

Faculty Senate
February 22, 2012

Present:

M. Anderson	D. Boerth	E. Carreiro	C. Du	Q. Fan
P. Gibbs	R. Golen	J. Griffith	M. Hall	A. Hausknecht
F. Karakaya	Y. Kim	K. Langley	W. LeBlanc	S. Leclair
J. Leffers	G. O'Reilly	J. Paraskeva	S. Parayitam	S. Peterson
F. Scarano	F. Sousa	C. Wang	S. Wang	E. Winiarz
J. Wu	Y. Zuo			

Absent:

M. Altabet	R. Darst	Y. Chen	Q. Fan	K. Fields
L. Forker	L. Knauer	Y. Li	Y. Magrass	M. McCurry
S. Ordoobadi	T. Puri	J. Riley	D. Roscoe	S. Soheil
L. Sun				

Excused:

M. Baum	C. Barrow	L. Brodeur	Y. Chen	A.
Gunasekaran	M. Guo	S. Hegedus	P. Karimi	A. Mollo
Tandon				A
S. White				

Guests:

P. Bacdayan	J. Farrington	A. Fowler	M. Hillenger	S. Macrine
J. McGurl-Hadley	I. Ramirez Soto	R. Peck	R. Peggnetter	S. Scott
S. Sousa	A. Tio			

1. J. Griffith moved and S. Peterson seconded a motion to adopt the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

2. Provost's Report J. Farrington

- His priority is to maintain momentum through the selection of the new Chancellor and Provost searches.
- Our main concerns are to increase recruit, enroll, and retain of qualified students. Student success is as important to the region as it is to us.
- We need to improve the diversity of our community with students from other states and other countries. We need to increase our relationships with the local Community Colleges as well.
- There will be continued pressure to "prove ourselves" and our worth in this era of declining state/federal support. We can do this but we must be aware about the need to do this.
- There are multiple initiatives out there such as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) which are focusing on the interface of high school and the students' readiness for college. We need to answer – what do they need? How can we assess it? M. Carrera will be responsible for this.
- While we search for a new Dean of the Law School, we will also be visited by NEASC as part of the routine accreditation process. The ABA report is being drafted and we will have the opportunity to respond to any concerns. The final report will be in June.
- There is an ongoing search for the Dean of the Charlton College of Business. A letter was sent out to the faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences concerning the process for the appointment of the Interim Dean. The search for the Law School Dean will start shortly.

- The UMass system is conducting a review of the UMass Online project..
- A.Fowler will be responsible for the development of a plan to upgrade and refurbish laboratory space for teaching and research. It is clear that the campus needs additional classrooms, laboratories, studios and offices. Provost Farrington will discuss this with all of the finalists for the Chancellor position.

3. Board of Trustees/Intercampus Faculty Council Report P. Gibbs
- The Board's Compensation Committee reviewed Jack Wilson's package and found it to be within norms and maybe a little low. Part of his salary will be coming from the Edward M. Kennedy Library.
 - President Caret wants to
 - develop a report card for each campus based on the Vision Project;
 - have the Commonwealth take over the debt for capital projects on campus; and
 - utilize students to serve as project managers for some capital projects as a way of gaining experience.
 - CASA members had a retreat recently.
 - Nationally, law schools are projecting a 10% drop in applications this year and we are developing multiple budgets to deal with this decrease in students. This is a result of many articles published in the Chronicle of Higher Education and others about the unreasonable expectations (salary, jobs, etc.) claimed in some recruitment materials by some law schools.
 - Of the two 100 highest salaries in the UMass system, many of them belong to the administrators and faculty of the Medical School.
 - Mardee Xifares is a member of both the CASA and the Science and Technology Committee.
 - The IFC is looking at ways for faculty with common interests to collaborate across campuses.
 - The drive for open education resources such as open software may help lower costs for students.

- 4 PHENOM C. Avadekian
- Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts is a broad based support structure to increase awareness and interest in public higher education and to provide lobbying to increase funding. On March 1st, there will be a lobbying effort in Boston to try to increase state funding for public higher education. There will be buses for those who want to attend leaving here for the 12-2 session. Contact her for more details.

Provost Farrington reminded the Senate of the Torch Relay Rally that pressured the Legislature to convert SMTI to SMU.

5. Library Noise R. Golen
- The combination of jack hammers, chipper/shredders and chainsaws all within feet of classrooms is not only hard on the hearing, it is also dangerous.

- Several of the trees that have been destroyed were memorial trees and also constituted the arboretum of the Biology Department and were used in teaching and research. The Biology Department was never contacted by Facilities prior to the destruction.

A. Hausknecht moved and W. Winiarz seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Leclair, Secretary