

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST•BOSTON•DARTMOUTH•LOWELL•WORCESTER•UMASSONLINE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2014; 4:00 p.m.
University of Massachusetts Boston
Campus Center Ballroom C – 3rd Floor
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts**

Trustees Present: Chair Thomas; Vice Chairs Furman and King Shaw; Trustees Campbell, Collins, Fubini, Geoffroy, Gomez, Johnston, Kingston, Lee, Lowe, Mullan, Murphy, O'Brien, Peters and Xifaras

Trustees Absent: Trustees Buonomo, Carpman, Malone, Osterhaus-Houle and Woolridge

University Administration: President Caret; General Counsel Heatwole; Senior Vice President Williams, Chancellors Subbaswamy, Motley, Grossman, Meehan and Collins; Deputy Chancellor/Provost Flotte; Provosts Staros, Langley, Mohammad, Abdelal

Faculty Representatives: Ms. Billings, UMass Amherst; Professor Coll-Tellechea, UMass Boston

Documents Used: -Education and Technology Data by Campus; Perspective - NMC Horizon Report: 2014 Higher Education Edition—a collaborative between the New Media Consortium and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative, Doc. T14-023

Vice Chair Furman convened the meeting at 4:21 p.m. and stated that Chair Thomas will be participating by telephone, until his arrival, pursuant to 940 CMR 29.10(5)(e), since he is geographically distant from Boston making it unreasonably difficult for him to attend the meeting in person.

Vice Chair Furman stated that due to a full Board agenda, any members of the Committee or others who wish to speak do so through the Chair, noting that all speakers will be limited to three minutes. She also noted that Board of Trustees meeting guidelines restrict comments to specific agenda items and not straying into other areas that are not part of the agenda.

Vice Chair Furman then stated that the Board had been provided with a copy of the minutes from the December 10, 2013 meeting. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

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Reports:

President's Report

President Caret provided a brief overview of the agenda and its focus on the application of educational technology across the campuses. He also highlighted the relationship between technology and the academic E&E effort.

Discussion Items:

Senior Vice President Williams introduced the discussion item, **Education and Technology: A Data-Informed Campus Perspective**. She highlighted her educational experience and the significant technological innovation and changes of processes that have occurred through the years. Senior Vice President Williams stated that she asked the Provosts to provide a data-informed overview of their campus' most innovative work with technology. She further discussed emerging nationwide trends in technology and learning referring to data collected at the system-level and available in the materials that were provided.

Provost Staros provided a brief history of the Amherst campus' engagement with innovative technology, from as early as 1992 and the pioneering On-line Web-based Learning program, "OWL". He also provided highlights of the campus' current "team-based learning" approach and its use of "adaptive learning".

The Committee then engaged in lively discussion with the Provosts on a variety of topics including: how campuses encourage faculty to engage in the use of innovative technology; receiving and incorporating student feedback; the use of multiple learning management systems on campus and the need for a single portal of access for students; big data and predictive modeling; synchronous and asynchronous courses and legal education; the impact of technology on the delivery of content and its effect on students in the future; technology and learning in the health professions; privacy issues; and the role of the University in the socialization and maturation of students.

Trustee Lowe, from the Medical School, described his experience in a course problem-solving the diagnosis of patients that incorporated an innovative use of technology.

There was further discussion on the academic standards for online courses; quality of the technology hardware in use; role model peer institutions; intra-system dialogue and best practices sharing; measurements of success; and the state of classroom technology resources.

Trustee Geoffroy, from the Lowell campus, described his Spanish lab course with online video and audio components. Trustee Kingston, from Amherst, described the use of "clickers" in lecture halls as a way to stay engaged. She also noted that she has three different types of this device and commented that intentionality was important when making technology investments.

Chancellor Meehan described the technology available in the classrooms at the Lowell campus. Chair Thomas asked about the MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) movement and

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the level of engagement of the campuses. There was discussion about assessing MOOCs and the experiences of campuses that are currently engaged with MOOCs.

President Caret commented that discussions are underway on best-practices and providing seed money to faculty to encourage the innovative use of technology.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Kate Wilkinson
Staff Assistant