

Faculty Senate Meeting
April 14, 2016, 3:30pm-5:00pm
LARTS 117

Present:	D. Boerth	C. Du	Y. Chen
	J. Edwards	E. Carreiro	B. Dong
	S. Jenkins	M. Hall	A. Hausknecht
	N. O'Connor	C. Miraglia	Z. Painter
	G. O'Rielly	A. Revell	D. Roscoe
	J. Mistler	E. Winiarz	G. Wang
	S. Raidy-Klein	M. Schuler	

Absent:	D. Borim	G. Fay	P. Cox
	J. Blitefield	S. Macrine	K. Saltman
	E. Hart	Y. Kim	H. Michel
	M. Goodman	R. Laoulache	Y. Magrass
	L. Knauer	S. Ordoobadi	C. Wang
	N. Rubien	J. Paraskeva	R. Flanagan
	P. Walsh	S. Parayitam	S. White
	J. Wu	Y. Zuo	M. Guo
	W. LeBlanc	F. Scarano	

Guests:	R. Bala	K. Christopher	A. Shapiro
	K. Curow	M. Karim	S. Lohrenz
	A. Gunasekaran	M. Bilek	J. Riley
	S. Koomas	C. Spencer	M. Carrera
	T. Burton		

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of the Minutes from March 8, 2016

-Chan Du made a motion to approve the minutes.

-Maureen Hall seconded the motion.

-Minutes were approved. All in favor.

3. Remarks by Interim Chancellor Helm

-Chancellor Helm addressed the Faculty Senate. He said that he learns something new each day. He wanted to mention a few things. He said that President Meehan asked him to do this job as an interim. He hopes to make a few improvements here. He will not play a role in the search for the new chancellor, and he will not be in the candidate pool. Areas of focus—development, fundraising (33 % of the positions in development are currently vacant), enrollment and morale. The size of the incoming class has declined by 24%. Morale is the third issue that he has been asked to work on at UMD. He believes that there is a lack of trust between and among the people who inhabit the university. He talked about customer service, and he made sure to broaden that notion. There are internal customers, external customers, etc...

In addition, he is ready to do all of the things that Chancellors do---hand out diplomas, etc... He has been given tours by deans and that includes meeting lots of faculty, and seeing all of the facilities. He admires the fact that so many faculty have told him that they would “go to the mat” for their students.

4. President’s Report

Doug Roscoe wanted to update the motion about the printers. He shared that with the Chancellor. There have been meetings between Shannon Jenkins and Michael LaGrassa). More information will be available soon.

-Doug shared a handout about the Faculty Senate Election Procedures.

-Board of Trustees met yesterday (April 13, 2016) on campus here at UMass Dartmouth.

-263 million dollar deficit is projected for all of UMass.

-Update on Faculty Senate Constitution. Doug showed the NEASC Standards on the projector.

-There were concerns about faculty governance.

-There are some updates that need to be made in the constitution to align it with the NEASC document(s).

-Election procedures. Doug is looking to run elections for the Faculty Senate. He described the election procedures that will be used to fill senate seats which are becoming available next month.

- There are designated seats for each council, and then there are at-large designated seats.

-Liz Winiarz asked how the number of designations was calculated.

-Doug explained that it had to do with the contract.

-Doug will do an email call for nominations for people to be on the Faculty Senate.

-Grant O’Rielly asked about how the voting would be counted.

-People who are elected would take office in the following meeting after they have been elected.

-Proxy votes will be allowed.

5. Provost’s Report

-Provost Karim made mention of the Doctoral Awardees and presentations last night in the library (April 13, 2016).

-Manning Teaching Award was awarded this year to Dr. John Buck.

-At the May 11, 2016 Faculty Senate Meeting, the Chancellor will be present.

-Within the next two weeks, the Summer Research Fellowships will be announced.

6. Report on Enrollment (Ian Day)

-Ian's presentation began with some headlines from other institutions of higher education that are also experiencing decline in enrollment.

-The next slide showed statistics that show a percent change in high school graduates.

-He showed the declining enrollments around the state of Massachusetts.

There are four current admissions initiatives: 1) Strategic Target Marketing, 2) International Admissions, 3) Amherst, 4) Leveraging Merit Aid.

-He talked about students who were not given admission to UMass Amherst, and these students might be accepted at UMass Dartmouth. There are several different lists from UMass Amherst.

-He also talked about Merit Aid Offers.

-His last slide indicated data from the First Year Admissions. May 1st is the deadline that will show how many students will be

-Ram Bala (Engineering) asked about having UMass Amherst students re-apply here.

-Shannon Jenkins (Political Science) asked if we have considered dropping the SAT scores for admission.

-Ian responded to the issues involved in not considering SAT scores. He said that students would have to be designated as "Cat 4" students.

- Doug mentioned that the policies could change.

-Adam Hausknecht (Math) expressed some concerns with dropping the SAT scores.

-Ian explained that they were trying so many different ways to get more students.

-Adam Hausknecht said that he sees lots of advertising for many other branches of UMass, but not for UMass Dartmouth. He did see one billboard in Rhode Island near the airport in Providence.

-Ian said that admissions had not been a problem until recent years.

-Adam talked about how the UMD website was not very impressive.

-Doug said that it might be a good idea to have Renee Buisson come to the Faculty Senate meetings to talk about the website and about marketing.

-James Edwards wondered if Mass. College of Art might be a consideration to do the same thing as what is being done with UMass Amherst.

7. Report on Retention (Carol Spencer and Magali Carrera)

-Magali's presentation was entitled "Retention/ Persistence: Keeping and Graduating Students."
-She pointed out that much of this information had already been made available through Doug's email about this meeting.

-She showed some graphs and walked us through the retention rates. First year retention have been pretty steady.

-There are many initiatives across the different colleges, including CAS 101, the Succeed Course, EGR 111, Wrap Around services in the College of Nursing, and FOU 010/102 in CVPA that helps students with major selection and career path.

-Withdrawal numbers are too high.

Magali Carrera reported:

Trying to find out exactly why students withdraw.

2014 Student Success Collaborative – every student for 10 years was looked at to identify risk factors and which courses seemed to have an effect on retention. A progressive analysis of students with +/- 24 credits identified those who were offered tutoring.

Support was provided for advisors, academic departments and colleges, including a new advising system in the colleges helped to identify which students at a certain GPA are likely to withdraw and offered them options for help. Data was used for targeted campaigns for at-risk student outreach.

Retention and Persistence Initiatives including internships, midyear reports, part-time tutors.

GPA 2.4-3.2 had the highest withdrawal rates

Discussion:

Grant O'Rielly: With all these efforts retention still went down 5%. We are where we were 15 years ago. Are we asking the right questions? Magali responded that we have to look at the students who are coming in and take into account social concerns such as homelessness and food stamps.

Paul Bacdayan: So many challenges in retention. Can we persist with the efforts we are trying?

Ram Bala: Imagine where we would be if we did not have these efforts in place.

Adam Hausknecht: Some students have to take a course because we only offer it now and they are not ready, for example transfer students. We cannot offer certain courses often enough to meet student needs. Students don't know high school algebra.

Doug Roscoe: How well are we keeping transfer students in the picture? Can we develop a measure that includes transfer students? Can we look at retention rates for transfer students?

Tammy Silva: The office of Institutional Research keeps those statistics including graduation rates based on 3 cohorts. 1-year rates and 6-year rates are published in the President's Performance details.

SAM – Student Achievement Measure is also collected – credit for those who start here and graduate elsewhere.

Jen Riley: Changes in the CAS are likely to result in higher enrollments – for example the CAS 101 course prepares students for university level study.

Magali then described the retention reports handed out at the meeting.

8. Other Business:

Dean Terry Burton announced the Twenty Cent Theater production to be held on the coming weekend and Elizabeth Winiarz announced the 22nd Annual Sigma Xi Research Exhibit on April 20th and 21st.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm (Hausknecht/Jenkins)