606) has proven to be inadequate to prepare students to independently carry out their capstone projects. Further, the Innovations Seminars (GISD 801/802), despite several revisions, have not been successful from the point of view of our students. As a result, we are proposing to replace these courses with courses that would offer stronger support in research design and methods, as well as a course for the capstone, so that it is carried out in a more structured framework.

Motion #2 (related to Motions 1 & 3)

From: CEHD (SGISD)

Request for a program change to the GISD PhD: to replace 3 courses (GISD 606, GISD 801, and GISD 802) in the GISD PhD program with 3 research courses (GISD 602, GISD 803, and a quantitative methods elective from across the UMass Boston campus).

Rationale: As well as needing updating to focus on anti-oppression and anti-racism, the current research methods course (GISD 606) has proven to be inadequate to prepare students to carry out their dissertations. Further, the Innovations Seminars (GISD 801 and 802), despite several revisions, have not been successful from the point of view of our students. As a result, we are proposing to replace these courses with courses that would offer stronger support in research design and methods for our PhD students.

Motion #3 (related to Motions 1 & 2 above)

From: CEHD (SGISD)

Request for 3 new courses, GISD 602, GISD 803, and GISD 804:

a. GISD 602 Research in Diverse Settings (a course focusing on critical epistemology), to replace GISD 606 in the MA and PhD programs in GISD.

Rational e: As well as needing updating to focus on anti-oppression and anti-racism, the current research methods course (GISD 606) has proven to be inadequate to prepare students to independently carry out their capstone projects. This is one of two courses proposed that would provide students with the depth of

critical cognitive awareness and understanding necessary to responsibly conduct qualitative or empirical research with human subjects from marginalized or vulnerable groups in the contemporary global political economy. Together the courses prepare students to eschew causing racial and other social harms while actively and effectively advancing racial and social justice in and through their research praxis, and represent a new, intentional curricular focus on justice-oriented research and theory. GISD 602 is intended to better support GISD MA and PhD students in research design and methods and to better support GISD MA students in the development of their Capstones.

b. GISD 803 Qualitative Methods: Research Praxis for Global Justice, to replace the Innovations Seminars (GISD 801/802), which despite several revisions have not been successful from the point of view of our students. GISD 803 will offer stronger support in research design and methods so that it is carried out in a more structured framework.

Rationale: This is one of two courses proposed (GISD 602 & GISD 803) that would provide students with the depth of critical cognitive awareness and understanding necessary to responsibly conduct qualitative or empirical research with human subjects from marginalized or vulnerable groups in the contemporary global political economy. Together the courses prepare students to eschew causing racial and other social harms while actively and effectively advancing racial and social justice in and through their research praxis, and represent a new, intentional curricular focus on justice-oriented research and theory. GISD 803 is intended to better support GISD MA and PhD students in research design and methods and to better support GISD MA students in the development of their Capstones.

c. GISD 804 Capstone Seminar: Engaging Communities in Research and Practice, a new course for the MA capstone, so that it is carried out in a more structured framework.

Rationale: GISD 804 is designed as a supportive environment aimed at helping MA students successfully complete their final projects. The course is structured to scaffold students through the process of researching and writing an MA-level capstone. Active participation in the classroom will be an essential component to the learning that occurs in this course.

Vote on items 1-3: Zoom poll

23 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 1 ABSTENTION. MOTIONS CARRY.

Motion #4

From: CM

Request for a course change to MBAMGT 698 Practicum: from a 3-credit course to a variable 1-3 credit course.

Rationale: Having MBAMGT 698 as a variable credit course will allow students who want to earn course credit to enroll in 3 credits and the international students who need to enroll for CPT approval only to select the 1-credit option and be approved for CPT for multiple semesters as needed. International students are required to be enrolled in a course that correlates with the dates of the semester for CPT eligibility and must enroll in both spring and summer semesters. Previous workarounds for these CPT requirements are no longer viable.

Vote: Zoom poll

22 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. MOTION CARRIES.

Motion #5

From: CNHS

Request for a course change to NU 670 Primary Care of the Adult Practicum: to reflect a strengthening of women's health content. All family nurse practitioner (FNP) and adult/gerontological nurse practitioner (AGNP) competencies related to women's health primary care will now be addressed in NU 670.

Rationale: NU 670 is a practicum course in both the AGNP and FNP tracks. This practicum is currently for the adult population, defined as ages 13 and older. Women's health has always been part of this practicum, but changes reflect a strengthening of this content.

Motion #6

From: CNHS

Request for a course change to NU 682 Primary Care of the Family Practicum: for this practicum to be for the pediatric population, which includes newborns, infants, school age and adolescents and teens up to age 18.

Rationale: This practicum is currently pediatric (165 hours) and OB (60 hours). OB practicum hours will be eliminated, and OB content will be removed from the course to strengthen pediatric content. Focus was on women's health primary care (not OB) and this content will be in NU 670 (new syllabus for 670 submitted at the same time). NU 670 is also a practicum course for the FNP track and for the AGNP track. NU 682 is a practicum course for the FNP track only.

Vote for items 5 and 6: Zoom poll

23 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. MOTIONS CARRY.

Motion #7

From: CNHS

Request for a new course NU 792 Dissertation Progression Seminar: a 1-credit course to facilitate learners' progress to complete their dissertation research.

Rationale: This elective course has been designed to facilitate students' completion of dissertation research and, therefore, completion of all program requirements. This course is different from NU 899 Dissertation Research, which has no formal didactic content or peer support/feedback.

Vote: Zoom poll

22 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. MOTION CARRIES.

Motion #8

From: CSM

Request for a new course CS 614 Blockchain Technology: to teach the tools for developing Blockchain projects. The course is built around (1) lectures on subjects that are fundamental to Blockchain Technology and that are not usually seen in the traditional curriculum and (2) demonstration of these subjects via project development.

Rationale: To understand and work in the blockchain space, students need to have a good background in a variety of areas including data structures, cryptography, and computer networks, in addition to general software development experience. The proposed Blockchain course is the one-stop shop for this purpose. Without this course, all the necessary knowledge is not easy for students to navigate and acquire in the broad context of the current CS curriculum. It complements the existing database, networking, and cryptography courses with knowledge needed to build decentralized computing systems.

Vote: Zoom poll

23 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. MOTION CARRIES.

Motion #9

From: CSM

Request for a new course MATH 655 an Introduction to Statistical Machine Learning: to provide an introduction to methods in statistical machine learning that are commonly used to extract important

patterns and information from data. An undergraduate version of this class, Math 455 for 3 credits, is being proposed separately.

Rationale: Statistical Learning is a fundamental tool of computational data analysis with applications across the sciences. We anticipate that math and CS majors and minors would be interested in taking this, as well as graduate students in computational sciences. It will be offered if there is a demand. It is our hope that we can attract enough students to offer it once in two years.

Vote: Zoom poll

22 IN FAVOR; 0 OPPOSED; 0 ABSTENTIONS. MOTION CARRIES.

VIII. New Business

No new business.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Approved unanimously.

Kathleen Kirleis
Faculty Council – 10/4/2021

1. Activities based budgeting – Work on the multiyear activities based budgeting project continues. A report on work completed to date and next steps were discussed at last month's Budget and Long Range Planning Committee. The project's Steering Committee is in the process of being formed and I expect that the committee membership will be announced shortly. Background information on the project for the website is being planned with Marketing and Engagement. An all campus forum about the project is also being planned for this semester.
2. Campus Master Plan Update – a kick off webinar was held last Thursday, Sept. 30th. Thank you to all in the audience who had the opportunity to attend. For those colleagues whose schedules didn't permit attendance last week, the webinar will be available on the university website. I encourage you to take a look at it when you have a chance. The next step will be the formation of the project's working group. Director of Campus Planning Dennis Swinford will head up the working group. We have received several dozen nominations for it and expect to be able to announce the working group early next week.
3. Five Year Forecast – the university system is requiring all campuses to participate in an update of the university's five year forecast. Submissions are due October 22nd and our campus' forecast will be part of the overall information presented to the Trustees at their December meeting.

SEPTEMBER 2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

Marlene Kim, Faculty
Representative to the Board of
Trustees, Umass Boston

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Sept 29, 2021

BUDGET

- * UMass received \$145 million from federal COVID money
- * In FY 2022 (this academic year), we are counting on \$78 million for the budget. Without this, the UMass System would be in deficit.
- * In FY 2024, the BoT will want campuses to have a 2% margin again
- * Enrollment and housing is below pre-COVID levels, for a \$230 million loss. In part, this is a long term problem as there is a decline in high school grads, resulting in a 2.1% decline in enrollment.
- * In the last fiscal year (FY 21), Boston had a 5.9% operating margin, with Amherst, a .7% deficit.
- * This current \$3.6 billion budget assumed stable enrollments but enrollments declined. Boston didn't meet our enrollment targets.

OTHER MATTERS

* David Cho, head of the consolidated Procurement Initiative, says they found \$34 million in savings in IT, library, and research purchasing.

* 30 projects will be added to the 5 year capital plan, at a cost of \$1.86 billion. *

* This will be added to the 101 it already has.

* 79% are funded through individual university resources, including debt.

* The debt service ratio will increase from 6.4 to 8%.

* Went into executive session to discuss 'the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property' that did not get voted on at the BoT meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Sept 29, 2021

COMMERCIALIZATION OF RESEARCH

Shaping the future of industry Engagement and Business Development

Possible areas of interest where industry is not engaged in our research include: AI, machine learning, information systems, robotics, automation.

UMass has a \$6 billion impact in MA, including \$7.5 billion in economic activity, and \$9K in R&D personnel. We are the third largest employer in MA.

The impact includes \$513 million in licensing revenue, and 68 spinoffs of companies.

Katherine Newman's office funds initiatives that are commercially viable.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sept 30, 2021

A QUARTER BILLION IN ENDOWED GIFTS TO UMASS

Mannings: \$50 million incl. \$15 million to UMB's School of Nursing

Chan family: \$175 million to UMass Medical

Elaine Nicpon Marieb: \$21.5 million to UMass Amherst's College of Nursing

Name change from the College of Nursing at UMass Amherst to the Elaine Nicpon Marieb College of Nursing.

Establishment of the Our Danny Cancer Fund Chair in Biomedical Research at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

BOARD APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

FROM A&F

Needed and received approval for 4 of these projects:

Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences Renovation \$125 million

Lowell: 3 projects: Ball Hall, Olney Project A, Weed Hall Renewal Phase 1

FROM CASA

Changes to the UMB's FC's constitution, approved.

OTHER

Various transfers and promotions on campuses were approved.

The Chair of the BoT (Robert Manning) is now the Board's proxy for UMass Online and UMass Global and can make decisions for the entire board. (Rather than the entire BoT of UMass; the board delegated their powers to the Chair of the Board)

Faculty Council Meeting
Report by Professional Staff Union Representative
Michael M. Mahan
October 4, 2021

- Processes for Non-Vaccinated Staff
- Joint Labor/Management Health & Safety Committee
- Parking
- Contract Bargaining

Processes for Non-Vaccinated Staff

While the PSU ratified a vaccine mandate MOA back in late August in which we agreed to processes for staff who have chosen to not be vaccinated or to report it, we continue to await a clear plan from the administration as to deadlines and how they are handling these cases. This is a frustration and concern for us as it hampers our ability to provide guidance to our members, and may leave affected staff unsure about their working status.

Joint Labor/Management Health & Safety Committee

We are pleased that after many months, the joint labor/management committee on Health and Safety reconvened last week and is scheduled to meet monthly. Along with the other unions, PSU presented a long list of topics of concern to staff and faculty on the campus – both related directly to safety during the pandemic and more generally about long-standing health and safety issues on the campus.

Parking

Along with other staff and faculty unions on campus, the PSU has filed an unfair labor practice charge with the Department of Labor Relations regarding what we believe are unilateral changes made to the parking systems on campus and the failure of the administration to respond to the unions' requests for information.

Contract Bargaining

The PSU is also heavily into main contract bargaining. We have agreed that October 19th will be the last date for new proposals to be made by either party.