Faculty Senate 3/5/2008

Called to Order at 3:38PM

Discussion about reordering the agenda to allow the Chancellor to introduce the new degree program forward in the agenda.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Motioned, seconded. Approved, Motion carries

Paige Gibbs Updates Board of Trustees Meeting

Committees meet two weeks prior to the BOT meetings. Paige Gibbs attended three committee meetings. Science and Technology – the Life Sciences initiative is going through. Lowell is undertaking an initiative to develop entrepreneurship projects to bring these projects public.

The Provost pointed out that the university Life Science initiative Paige referred to is one for the University and is not to be confused with the State initiative. There are current matching grants going forward through this program. The Provost is working with the Dean’s to identify faculty who are new PhD’s in life sciences but who have less than $100k in funding for a special project. There are projects available to students with a 3.25 GPA, they need a faculty reference and to apply. The Provost has been working with Sharon Sousa and Robin Robertson to identify funding for social sciences and life sciences.

Clean Energy initiative was also discussed in the Science and Technology committee.

Fees will increase 3.1% per year, less than the inflation rate. The tuition does not come back to the Universities it goes back to the general fund, the fees fund the individual campuses.

Worchester, Lowell and Boston all proposed PhD programs in nursing practitioner. The campuses worked together and presented the cost efficiencies of these new programs. Although the programs were presented together they had to be approved separately. There was a discussion by the BOT that this initiative represented duplication of effort across campuses. The Administrators and Faculty responded that there was a need to have this program on each campus. At the conclusion of the discussion the Worchester program was approved the other two were tabled. A committee of the BOT will investigate the cost effectiveness, etc. of these programs.

Chancellor McCormack commented that she has been appointed to the review committee. She pointed out that this issue is one that has been dealt with before. The issue of whether or not each campus should offer unique programs in order to better serve local communities. Given the current state of medicine it is crucial that students have
advanced training thus the nurse practitioner degree is important. Dean Fain will also serve on this committee. This approval is crucial to getting these programs up and running. The BOT comprises mostly new Trustees who are struggling with their role in the governance of the University.

**Chancellor McCormack Proposal for the New School of Education, Public Policy and Civic Engagement.**

The Provost and the Chancellor convened a group in the Fall to discuss how to organize the various education departments on campus: education, CVPA, Math, etc. These programs were not organized in a way to have the institutional impact the University needs to have in this particular area. The educational attainment in this region lags the state, with Fall River and New Bedford seriously lagging the State. We need to have a role in preparing educators and future educational leaders in the State. We put the group together, senior faculty members, K-12 representatives, CUSP, local organizations, former mayor, etc. The Chancellor authored a concept paper about how others have organized themselves, to be used as a thought piece by the group. The group has submitted their paper and recommendation to the Chancellor.

The Chancellor stated that she was inclined to accept their recommendation. Coming to the Faculty Senate seeking support and then to the Federation. We envision that the existing programs would move into this structure. We currently do no offer an undergraduate program in education. We choose to niche in the undergraduate minor, and educational leadership in the Masters and PhD level. We are not bringing the request for an academic program which will follow the normal process but more a presentation of the structure of the new school. I would like to begin in April to have a discussion with the BOT to approve the new school. The Chancellor stated that she will have to meet with each Trustee individually to discuss this issue and present the case for this new School at UMD. We need to present this as part of our mission to the BOT members. The Chancellor stated that she would like to have advice from the Senate by April.

Ishmael Rameriz-Soto will present a powerpoint (appended) of the recommendations from the Advisory Group. The committee was charged to better positions the University as a central player in addressing the critical needs currently facing public education in the South Coast region and create the potential for synergies and stronger impacts. Improve programmatic efficiencies, Enhance Collaboration and Communication, Spur growth, Strengthen partnership.

Vision: Committed to addressing the intellectual, economic and social challenges of Southeastern MA. Pairing ground breaking cross-disciplinary inquiry, teaching, learning and research with civic engagement. To help shape innovative public policy, provide leadership in educational practice and enhance the education attainment of the South Coast region.

Interdisciplinary School: Education not an isolated activity. Cross-fertilization: Academic Units, disciplines and professions, faculty and reflective practitioners and
students. Link civic engagement, public policy and education. Program designed with a combination of scientific analysis, real world experiences and application of critical resources to problems faced by the region.

SEPPCE is at the confluence of three major trends in high education. Civic Engagement and service learning. University/School/Community Partnerships. Combining programs in education with other disciplines and professions. Its academic departments and cognate centers will complement the work of each other.

Organization Structure:

Four Departments
- Education (teaching and learning)
- Educational Leadership (new)
- Interdisciplinary STEM (new)
- Public Policy

Three Centers:
- Center for University School Partnerships
- Center for Policy Analysis
- Center for Civic Engagement (new)

Strong Relationships
- Art and Music Education in CVPA
- Kaput Center on Math Education
- Other college and schools (SMAST)

Three core foci: Community Service, Educational Reform and Economic Development

All four new departments will report to the new Dean of SEPPCE. The Civic Engagement Center would report to the Dean and the Provost since it is a cross disciplinary center. The Kaput center and CVPA educational programs will only be programmatically related to the SEPPCE.

Eight Focused Initiatives

- Realign Ed Graduate Programs
- Ed.D Educational Leadership
- Ph.D Math Education
- Online Masters in Public Policy
- Dual Certification Education (ELL and Special Ed.)
- Minor Leadership/Civic Engagement
- Faculty Fellows
- Educational Policy Concentration in Public Policy
Explore: A five year Bachelor/Master ED program as well as pursuing the concept of developing a research/lab school and Professional Development at School Sites.

Faculty Resources required for the initiative. After 5 year implementation a workforce of 22 faculty members. Much of the demand for faculty are already filled with current positions and current lines. There are a number of joint appointments with other units. There are 8 new faculty lines required, not including the Dean.

SEPPCE would have a 5 year roll out.

Year one would start with and interim dean, the three existing departments, 12 existing faculty and 2 existing searches, Director of Civic Engagement (faculty).

Year five would have Dean, four departments, 22 faculty, 6 – 8 clinical faculty, 8 -12 faculty fellows.

The Advisory group would like to get this initiative moving by Fall 08.

Discussion:

Gerald Koot: Over this history of UMass Dartmouth there have been many successful and innovative programs in Education. These initiative and programs were disparate across campus and never coherently organized. There exist some excellent programs on campus that serve not only MA but national and internationally recognized programs. This new initiative demonstrates a commitment on the part of the University to education. The new departments offer a place to house some of these disparate initiatives. Also allowing for the creation of some new programs to help alleviate some of the needs in education, especially science education. The link to public policy is crucial. So for once I get to argue in favor of an initiative.

Speaker: Civic Engagement falls within the realm of social science yet no courses from Political Science are listed. There are many existing courses that could be currently joined to this program.

Rameriz-Soto: These relationships will be explored through cross-fertilization of this program will other existing programs.

Speaker: The word creative is often not used in this arena. There are pieces to this that will not be known until this process unfolds. We need to imagine what this will be. As a long term faculty member this initiative is exciting.

Chancellor McCormack: One of the things I like about this program is the interdisciplinary nature of this proposal. Colleges of Education are often isolated. The Civic Engagement component is crucial since there has been a focus on education students for civic engagement.
**Provost Garro:** I received the report of the task force for service learning and civic engagement. I wanted to support this through the strategic planning structure. This structure also gives us the ability to support the recommendations of the faculty report on service learning and civic engagement including the faculty fellows program. There is a crucial role for professional development within the schools. The faculty of the University are very closely involved with the teachers in the schools in the community. There needs to be a mutuality between the University program and the local community schools where the students are placed. We need to have a mix of environments to assist our schools.

**Superintendent Dartmouth Public Schools:** There is a crisis in educational attainment and how threatened education is as a profession. My contribution to the committee is that this concept time has come. The time is now for the students to not have to seek out educational opportunities. We need a pathway to develop a system for career development for teachers.

**Nick Fischer, Superintendent of Fall River Public Schools:** I deal not only with student achievement, I deal with accounting audits, construction, politics, I deal with economics of a rapidly changing community 40% of which is functionally illiterate. I think this program offers and opportunity for engagement in many ways. Today’s students in education are overwhelmed with the problems of their students: drug addiction, homelessness, etc. These issues are not just our issues, they are not just urban issues. Underachievement is not about bad people it is about bringing our educational system up to a point where people can be successful? How do you bring together the disciplines and strengths of the University with that of the school system?

**Chancellor McCormack:** When I brought the Law School proposal forward the faculty approved provided it did not take away additional resources. This program is entirely feasible within the resource constraints. Two lines per year is not unreasonable. But if we don’t begin moving we can’t begin to identify resources that will make the program possible. Currently new teachers last 3 – 5 years so we need to begin to engage in the process and offer some assistance. We must negotiate with the Federation so we can have 15 clinical faculty throughout the University, they are not FTVL’s, there is a different category of employment. We also need to look at the issue of individual’s transferring tenure.

Law School Update: Not a matter of a good thing to do or right thing to do it is political. The Governor is supportive of the law school. Students have sued since the BHE did not follow its own process and violated the open meeting law, the attorney general has said that yes they did violate the open meeting law. The Law School has had an impact, the applications have tripled. The LSAT scores have gone up since it was presented as a UMass law school. The issue used against us was that we couldn’t do it through continuing education. We have figured out a different way not using continuing education. Governor Romney appointed 6 members to the BOT because they were opposed to the law school. We must first go to BOT before BHE. There are timing issues in moving this forward. We need to update the agreement, etc. The private
schools are clearly still opposed to this initiative. The Governor has said in public forums that the law school will be at Dartmouth. The issue of Amherst and their status as a flagship school will come up in this discussion and will need to be addressed again. I will be back to update the Senate.

Raoul ??, Department of Education: I would like to make a brief point about the structural changes. I looked at the mission statement in the department of education to see if the goals matched my outlook on education. I am very happy at the department but given some of the demographic conditions of the area. I was taken back that we didn’t have courses in language acquisitions. I am gratified to see that the new structure will have courses in that area. I this very important that all the team members buy into this new concept culturally speaking.

Chancellor McCormack: I want to thank all of those people who spent so much time to serve on this Advisory group. To those from the community and those whose lives will be changed as a result of this initiative. This was not a simple or easy task and I appreciated the amount of time.

Gerald Koot: A general motion that the Faculty Senate puts forth a general motion that MOTION: we support the development of the concept of CEPPCE.

Encourage the development of this new School.

Chancellor McCormack: The BOT. What do you envision in the establishment of the school? Credibility with mission? Support?

Gerald Koot: The motion is that the faculty senate puts forth a general motion to endorse the development of the project. Motion: The faculty senate encourages the development of the concept of the SECEPP.

Susan LeClair: I think the PPT should be distributed to all faculty. So that they can discuss it and bring any comments forward. The comments can be sent to the Senate President by 4/5. The Senate can vote now and then have an opportunity for the campus community and ask them if they have comments or concerns if you have a way to improve this can you send them to me by X date.

Motion Carries.

In terms of the April meeting, we will move all open agenda items to the April meeting.