

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Presiding Officer Richard Bogartz called the 740th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate to order on September 11, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in Herter Hall, Room 227, thanked the former Provost and Senators for their service to the Faculty Senate, and welcomed the new Provost and Senators to the Faculty Senate.

Poem

Still I Rise -- Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history  
With your bitter, twisted lies,  
You may tread me in the very dirt  
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?  
Why are you beset with gloom?  
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells  
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,  
With the certainty of tides,  
Just like hopes springing high,  
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?  
Bowed head and lowered eyes?  
Shoulders falling down like teardrops.  
Weakened by my soulful cries.

Does my haughtiness offend you?  
Don't you take it awful hard  
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines  
Diggin' in my own back yard.

You may shoot me with your words,  
You may cut me with your eyes,  
You may kill me with your hatefulness,  
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?  
Does it come as a surprise  
That I dance like I've got diamonds  
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame  
I rise  
Up from a past that's rooted in pain  
I rise  
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,  
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.  
Leaving behind nights of terror and fear  
I rise  
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear  
I rise  
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,  
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.  
I rise, I rise  
I rise.

A. **OPENING REMARKS FROM KATHERINE NEWMAN, PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

*Katherine Newman, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs*, thanked everyone for this opportunity to serve, and stated that she was pleased to return to her higher education roots. In addition, she was grateful for her state's [California] wise investment in higher education, and to have the opportunity to give back. She mentioned that she considered herself as primarily a scholar, as well as a social scientist, who is concerned about addressing several challenges.

Dr. Newman is a sociologist who was trained in anthropology at the University of California Berkeley. She then went to Columbia University, where her foci included urban poverty, economic inequality, and dislocation of the middle class. She has made her living as a public scholar. Her concerns include such issues as school violence, the working poor, mobility, economic growth, hidden populations, and the value of what scholarship can do to enlighten and alleviate these concerns.

Dr. Newman has taught many levels of higher education students, from freshman seminars to graduate coursework. She endeavors to combine scholarship and leadership as she addresses the concerns of higher education.

In addressing the University's challenges, Dr. Newman stressed the importance of strategic planning to define the current state of UMass and in considering the future UMass. She included such actions and considerations as open dialogue, answering important questions, plotting the future, considering resource use, adhering to historic commitments, and community service.

Dr. Newman indicated that the current state of UMass is good compared to many higher education institutions. Supportive legislation and legislators have resulted in adequate resources, which must be wisely used. UMass also has several highly-ranked and recognized programs, which has drawn positive attention to the University and its programs. To keep moving in these positive directions, the University's personnel must problem solve, be engaged in solutions to problems, look to the future, and create and fill necessary positions and programs. Dr. Newman mentioned the Life Sciences as an example of a growing program that has benefitted many by solving issues, creating jobs, and improving the human condition. She mentioned the development of Future Seminars in every field and department, which could consider pressing issues, address graduate and undergraduate concerns, and plot future directions.

*Professor Elizabeth Chilton* asked Dr. Newman why she left Anthropology.

*Provost Newman* replied that she was concerned with social problems.

*Senator W. Curt Conner* expressed concern about faculty involvement in the policies and programming Dr. Newman mentioned.

*Provost Newman* stated that there would be faculty involvement, that there could be healthy disagreements, that she was pro-faculty regarding governance, and that she was concerned about suffering.

*Senator Max Page* asked Dr. Newman about the Health Grants.

*Provost Newman* stated that support of UMass was outstanding, that help was needed to complete the contracts and continue this support, and that connecting with stakeholders was important. Dr. Newman mentioned that public higher education is one of society's best investments; it creates and boosts opportunities, provides employment, and produces human capital, which leads to prosperity.

B. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. **Principal Administrative Officers**

*Kumble Subbaswamy, Chancellor*, thanked the Governor and legislators for the 50/50 partnership with the University, as well as everyone who has supported this initiative. He also thanked everyone involved (past, present, future) in helping UMass achieve its potential.

*Provost Newman* mentioned the searches that are currently underway (Dean, CHC; Dean, SBS; Assistant to the Provost; and Vice Provost for Academic Affairs). She stated that her office was working to

streamline the hiring process. Finally, Dr. Newman mentioned that CHIP and its funding were an exciting addition and program.

*Michael F. Malone, Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement*, mentioned the hiring of the new UMass Press Director and thanked the search committee for their work. Vice Chancellor Malone stated that research awards were increasing, and that his office was working on process improvement surveys.

*Julie L. Buehler, Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer*, stated that they were making progress in improving help services, and adding a new leader and team members who were growing into their roles. Vice Chancellor Buehler also stated that they would no longer ask for ID numbers when they receive help calls. The office is working to address risk, assess the state of the network, and work with the IT Strategic Planning Committee. She mentioned that there were new requirements regarding long distance calls, in which individuals would request long distance service for specific phones.

*Enku Gelaye, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life*, thanked everyone involved in this year's beginning of the year activities, and indicated that the programming had excellent attendance and facilitated student connectedness. Vice Chancellor Gelaye mentioned concerns regarding facilities, climate issues, crisis response, and involvement.

*James P. Sheehan, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance*, reported that the University had succeeded in going beyond its 50/50 goal. He also stated that the Bluewall Café was open, and that the University Club would be opened during the week of September 15.

*John McCarthy, Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School*, reported on the success of the summer business program. In addition, the dissertation retreats during the summer, in which students developed improved writing practices and skills, were well received. Finally, Dean McCarthy mentioned the 18 events and programs the Office of Graduate Student Life was offering.

*Carol Barr, Vice Provost for Undergraduate and Continuing Education*, reported on the opening of the new Integrated Learning Center, which houses 232 course sections for 12,500 students. She thanked all who helped make this endeavor possible, especially IT and the Registrar's Office. Vice Provost Barr stated that pilot groups had provided good feedback regarding their new advising tool, and that further pilots were planned prior to its launch in Spring 2015. Finally, she mentioned that a search committee was working to hire a new Associate Provost.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Senate

*Ernest May, Secretary of the Faculty Senate*, reported on the University's high U.S. News rankings, which are partially attributable to UMass' improved graduation rate, faculty salaries, student success, and quality of food. He thanked former Faculty Senate members and welcomed new Faculty Senate members. Secretary May also discussed the online curriculum management system and its development, and that work was ongoing to improve the system.

4. The Faculty Delegates to the Board of Trustees

*James Kurose, Delegate to the Board of Trustees, and Marilyn Billings, Associate Delegate to the Board of Trustees*, reported on the June, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting they attended. Two billion dollars has been invested in 35 courses in Springfield over the four UMass campuses. They mentioned that the Life Sciences is an important investment. It is hoped that this programming and support will continue after the election of the new governor this fall. Three meetings concerning such issues as strategic planning and deferred maintenance are scheduled this fall, as follows:

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Academic and Student Affairs | September 3  |
| Administration and Finance   | September 10 |
| Board of Trustees            | September 17 |

5. The Representative of the Massachusetts Society of Professors

*Randall Phillis, President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors*, reported on their retreat in August, at which the Provost was in attendance. He mentioned that a study is being undertaken regarding the return on investment for Commonwealth education. In addition, he stated that the union employees' contract expired in June, and that the unions had not yet been able to settle on a contract after 30 sessions of

bargaining because of cuts they were facing. About 7,000 people are currently in this workforce; the largest in New England. The UMass average salary was reported to be \$36,000/year. President Phillis stated they were asked to make compromises, and asked that we support the workers and seek resolutions.

6. The President of the Graduate Student Senate

Dani O'Brien, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate, stated that she saw many overlaps in interests, needs, and issues.

C. QUESTION PERIOD

Senator W. Curt Conner inquired about the restructuring of the gift tax, and stated that it will likely result in big changes for the University.

Chancellor Subbaswamy responded that with previous fundraising operations, the administrative fee was sometimes as high as 9 percent. With the restructuring, the maximum fee is \$250, regardless of the gift.

Senator Monica Schmitter inquired about past questions and the final analysis regarding moving to their new building.

Senator Marta Calas expressed concerns about the inequality in some programs, and called for a year-around series on inequality in which the Provost would be involved.

D. ELECTIONS

Two At-Large Members of the Rules Committee

Senator MJ Peterson nominated Senators Anurag Sharma and Susan Whitbourne.

*(Further nominations will be accepted from the floor.)*

No further nominations were made, and Senators Anurag Sharma and Susan Whitbourne were elected by acclamation.

Chair of the Rules Committee

Nominee: Senator MJ Peterson, Political Science

*(Further nominations will be accepted from the floor.)*

No further nominations were made, and Senator Peterson was elected by acclamation.

E. UPDATE AND PLANS FROM THE JOINT TASK FORCE ON STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT (JTFSO)  
NANCY COHEN, BRYAN HARVEY AND AMILCAR SHABAZZ, CO-CHAIRS

The Co-Chairs of the JTFSO showed excerpts from a (May) slideshow.

During Summer 2014, the JTFSO identified processes and developed questions. Units and departments were asked to create strategic plans.

During Fall 2014, the JTFSO will develop baselines based on unit analyses comprised of self-reflection, student success (undergraduate and graduate), and self-assessment.

During Spring 2015, the JTFSO will develop plans to utilize and build upon strengths, based on their analyses. JTFSO is concerned with diversity, inclusion, access, internationalization, community engagement.

During Summer 2015, the Academy of Diversity Leaders will address prompts.

Dani O'Brien, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate, pointed out that, while there were undergraduate questions on JTFSO's prompts, graduate questions were missing.

Bryan Harvey, Associate Chancellor and Chief Planning Officer, replied that the prompts had been updated.

Secretary Ernest May asked about centralization, and what should take priority.

Associate Chancellor Harvey replied that specific prompts had been developed at the campus, department, and administrative levels. JFTSO anticipated that a wrapping-up/coming-together would take place by the end of the year.

Senator John Reiff asked for clarification on the strategic plans' three themes: Student Development, Research, and Community Engagement.

Senator Nancy Cohen replied that those three facets were interconnected, but also mentioned that additional items could be added per department.

**F. UPDATE AND PLANS FROM THE JOINT TASK FORCE ON RESOURCE ALLOCATION (JTFRA) - ELIZABETH CHILTON AND TIMOTHY ANDERSON, CO-CHAIRS**

JTFRA last met in May, 2014. During the summer, they had ongoing communications, and budget directors, deans, and business managers reviewed data from 2013-2014. Elizabeth Chilton, Co-Chair, stated that the first days of strategic planning were upon us, and that the qualities of transparency, rationality, and fairness were guiding their work, based on needs, values, and principles. There are 23 members of JTFRA who are considering the budget process and wise allocation of resources. It was stressed, on numerous occasions, that they were not considering any specific model and that their work was ongoing. They also stated that they were exploring transparent, decentralized models, and would be considering alternatives in their process as necessary. The Task Force anticipated making determinations by the end of 2014, after continued research and engagement.

Senator Steve Brewer had a concern about the new budget model being based around colleges. He stated that departments and department-level analyses were needed for understanding, because college-level models were difficult to understand.

Co-Chair Chilton replied that their work was grounded on good practices and ideas, and that they endeavored to connect their process to budgets in meaningful ways.

Senator Max Page expressed concern about initial and ongoing cost, and when the program was to be implemented. He also asked about whether there would be a parallel process, a testing period, a timeline, and what the new system itself was going to be.

Co-Chair Chilton responded that they would only be making recommendations, that there would be transparency, and that there would be careful research and study in their process.

Chancellor Subbaswamy added that his office would be making the ultimate decision regarding the adopted model, in consideration of recommendations and consultation with stakeholders.

Provost Newman stated that serious deliberation was necessary because much was at stake in accomplishing our purposes according to our values and principles.

**G. ACTION TAKEN BY THE RULES COMMITTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE FACULTY SENATE, OVER THE SUMMER 2014**

Special Report of the Rules Committee concerning Procedures to be followed in the Approval of Proposals for Increasing the Number of Credits for a Course, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-001 with Motion No. 01-15.

**MOVED:** That the Faculty Senate affirm the action taken by the Rules Committee, on behalf of 02-15 the Faculty  
**02-15** Senate, over the Summer 2014, as listed on this agenda, Item D.

Dean John McCarthy questioned whether the report regarding graduate credit courses should have been made in consultation with the Graduate Council.

The motion was adopted.

**H. ANNUAL REPORT**

**Annual Report of the University Relations and Advancement Council, Academic Year 2013- 2014, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-002.**

**The report was received.**

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

**Amendment to the Special Report of the Nominating Committee concerning Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-048B with Motion No. 51-14.**

**MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Nominations to Faculty Senate Councils and Committees, as  
51-14 presented in Sen. Doc. No. 14-048B.**

**The motion was seconded and adopted as amended.**

**The 740th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate stood adjourned at 5:23 p.m. on September 11, 2014.**