



University of Massachusetts Lowell
Office of the Faculty Senate
Alumni Hall, Room 101, One University Avenue
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854
Telephone: 978-934-3413
E-mail: Faculty_Senate@uml.edu

Faculty Senate President: Michael J. Carter
Telephone: 978-934-2794
E-mail: Michael_Carter@uml.edu

Faculty Senate Administrator: Martha H. Burns
Telephone: 978-934-4909
E-mail: Martha_Burns@uml.edu

Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

March 3, 2014

3:30 PM

Presiding: Michael Carter

Attendees: Lisa Abdallah, Laura Barefield, Dhimiter Bello, Stephanie Block, Dina Bozicas, Maria Brunette, Bryan Buchholz, Eve Buzawa, Jennifer Cadero-Gillette, James Canning, Michael Carter, Abigail Chandler, Guanling Chen, Shehong Chen, Timothy Cook, Alan Doerr, James Egan, Heidi Fantasia, Susan Faraji, Cynthia Ferrara, William Fisher, Rebecca Foco, Pat Fontaine (for Phitsamay Uy), Clayton French, Steven Freund, Alice Frye, Jessica Garb, Jennifer Gonzalez-Zugasti, Christopher Hansen, Carol Hay, Javier Horta, Ann Marie Hurley, Stephen Johnston, David Kingsley (for Muhammad Quayes), Ainat Koren, Haim Levkowitz, Erika Lewis, Karen Lin, Benyuan Liu, Sanjeev Manohar, Dalila Megherbi, Michael Millner, Stephen Mishol, Arthur Mittler, Donna Mullin, Charles Ormsby, Robert Parkin, James Propp, JianHua Qian, Emmanuelle Reynaud, Marina Ruths, Charlotte Ryan, David Ryan, Carole Salmon, Michelle Scribner-MacLean, Richard Serna, James Sherwood, Jonathan Silverman, Shellie Simons, Jana Sladkova, Rita Sullivan (for Sue Kim), Berk Talay, Celeste Tremblay, Jennifer Wilber, Thomas Wilson, YiNing Wu, Patrick Young, Juheng Zhang (for Jialun Qin)

Recording: Martha Burns

- Minutes of February 3, 2014 Faculty Senate Meeting

Jonathan Silverman made a motion to accept February 3, 2014 Faculty Senate Minutes. It was seconded by Ann Marie Hurley and passed unanimously.

- Tobacco Free Campus Task Force Report

Representatives of the Student Government Association, Amanda Robinson and Phillip Geoffroy presented an update on the Tobacco Free Campus initiative. The negative health impacts of tobacco use and the ongoing trend of campuses nationwide moving to tobacco free environments were cited. The Student Government Association has been spearheading this effort.

Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee, (GPAC), (Professor Hurley)

- Final Proposal for a PhD in Education

The Graduate School of Education (GSE) at the University of Massachusetts Lowell seeks degree granting authority for a Ph.D. in Education with three options (1) Leadership in Education (2) Literacy Studies and (3) Research and Evaluation in Education. A motion was made to accept the final proposal for a PhD in Education. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Preliminary Proposal for an MS in Engineering Management

A motion was made to accept the preliminary proposal for an MS in Engineering Management. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Undergraduate Policy Committee, (UPC), (Professor Mittler)

- Proposal for a Policy Change: Dual Credits for Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees

The proposed change would allow graduate programs requiring 33-35 credits, at the department's discretion, to establish policies that permit up to 9 such credits to be dually applied to both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. Programs requiring 36 credits or more would be permitted to allow up to 12 dually-applied credits. Programs requiring fewer than 33 credits (e.g., 30-credit Masters programs) would remain at the current cap of 6 dual credits. A motion was made to accept the proposal. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Proposal for a Minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies

A motion was made to accept the proposal for a minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Report from the Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, (Professor Buzawa)

- The Governor released the first of three budgets. \$515 million has been allocated for UMass. It is up \$36.8 million from last year's base. The key reason is due to efficiency cuts of \$70 million. The final budget will be provided in July. However, this is still \$17 million less than required to reach the 50-50 split between state funding and student family funding of core education expenses that would have precluded any student fee increases this year. Also, there is no money in the budget to fund collective bargaining wage increases negotiated in the upcoming contract sessions. Financial aid represents the fastest growing category in the budget. 79% of students are graduating with debt and 30% of any increase in student fees is allocated to increasing student financial aid. The Honors College was approved at UMass Lowell. The capital budget and debt processes are being revised. \$308 million in bonds were sold while rates are low so we can issue debt at a lower rate. There will be more central office oversight of campus physical capital expansion plans in early stages of development to hold interest expense ratios for the campuses and UMass Building Authority down to levels needed to maintain our current high credit rating.

For Information Only, (Professor Carter)

- **Proposal for an Athletic Academic Policy**

Professor Stephen McCarthy, newly appointed Faculty Athletic Representative, provided an overview of the draft Athletic Academic Policy and invited questions and discussion from the audience. Because of the move to Division I the university needs to establish a policy. Travel schedules are causing conflicts for student athletes in fulfilling their course work. This policy will apply to classes, tests, quizzes, etc. At this time the draft policy does not apply to labs. Stephen McCarthy indicated that the policy is common in Division I schools.

Other Business, (Professor Carter)

- Spring 2014 Faculty Senate Election Guidelines, Faculty Senator Listing with 2014 and 2015 Terms, Attachment 8

Faculty Senators whose term ends in April 2014 must be replaced or re-elected.

Closing Comments

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.