

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Presiding Officer W. Brian O'Connor called the 716<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on April 5, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227.

- A. RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE OF ATHLETIC TEAMS - 2011-2012  
MEN'S BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S LACROSSE, MEN'S LACROSSE  
JOHN MCCUTCHEON, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
NELSON LACEY, CO-CHAIR, ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Presiding Officer O'Connor presented certificates of achievement to the Men's Basketball, Women's Lacrosse, and Men's Lacrosse teams. Men's Basketball reached the semi-finals of the National Invitational Tournament this year; and both Lacrosse teams, whose seasons are in progress, are nationally ranked, with the Men's team number two and the Women's team number ten, respectively. All three teams have brought great publicity to the University.

John McCutcheon, Athletic Director, stated that he, the coaches, and the athletes appreciate the Senate's recognition of their achievements. Although the Athletic Department gives the Senate some "heartburn" on occasion, it values the Senate's support and is proud to represent the University.

Presiding Officer O'Connor told a quick story about former Men's Basketball Coach John Calipari, who recently won the NCAA Championship coaching at the University of Kentucky. Mr. Calipari's daughter was an advisee and neighbor of Presiding Officer O'Connor. On the day of her graduation, Mr. Calipari came to Presiding Officer O'Connor's home to say goodbye and, looking up towards the Southwest Residential towers, said that he loves UMass; that UMass had a lot of faith in him and gave him his start. Every time Presiding Officer O'Connor hears Mr. Calipari on the radio or TV, he hears him mention UMass.

- B. ANNUAL REPORT

2010-2011 Annual Report of the Athletic Council, University of Massachusetts Amherst, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-034.

The report was received.

Nelson Lacey, Co-Chair of the Athletic Council, presented a few highlights of the report and thanked the Faculty Senate on behalf of the whole Council for the opportunity to present. He also thanked Co-Chair Rod Warnick, who did most of the work compiling the 39-page report. The Athletic Council is represented by 12 members of the Faculty and Professional Staff, including four alumni; there are six undergraduate students and a number of ex-officio members as well. The Council meets eight times a year and does most of its work through six subcommittees. During the 2010-2011 academic year, covered in the report, there were too many visiting members of the University athletic community to mention. Athletic Director John McCutcheon tries to make every meeting and has been very successful doing so. It is a great help to have AD McCutcheon present. Julie Sarsynski deserves much credit for all the work she does for the meetings. Professor Lacey wished to highlight the academic success of some student-athletes. Over 100 student-athletes made the Commissioner's Honor Roll, requiring a GPA of 3.50 or higher, during each semester of 2010-2011. Three teams—Women's Soccer, Softball, and Men's Outdoor Track—earned recognition from the NCAA for having academic progress rates (APRs—which measure a student's progress toward graduation) in the top 10% of their sport across all Division I teams. The University's composite APR, tracking men's and women's sports over five years, was 975. The perfect score is 1000 and the NCAA uses 925 as its benchmark. The GPA for all 714 UMass student-athletes was 3.04. Kinesiology has the highest percentage of student-athletes on campus. On the field, three UMass teams won conference championships, two teams played in conference championship finals games, 15 teams qualified for conference tournaments, six teams competed in NCAA tournaments, and two coaches were honored by the Atlantic 10 with Coach of the Year awards. In 2010-2011, UMass Athletics were in compliance regarding gender equity. Last year, Professor Lacey participated in an external audit by the NCAA of the Athletic Department's Academic Support Services. The details are in the report. The University should be proud of the staff in the Athletic Department charged with supporting student-athletes as they work toward graduation. The University looks very good in the eyes of the NCAA.

Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, noted that on pages 36-37 there is a condensed version of the Athletic Department's strategic plan. It is a vision that he believes everyone can support. Secondly, a couple of years ago, Vice Provost Carol Barr asked for the cooperation of the faculty in creating a registration system that would allow

athletes, during the semester of their sport, to receive priority registration. Secretary May wondered how that has worked and if there were any other potentially challenging issues surrounding the interface of athletics and academics.

Professor Lacey said that the Registration Appointment Modification, or RAM, was instituted for student-athletes the year of this report. It allows student-athletes to be able to register for their classes on the first day they are allowed to register. Of the athletes given the opportunity to participate in RAM, 96 or 97% took advantage of it. This year, the Athletic Department is trying to allow student-athletes to have this opportunity during their “off” semester as well. We define a student-athlete’s “on” semester as one during which they are playing varsity games in their sport. During the “off” semester, student-athletes are practicing every day.

Senator Max Page brought up the budget figures listed on page 19 of the report. These show both initial projections and the actual amount of money spent. These numbers are shown to be very close. He wondered how this was possible when \$500,000 was spent to join the MAC, \$1 million to buy out coaches, recruiting visits and a number of other increased expenditures.

Professor Lacey stated that these are actual expense budgets for running the teams during the fiscal year listed.

Athletic Director McCutcheon stated that the expenses Senator Page mentioned for the transition to FBS Football will be included in the Fiscal Year 2012 budget, which this report does not reflect.

Senator Page noted that the figures claim to be the FY12 budget. He wondered if that might be a typographical error and if would be inappropriate for the Senate to receive the report as such.

Professor Lacey believes that the figures are either projections or there is a typographical error in the report that will be fixed.

Senator Page noted that the stadium renovations are mentioned as an upcoming project in the report, but that they are not incorporated into the budget.

Professor Lacey stated it would not be included in this report because of the timeframe. The Athletic Department will provide as detailed a report of the Athletic budget as possible. The intention is to provide that, but those issues are not included specifically in this report.

Senator Page asked Secretary May if the chronology of the FBS transition put forth in the report on pages 7-11, in particular the suggestion that the Rules Committee was involved in the decision at an early stage, is accurate. He believes that if the Rules Committee was aware of the proposed transition that early then the issue should have come before the Senate as a whole.

Secretary May mentioned that Senator Page and Professor Lacey are the recently named co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football. He wondered if this discussion could be deferred to the next meeting of that group.

Senator M. Christine King asked if the Senate should defer the report.

Presiding Officer O'Connor noted that there is no motion on the floor, and therefore there can be no amendment to defer the report. The Senate simply receives the report and may discuss it.

Senator MJ Peterson reiterated that there is much interest in making sure the chronology is accurate.

Senator Richard Bogartz addressed the academic concerns mentioned by Professor Lacey. Although he is not particularly concerned with the academic performance of UMass student-athletes, he wonders about the distribution of grades, the course enrollment, and the overall grading averages of those courses. This would be the only way to come to any conclusions about what student-athlete GPAs mean, as it would provide the detail needed for real analysis.

Professor Lacey noted that he mentioned these specific points of data because they are what the NCAA collects.

Senator Bogartz reiterated that he is not particularly concerned with student-athletes’ performances, but that he believes a nuanced inquiry would require more information than what the NCAA requires.

C. ELECTION

Special Report of the Nominating Committee for Secretary of the Faculty Senate, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-035. (*The Special Report will be distributed at this meeting.*)

Nominated from the floor at the 715<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Ernest May, Music and Dance

*Additional nominations may be made on the floor of the 716th and 717th meetings.  
The final vote will be taken at the 717<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate on April 19, 2012.*

Senator W. Richards Adrion, Member of the Nominating Committee, stated that he is pleased that current Secretary Ernest May is willing to continue serving. One concern that the Committee discussed is creating a system of succession, such as a Secretary-Elect, as a way to not lose the experience of the current Secretary when a new individual takes over.

D. NEW COURSE

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
PUBHLTH 600	“Molecular Epidemiology: Principles and Practices for Environmental Health”	3

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the course PUBHLTH 600, as recommended by the Graduate Council. 46-12

The motion was seconded and adopted.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning Revision to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-036 with Motion No. 47-12.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-036. 47-12

The motion was seconded and adopted.

2. Special Report of the Academic Matters and Program and Budget Councils concerning Revision of the Environmental Science (ENVIRSCI) Program, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-037 with Motion No. 48-12.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision of the Environmental Science (ENVIRSCI) Program, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-037. 48-12

The motion was seconded and adopted.

3. Special Report of the Academic Matters, Academic Priorities, Commonwealth Honors College, International Studies and Program and Budget Councils concerning an International Scholars Program Certificate, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-038 with Motion No. 49-12.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the International Scholars Program Certificate, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-038. 49-12

Senator Frank Hugus voiced his support for the motion. This certificate has been a work-in-progress for many years and the students that take part in the International Scholars Program deserve a formal certificate. However, he believes that the mention of “a language other than English” is woefully lacking in the program. Senator Hugus has studied and taught abroad himself, and he believes that the only way to understand a culture is to learn the language. In high school and at the University, it is possible to study languages such as French, Chinese, German, and so forth, but it is a systemic problem that students cannot study a language such as Turkish. He wishes that the Councils combine efforts and consider what is in the best interest of the students overall—and not just the students who study in the International Scholars Program. At one point, the University had vigorous programs in foreign languages. Over the past 20 years, those programs have suffered great neglect and a number of departments are shadows of their former selves. The University should offer Turkish,

Korean, and any other language that is important not only to the country but also to business. Senator Hugus recommended that the combined Councils, beginning with Academic Matters and International Studies, consider the University's language policies.

Senator Marta Calas addressed a point she has raised before and will likely raise again, as she considers it very important. Senator Calas has studied abroad and is working abroad here at the University. She only speaks two languages, but understands two more. She believes Professor Hugus' point is important. Recently, the Faculty Senate approved a proposal including the term "cross-cultural." In times of transnationalism and globalization, the term "cross-cultural" is problematic. It is a decidedly American way of looking at the world. It is not only important to understand the world through another language, but to understand the new formations of the world—formations that cannot be explained with terms such as "cross-cultural."

Senator Page asked for a comment on the development of this proposal.

Presiding Officer O'Connor stated that he was part of this proposal in its early stages. Language requirements were a hot topic during these conversations. He was unable to attend the final two meetings, when it was agreed upon to not require a language as part of the certificate. Presiding Officer O'Connor agrees with Senator Hugus that the languages are suffering. When his college, the College of Natural Sciences, decided to eliminate its foreign language requirement, he believes it was an intellectual mistake.

Senator Wm. Curtis Conner stated that it would be possible to complete this requirement by taking five classes in one language; that one language would make a student international.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

4. Special Report of the Academic Priorities, Graduate and Program and Budget Councils concerning Changes to the Masters of Regional Planning, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 12-039 with Motion No. 50-12.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Changes to the Masters of Regional Planning, as presented in  
50-12 Sen. Doc. No. 12-039.

Secretary May stated that on the third curricular chart, titled "Minor Course Changes—No Syllabus Required," the second course is incorrectly identified as REGIONPL 580; it should be REGIONPL 574. He moved an amendment to correct this.

The amendment was seconded and adopted.

The motion was seconded and adopted as amended.

## F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Principal Administrative Officers

Provost James Staros announced that the University had received clearance from the President's Office to move forward with the dean searches. He introduced John McCarthy as Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, effective in the new academic year. The SBS and HFA appointments are not official yet, but should be announced soon. The Committee for the Interim Dean of the College of Engineering reported out this week as well.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Secretary May thanked the Senate for "keeping the flame of shared governance burning brightly over the past three years." The Faculty Senate and the administration have cooperated on a number of great initiatives during that time. There were many developments in General Education, including the implementation of the Integrative Experience and the 3- to 4-credit conversion. Other initiatives in which the Senate worked with the administration include the restructuring of Commonwealth Honors College; advocating for the New Academic Classroom Building; developing a number of accelerated Master's degrees; reviewing curriculum and costs in the Joint Task Force on Curriculum, Credits and Costs; creating a Tobacco-Free Campus policy; endorsing the Berlin Declaration on Open Access; working on the University of Massachusetts Innovation Institute; and cooperating with the new New Students Program and other student affairs initiatives. In many other areas, the Senate has provided appropriate recommendations and advice to the administration, and, on a few issues, the two parties have disagreed. Two big projects present themselves to Secretary May in the immediate future. First, creating a more explicit pathway for departments and programs that wish to convert to majors

based on four-credit courses. Secondly, in cooperation with the Provost's Office, the Faculty Senate Office is putting its Approval Procedure Guide online. This will be somewhat analogous to the system developed for the Gen Ed approvals. The University could not have worked effectively to convert over 200 courses from 3- to 4-credits and approve over 100 Integrative Experiences without the online system that was particularly supported by Bryan Harvey and Martha Stassen in the administration and Maurianne Adams, Chair of the Gen Ed Council. If we can create additional layers for this system, it will be possible to review undergraduate courses, programs, and policy programs in a similarly efficient manner. It is very complicated software, but it allows all the steps to take place more efficiently. It will increase the effectiveness of shared governance and increase possibilities for faculty to be engaged, while resisting the pressures of ever-increasing responsibilities put on faculty.

#### 4. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

W. Richards Adrion, Faculty Delegate to the Board of Trustees, noted that the Board of Trustees met in special session to confirm the appointment of Kumble Subbaswamy as Chancellor. They will meet again on May 23, and May 30 (in subcommittees), and on June 6 at UMass Dartmouth. During these sessions, tuition, fees, and tenure decisions will be made.

#### 6. The President of the Graduate Student Senate

Hongmei Sun, President of the Graduate Student Senate, followed up on some issues she discussed at the last Faculty Senate meeting. The Graduate Student Senate recently submitted its first ever recommendation to the University. Part of the recommendation reads:

“We the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), the official representative governing body of graduate students, propose the following recommendations: 1.) The newest University policy on family and single graduate student housing be immediately suspended until a committee constituted with graduate students and administration review and recommend changes to the policy; 2.) The GSS appoint graduate student representatives to sit on the committee and have full voting privilege; 3.) The committee research how current housing policies affect graduate students both now and in the future; 4.) The committee investigate the current management of North Village and the new policy concerning the management of Lincoln apartments; 5.) All future graduate student housing decisions involve graduate students via GSS appointment.

“We understand the current policy, which was approved without any student input, to consist of: 1.) Lincoln apartments will be managed as undergraduate on-campus housing; 2.) Graduate student families will no longer be housed in Lincoln following the 2012-2013 academic year; 3.) Graduate student families currently living in Lincoln apartments will be allowed to stay for one year and pay a projected 5-9% increase in rent based on their current rent; 4.) Graduate student families will be prioritized on the waiting list for North Village for 2012-2013, but housing in North Village is not guaranteed; 5.) Per unit rental prices for one and two bedroom apartments will increase by a projected 110-120%; 6.) Per unit rental prices for studios will increase by a projected 38-45%; 7.) Graduate students will no longer be housed in Cashin.”

Many graduate students, including GSS Senators, disagree with the recent changes in policy. Vice Chancellor Jean Kim has informally responded to the recommendation, promising a formal response in the next week. President Sun hopes that the administration will consider the GSS recommendations and that the Faculty Senate will support the GSS.

#### G. QUESTION PERIOD (10-Minute Limit)

Senator Wm. Curtis Conner asked about the implementation of a policy approved at the 711<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting regarding differential fees. The motion stated that differential fees would be returned to departments in their entirety. He stated that this is not happening in Engineering.

Provost James Staros stated that the differential fee for students in Engineering is, in fact, going back to the College of Engineering. It is charged as a college fee and goes to that college to be spent at the dean's discretion. He reminded the Senate that its authority in financial matters is advisory.

Bryan Harvey, Associate Provost for Academic Assessment and Resource Planning, noted that the Engineering fee has been in place for years, and that his understanding of the motion was that it would apply to any *new* differential fees.

Presiding Officer O'Connor mentioned that Kumble Subbaswamy was recently introduced as the 30<sup>th</sup> Chancellor of the University. Presiding Officer O'Connor has been at the University since the early 1970s, when Oswald Tippe was introduced as the *first* Chancellor of the University. He could only count 12 since then, and wondered if anyone knew how it was determined that Dr. Subbaswamy was the 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Ed Blaguszewski, Executive Director of News and Media Relations**, stated that the list was a determination of the President's Office, which included individuals that served as President of the University of Massachusetts Amherst and counted chancellors serving non-consecutive terms twice.

**Senator Ralph Whitehead** joked that similar logic has made Vladimir Putin the 323<sup>rd</sup> President of Russia.

The 716<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:30 p.m. on April 5, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest D. May  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate