Faculty Senate Minutes
March 8, 2016

Present:  D. Borim  C. Du  M. Goodman
J. Edwards  G. Fay  M. Guo
R. Flanagan  M. Hall  A. Hausknecht
N. O’Connor  S. Ordoobadi  C. Miraglia
G. O’Rielly  A. Revell  D. Roscoe
K. Saltman  S. Parayitam  F. Scarano
E. Winiarz

Absent:  D. Boerth  E. Carreiro  P. Cox
J. Blitefield  S. Jenkins  Z. Painter
E. Hart  Y. Kim  H. Michel
R. Laoulache  S. Macrine  Y. Magrass
L. Knauer  C. Miraglia  J. Mistler
N. Rubien  M. Schuler  J. Paraskeva
P. Walsh  J. Wang  S. White
J. Wu  B. Dong  Y. Chen
S. Raidy-Klein  A. Tandon  W. LeBlanc
G. Wang  C. Wang  Y. Zuo

Guests:  G. Silva  K. Christopher  A. Shapiro
M. Karim  M. Carrera  J. Riley
R. Peck  B. Ayotte  D. Manke

1. Call to order

2. Approval of the minutes
-Andrew Revell made a motion to approve the minutes.
-Elizabeth Winiarz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. President’s Report
-Doug Roscoe shared with the Senate that there will be a welcoming ceremony for the new Interim Chancellor,
- Decision was made to not support using UMass Dartmouth as a filming site for the Boston Marathon bombing. Doug talked with the Senate Steering Committee, and he also talked to John Hoey

4. Provost’s Report-

- Law school accreditation has begun.

- The Provost reported that there was a successful Nursing Accreditation visit.

- Manning Prize for Teaching. The Provost updated that there are 5 candidates for this prize. There is a $10,000 award that comes with this prize.

- Grant O’Rielly brought up the retention had gone down with the enrollment. Grant wanted to know what has been done to improve enrollment.

- Adam Hausknecht talked about issues with community college students. He hasn’t seen any ads for UMass Dartmouth.

- Doug said that there had been quite a bit of advertising on the web. He also talked about students who don’t get into UMass Amherst.

- Grant O’Rielly asked, “What message does it send that we take UMass Amherst “rejects”?

- The Provost clarified that these were international student who had gotten into UMass Amherst and there were not enough spots to accommodate all of them.

5. Report on the Honors Program by Cathy Gardner

- In the past year, there has been a strategic plan to move the Honors Program forward.

- As the Honors Program is part of the contract, Cathy explained that she needed to come to the Faculty Senate to share what kinds of things on which they are working.

- Cathy shared a handout that showed the interrelationships and various interactions between and among the Honors Program, the Office of Undergraduate Research, and the Office of External Scholarships. She underlined that no real changes are being made. The coordinated outcomes are connected.

- Grant O’Rielly asked about what kinds of scholarships would be aligned with OSI (?)—a Scholarships Office on campus.

- Grant talked about the NSF Scholarships available. Cathy said that she probably wouldn’t be able to help Grant’s physics students with NSF Scholarships.

- Cathy talked about trying to increase awareness of scholarships as one of the first things that occur when students come to the OUR Office.

- Nancy O’Connor asked about the reporting structure for the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- Cathy is hopeful that the Provost’s Office would be helpful in reporting out.

- Doug Roscoe—In terms of the staffing and scope of the jobs, nothing has really changed, right?

- Cathy explained that was true, and it was more of an articulation agreement that works to formalize the structure.

- Nancy O’Connor asked about other external funding. Nancy was asking about NSF work and the feeling that they are “off on their own.” She wondered if there’d be any support for this.

- Cathy wanted clarification of what “support” meant. Cathy explained that it would be helpful in administering and managing these grants.

- Adam Hausknecht asked about using money for a conference and expediting things faster.

- Cathy said it would be really nice to have someone who could improve communication.

- David Manke in Chemistry asked about some particulars about supporting and expanding research.

- Grant O’Reilly asked about the budget for OUR. Cathy responded that the budget was 100,000 dollars, and then it was cut by 48%.

- Grant O’Rielly asked, “Of the 60,000, how much do you spend on students?”

- Cathy replied approximately 30,000. “It’s 2 course releases for me, and Alex Fowler gets funding for a graduate student, etc…”

- Mike Goodman (Public Policy) asked about what was cut. Then he asked, “So, your budget was cut, and then you asked for more?”

- Cathy explained that the green column (Office of External Scholarships) was really more “aspirational.”

- Sankha Bhowmick from Mechanical Engineering, asked for rough numbers of Honors Students. Cathy replied that there was a new way to understand Honors, as there were students who were unaware that they were in the Honors Program. She said that there were roughly 14 COE, 14 CON, 20 CAS (didn’t catch other numbers) and that they were trying to make the numbers fairly even across the colleges.

- Cathy explained that they were trying to get the numbers proportionately equal across colleges.

- Sankha Bhowmick asked for numbers in terms of how many students stay in the Honors Program. “Do you have numbers for these?”

- Cathy shared numbers informally.
-Sankha Bhowmick commented that very few students finished the Honors Program in Mechanical Engineering.

- Mike Goodman said if it were a good program—it should be funded.

- Magali Carrera talked about how the original funding came from the state.

6. Motion about the Printer

-Proposed Motion from Senator Shannon Jenkins:

The Faculty Senate of UMass Dartmouth requests that Administrative Services eliminate the requirement that departmental funds purchases of printers (and potentially toners) be justified until Administrative Services assesses and communicates how this will impact faculty work and compliance with FERPA.

- Adam Hausknecht brought up some issues about days of exams and printing availability.

- Mike LaGrassa from printing said that there is a clear inequity in terms of printing on campus. Also—there are FERPA issues that come into play with printing. The higher end printers have the capability to destroy this information. He talked about “secure printing,” and how you would have to put in a code for secure printing.

-Doug brought up the issue that faculty might want to do this on their own.

- Mike LaGrassa tried to explain that he sees this initiative as a way to make it more equitable for all and that saving money on printers would allow more money to go to scholarships.

-Adam Hausknecht asked a question about centralized printing.

-Mike LaGrassa wants us to move towards mobilized printing.

-Grant O’Rielly asked if there were a “hard ban” on requesting printers. Mike LaGrassa said that there was no ban.

-Mike Goodman asked Mike LaGrassa, “Does that mean we can request printers?”

-Ken Saltman made a motion to approve the motion.

-Satya Parayitam seconded the motion.

-Ken Saltman talked about some privacy and issues with printers on campus.

Motion carries.

-Adam Hausknecht made a motion to adjourn.

-Nancy O’Connor seconded the motion.

The motion carried.