

Faculty Senate Meeting October 19, 2011

Present: Michel Anderson, Clyde Barrow, Michael Baum, Eileen Carreiro, Yanlai Chen, Chan Du, Laura Forker, Paige Gibbs, James Griffith, Maolin Guo, Adam Hausknecht, Stephen Hegedus, Pamela Karimi, Yong Kim, Kenneth Langely, Mary McCurry, Arlene Mollo, Grant O'Reilly, Joao Paraskeva, Satya Parayitam, Jen Riley, Frank Sousa, Amit Tandon, Cheng Wang, Shouhong Wang, Stephen White, Elizabeth Winiarz, Jia Wu, Yuegang Zuo

Excused: Donald Boerth, Lynne Brodeur, Maureen Hall, Fahri Karakaya, Maureen Hall, Sharon Ordoobadi, Sonja Peterson, Doug Roscoe

Guests: Diego Bernal, Heather Bentz, Terry Burton, Chris Eisenhart, Alex Fowler, Michael Goodman, Alfa Heryudono, William Hogan, Saeja Kim, Anna Klobucka, Robert Peck, Dick Pegnetter, Nima Rahbar, Amy Shapiro, Mazdak Tootkaboni, Jefferson Turner

The meeting was called to order.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

President's report

Recent comments by President Caret have caused concern over efficiency and possible reduction of programs. We must be proactive in justifying how we benefit the state - many UMass graduates remain in the state.

UMass Board of Trustees Faculty Representative report

At the most recent UMass Board of Trustees meeting it was voted to initiate 2 capital projects for this campus: master fund upgrade (\$1.5 M) and improvements to laboratories (\$11.5M) total \$13 million.

At the Intercampus Faculty Council meeting the importance of adhering to the open meeting law for all future UMass Board of Trustees searches was emphasized.

Chancellor search committee. It was announced that of the list of nominees submitted by the Faculty Senate Stephen Hegudus and Peter Friedman were selected to be members of the Chancellor Search Committee

Provost report

Alex Fowler, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies, announced that the engineering MS/PhD program was approved by the Board of Higher Education the previous day. One of the reasons for its success was the collaboration with other schools. Another campus' proposed degree failed to be approved because it did not demonstrate sufficient collaboration, Fowler is working with faculty to create an interdisciplinary Social Science MS/PhD.

Old business

PCE The President reported that Joy Hadley will respond at the November meeting to the PCE presentation made at the September meeting

Blackboard is being updated. An 18 month rollout period is scheduled.

Library journal survey Terry Burton, Dean of Library Services, followed up on the e-mail announcement made by the Provost today. A "Do not renew" list is being sent the subscription service for journals which have a high cost per use, or of little value to the curriculum or where another copy of the journal is available (usually in a database) from the library. The Dean noted that only subscriptions supported by library funds were considered.

New business

Academic calendar Alex Fowler introduced the consideration of a revised academic calendar. Currently the calendar has 14 weeks of class time followed by an examination period. The Provost's office needs consideration and a recommendation by the Faculty Senate. The Provost has the ultimate authority to set the academic calendar. Fowler briefly described earlier calendar configurations and other background. UMass O'Rielly announced that a rebuttal, to retain the current calendar format, has been written on behalf of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and will be distributed. Discussion continued. Concerns about a briefer calendar: preparation by service departments for needs of

See over

student's major. How would a shorter term meet educational goals? Comparison of this campus' calendar to the length of other university's calendars. Sufficient preparation for licensing exams, Advantages of a briefer calendar: an improved orientation schedule, weekend move-in for first year students. Clyde Barrow called the question. Stephen Hegudus moved " that the Faculty Senate recommend that the Academic Calendar be reduced for each of the next three coming semesters" Declared **Passed** by the Faculty Senate President following a hand vote.

First Year Student Issues David Milstone, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, distributed a summary of drug and alcohol incident hospitalizations of UMass Dartmouth students during the first weeks of the current semester. He also distributed a sheet of ways faculty and staff can help with Campus Alcohol and Drug Prevention. He noted that the "three strike rule" has been tightened to ensure that students get help more quickly. Dormitory security has been heightened. Peer health educators report success. He suggested having more Friday classes and more requirements in Friday classes to dissuade students from beginning weekends early. Milstone encouraged faculty participation to model appropriate behavior (e.g. exclude references to alcohol in conversation about weekend activities)

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Paige Gibbs, secretary- pro tem