

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THE FACULTY SENATE**

MINUTES: Presiding Officer Ernest May called the 570th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on Thursday, November 4, 1999 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall 227.

Joseph Larson, Interim Secretary of the Faculty Senate asked the Faculty Senate to take a moment of silence in memory of Jean Hosmer, who was killed recently.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Principal Administrative Officers**
No announcements

- 2. The Interim Secretary of the Faculty Senate**
Senator Joseph Larson announced that the Senate minutes from the first Faculty Senate meeting had been mailed out and posted on the Senate website in an effort to end the hiatus in the distribution of minutes. He then asked that anybody planning to make a statement at a meeting send a copy of the statement to the Senate office to be incorporated into the minutes.

Senator Larson then announced that the Health Council, chaired by Robert Sinclair, and the Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach and Public Service, chaired by Jane Giacobbe-Miller had each met in the past week. In addition, the search committee for the new Secretary had been appointed, and would be meeting next week to put together procedures and announcements.

Senator Larson finished his announcements by calling attention to some statements that appeared in the summary of the Trustees' Capital Plan update regarding how much of the University's budget is being moved into capital projects out of the operating funds. He then announced that the Trustees Committee of the whole would be meeting Tuesday, November 9th at 4p.m. in the Massachusetts room in the Mullins Center. He encouraged substantial faculty participation and attendance.

- 3. The Chair of the Rules Committee**
No announcements

- 4. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees**
Senator Brian O'Connor expanded on Senator Larson's comments by explaining that the state is currently spending 2.5% of all state capital expenditures annually on the Capital Plan, and that at that rate it would take at least 50 years to meet our needs. He then stated that President Bulger sees the University's financial condition as stable but must continue to improve.

Senator O'Connor then urged faculty to attend the 4:00 meeting of the committee of the whole where the reports of the Ad-hoc Committee on Intelligent Autonomy, the Ad-hoc Committee on University Staffing, and the Ad-hoc Committee on Distance Learning and Cooperative Education would be discussed.

- 5. The President of the Graduate Student Senate**
John Sebella, Executive Officer began his announcements by condemning privatization on campus. Then, on behalf of the Graduate Student Senate, he went on to demand that the W.E.B. DuBois' library budget request be fully funded so as to not cut back on 20% of the library's journals and periodicals.

The Graduate Student Senate expressed concern about the Commonwealth College. They questioned the amount of money being spent to finance the college, and the possibility that it might dilute professors' responsibilities to regular UMass students.

John Sebella's final remarks addressed diversity and multiculturalism on campus. He encouraged all faculty to initiate diversity programs, and to help put an end to the increasing number of racial incidents occurring on campus.

6. **The President of the Student Government Association**

Seth Avakian, Student Trustee began by calling attention to the issue of pedestrian safety on campus. He encouraged professors to talk to students about the importance of awareness of this issue.

Second, Seth Avakian addressed a few comments made by the Graduate Student Senate. Avakian stated that there was a difference between privatization and the branding (use of a private provider's products) that we see on campus now. Avakian then went on to request that an independent board be set up to oversee the Commonwealth College, it's benefits including having "one voice to follow in terms of direction."

Lastly, Seth Avakian announced that the Student Government is in favor of an extended Course and Teacher Evaluation Guide site. They believe that this type of guide would provide faculty with students who are better prepared for their courses, and students who are interested and comfortable with the courses they are taking.

7. **The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors**

Jane Giacobbe-Miller had two announcements to make. First, she announced that the McCollege Tour, a series of films regarding privatization would be shown November 13th in Thompson Hall.

Jane Giacobbe-Miller's second announcement addressed the delay in merit increases. She explained that the merit pool information had not yet been distributed, but that it should be coming in the next two weeks.

B.

QUESTION PERIOD

Senator Giacobbe-Miller asked Vice Chancellor Page about the composition of the Committee that will be evaluating the bids coming in for the privatization of the bookstore.

Vice Chancellor Page stated that he would welcome suggestions from the Senate with regard to faculty members on the committee.

Senator Larson then asked that the Senators make suggestions for faculty representatives.

Senator Frank Hugus asked three questions regarding the Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences. He asked where it would be housed, where the funding for its start up would come from, and what resources it would take from individual campuses.

Chancellor Scott answered that the campus was advocating a model which would designate a lead campus, either Dartmouth or Boston, and would work with existing personnel.

Senator O'Connor asked the Chancellor to comment on the fact that the University has hired a consultant to advise on Division 1A Football.

Chancellor Scott answered that the University remains vigilant on the issue of 1A Football, and that an expert who knows a lot about conferences has been hired to make an assessment of the situation.

Senator Larson referred back to Senator Hugus' question regarding the Marine School. Senator Larson stated that if "the funding for the new school were to be applied to the campuses in the same formula used to distribute funding to the campuses, the Amherst campus would be expected to pick up more than half of the cost of putting this dean's office in operation, translating into roughly six faculty positions."

Senator Larson then went on to state that he would like any questions regarding the Marine School raised to the Rules Committee in writing so that they may all be addressed.

Chancellor Scott clarified Senator Larson's comments by explaining that with the current \$500-700 thousand funding model the money would be extracted from the budget before it was distributed to the campuses. This would not be a case where the campuses would have to give up money that they had already received.

Senator Larson asked Senator O'Connor what the trustees mean by "Intelligent Autonomy".

Chancellor Scott answered that Intelligent Autonomy is "an effort to try and find out those things that should be sensibly centralized in the President's office, and those which would not naturally fall to be centralized in the President's office".

B.

ANNUAL REPORT

1998-1999 Annual Report of the Athletic Council with 1998-1999 Director's Report on Intramurals, Recreation and Sport Clubs as addendum, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 00-006.

Chancellor Scott took this opportunity to expand on Division 1A Football. He explained that a task force has been appointed for the reason that the University needs to be ready to make a decision if an opportunity arises in which the University is invited to join the conference.

Pat Vittum, Chair of the Athletic Council stated that one focus of the Athletic Council has been the issue of a recreational facility for the full campus, not just for athletics. They feel that the lack of such a facility has resulted in a reduced ability to recruit and retain students.

Senator Frank Hugus mentioned his concern with the idea that the Chancellor seemed to be saying that the University was ready to "jump into 1A Football at a moment's notice".

Chancellor Scott responded that he "said to jump in or not to jump in, it was meant to be a symmetric decision making process. We simply need to be ready with all the information and the facts and figures, because when the opportunity arises it will arise very quickly" and they will need to undertake the decision with the Athletic Council in a short timeframe.

Senator Richard Bogartz asked for a comparison between the ratings of the University's library and athletic program.

Chancellor Scott answered that the library ranks 78th in the ARL, and the athletic program ranks at the top, with overall national rankings.

Pat Vittum added that with the mathematical formula used strictly for the athletic portion, the University placed 51st in the country, and 3rd in Division 1AA.

Chancellor Scott mentioned that with these figures, the library and the athletic program rank equally. However, he is concerned with where these programs might go in the future if we don't attend to them.

Senator Ernest May noticed while looking at the report that the University comes between 50 and 100 in a lot of areas.

Chancellor Scott added that another figure worth mentioning came from the US News and World Report, where the University ranked in the top ten for top universities in quality for the cost.

Senator Surinder Mehta inquired as to the size of the other universities being ranked.

Chancellor Scott responded that he would have to check into that question further.

Senator May mentioned that the central administration has done good work in this area of improving our image and relationship with the ranking people.

Chancellor Scott finished by addressing some concerns regarding 1A Football. He mentioned that the University would probably not be spending 50-60 million dollars right away to enhance the stadium, as games could be played elsewhere to meet the 35,000 seat stadium requirement. He then discussed some pros and cons on the matter and referred all present to *Strategic Intent* written in 1994, and *Strategic Action* written in 1995 for some further ideas.

C. NEW COURSES

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the courses AFROAM 117 and 350, FCFLRC 111M, 112M, 121M, and 122M, GERMAN 270, ITALIAN 450 and PSYCH 306 as recommended by the Academic Matters Council.

The Motion seconded and carried.

The 570th meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by Joseph Larson, Interim Secretary of the Faculty Senate

(The proceedings of the meeting are available on audio tape at the Faculty Senate office dated November 4th, 1999.)