## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
### November 3, 2023

**2-4pm**

**Zoom Videoconferencing**

### Members present:

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<td>Achilov Dilshod</td>
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<td>Dempsey Anna</td>
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<td>Manning Kenneth X</td>
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<td>Ahrens Scott</td>
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<td>Eckert Maureen</td>
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<td>Marshall Douglas</td>
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<td>Albin Laurel</td>
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<td>Eisenhart Chris</td>
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<td>VACANT</td>
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<td>Evans Shari</td>
<td>Mofford Kari X</td>
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<td>Anguelov Nick</td>
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<td>Fair Meghan</td>
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<td>Arkerson Robin</td>
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<td>Fields Keota</td>
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<td>Msangi Ziddi X</td>
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<td>Arora Anupama</td>
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<td>Fisher Anthony</td>
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<td>O’Rielly Grant X</td>
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<td>Avery Shannon</td>
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<td>Fletcher Megan</td>
<td>Olitsky Neal X</td>
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<td>Ayotte Brian</td>
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<td>Fowler Alex</td>
<td>Pacheco Sonia X</td>
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<td>Barrett Diana</td>
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<td>Franz Laura</td>
<td>Rajaniemi Tara X</td>
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<td>Berggren Heidi</td>
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<td>Gardner Catherine</td>
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<td>Bhownick Sankha</td>
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<td>Gulbrandsen Karen</td>
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<td>Hall Maureen</td>
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<td>Roscoe Doug X</td>
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<td>Botvin Joshua</td>
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<td>Huang Rui</td>
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<td>Santavicca Nicholas</td>
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<td>Bowman Julie</td>
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<td>Jia Xiaofei</td>
<td>Scarano Frank X</td>
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<td>Bromage Erin</td>
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<td>Kayumova Shakhnoza</td>
<td>Schuler Monika X</td>
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<td>Buck Elisabeth</td>
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<td>Khatib Firas</td>
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<td>Silby Mark</td>
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<td>Caldera Kathryn</td>
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<td>Kim Saeja</td>
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<td>Silva Glaucia X</td>
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31 GUESTS

FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
November 3, 2023, 2-4pm, Zoom

- Call to Order at 2:06pm
- Admin Reminders (Brian Ayotte)
  - Email questions or comments for invited guests to the Faculty Senate email ahead of meeting
    - Allows for presenters to prepare responses and information
  - Email slides for presentation to the Faculty Senate email ahead of meeting
- President’s Report (Brian Ayotte)
  - Call for volunteers for the ad hoc facilities committee going out next week
    - Committee charge can be found on the myCourses site under ad hoc committees
  - Listening sessions for the Provost search are on the Provost website
    - Important for faculty to attend at least one
- Committee Reports
  - General Education Committee (Doug Roscoe & Matthew Sneider)
    - Review of committee’s purpose & charge
      - Director and Assistant Director are not voting members of the committee, only administrative support
    - Course approvals and reapprovals
      - 11 new course approvals for University Studies since the last report
        - Most in Cluster 5
        - Unbundling of literature courses in the English Department
- New course numbers for those that can be offered regularly
- Review of the reapproval process
  - Completed reapproval for Cluster 5 courses last year
    - 81 courses approved, 0 courses denied, 14 outstanding
  - Undergoing reapproval for Cluster 1 courses this year
    - 51 courses to reapprove
    - Due dates: 12/8 - Clusters 1A, 1B, and 1D; 2/16 - 1C; 4/12 - 1E
- New programs
  - UThemes launched last year
    - Provide students with course organized around a particular theme called a playlist
  - University Studies Improvement program (USIP) also launched last year
    - No proposals received yet
- Approval of September and October minutes
  - Motion made (Glaucia Silva) and seconded (Steven Lohrenz)
  - No additions or amendments – motion approved
- Committee Reports (cont’d)
  - Graduate Council (Melissa Pacheco)
    - Meeting was recently held
    - Currently reviewing notes and files
    - Developing 2-5 areas to break into subcommittees based on need
- Course Cap/Retention Discussion (Pauline Entin)
  - Retention update
    - Presentation of collected data – factors that impact student retention
    - Presentation on academic retention efforts on campus
  - Course cap discussion
    - No set formula for determining course caps – determined at a local level
    - Need for smaller caps for retention courses
      - Faculty serving as instructor and advisor for students in the course in addition to their own advising load
    - Should be considered across the entire curriculum since retention applies to all class years
- New Business
  - Ad hoc committees
    - Charges are completed and posted on myCourses
    - Grade appeal and grade amnesty committee
      - Asking facilitators and officers to join but not limited to them
● Erin Bromage will be chairing
● Looking at the appeal process to simplify for students
● Assessing the current grade amnesty period of 5 years
■ Facilities committee
● Larger body and will likely form subcommittees
● Chair will be elected when it convenes for first meeting
■ Request for all committees to schedule their spring meetings
● Compliance with open meeting laws – meeting dates and times need to be announced within a reasonable amount of time
   ○ Seeking more clarification from general counsel
■ Faculty engagement on campus
● Start discussion on potential barriers and facilitators for increasing faculty engagement
   ○ Barrier - physical space
   ■ No places for faculty to congregate
   ○ Possible facilitator – common time when classes aren’t scheduled where meetings and events can be held to rebuild culture
   ○ Possible facilitator – hosting department events in visible places that are open to everyone
   ○ Barrier – poor marketing of events and opportunities to engage
   ○ Facilitator – Provost's office does provide funding for departments to run a seminar series
● Provost’s Report (Ram Bala)
   ☑ Presentation of recent events highlighting promotions and internally-funded research
   ☑ Spring registration starts on November 6th
      ■ Book orders need to be at the book store
   ☑ Student course ratings survey for fall 2023 sent out
      ■ New questions from the Labor Management Committee being used for the first time
      ■ Open from November 26th – December 1st
   ☑ UMass Dartmouth played a part in the success of the RI/MA region hub
      ■ One of President Biden’s tech hubs
      ■ $500 million available for the next phase
   ☑ Discussion about faculty who receive research awards outside of sabbatical
      ■ Should establish a policy that supports inter-sabbatical research appointments
● Motion to Adjourn
   ☑ Made (Jennifer Viveiros) and seconded