Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2023  
3:30-5:30pm  
Zoom Videoconferencing

**Members present:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Achilov Dilshod</td>
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<td>Evans Shari</td>
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<td>Mofford Kari</td>
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<td>Ahrens Scott</td>
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<td>Fair Meghan</td>
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<td>Moisander Pia</td>
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<td>Anguelov Nick</td>
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<td>Fields Keota</td>
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<td>Msangi Ziddi</td>
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<td>Arkerson Robin</td>
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<td>Fisher Anthony</td>
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<td>Mulnix Jennifer</td>
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<td>Arora Anupama</td>
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<td>Fisher Robert</td>
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<td>Neto Catherine</td>
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<td>Arruda Elisabeth</td>
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<td>Fletcher Megan</td>
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<td>O’Rielly Grant</td>
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<td>Avery Shannon</td>
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<td>Fowler Alex</td>
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<td>Olitsky Neal</td>
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<td>Ayotte Brian</td>
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<td>Franz Laura</td>
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<td>Owens Lisa</td>
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<td>Barrett Diana</td>
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<td>Gardner Catherine</td>
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<td>Pacheco Sonia</td>
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<td>Berggren Heidi</td>
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<td>Gelmi Caroline</td>
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<td>Rajaniemi Tara</td>
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<td>Bhowmic Sankha</td>
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<td>Gulbrandsen Karen</td>
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<td>Reda Danya</td>
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<td>Botvin Joshua</td>
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<td>Huang Rui</td>
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<td>Roscoe Doug</td>
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<td>Bowman Julie</td>
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<td>Jia Xiaofei</td>
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<td>Santavicca Nicholas</td>
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<td>Bromage Erin</td>
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<td>Kayumova Shakhnoza</td>
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<td>Buck Elisabeth</td>
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<td>Khatib Firas</td>
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<td>Schuler Monika</td>
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<td>Caldera Kathryn</td>
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<td>Kim Sacja</td>
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<td>Casero Eric</td>
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<td>Kish Robin</td>
<td>Silva Glaucia</td>
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<td>Clark Jennifer</td>
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<td>Klobucka Anna</td>
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<td>Sneider Matthew</td>
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<td>Cowles Geoff</td>
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<td>Li Yuzhu</td>
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<td>Tandon Amit</td>
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FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
December 12, 2023, 3:30-5:30pm, Zoom

- Call to Order at 3:33pm
- 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
    - Does not preclude from asking questions or follow-up questions during meeting
  - Email slides for presentation to the Faculty Senate email ahead of meeting
- President’s Report (Brian Ayotte)
  - Update re Ad Hoc Committees
    - 25 volunteers to serve on the Facilities Committee
      - Will meet at the beginning of the spring semester
  - Pay raises should be completed by late February
    - Important for faculty to attend at least one
  - Senate committee meetings are no subject to open meeting laws per UMass General Counsel
    - Minutes will stay in-house on the myCourses site
- Transitioning to hybrid meeting schedule next semester
- Approval of November minutes
  - Motion made (Eric Casero) and seconded (Doug Roscoe)
  - No additions or amendments – motion approved
- Committee Reports
Admissions Committee (Nicholas Santavicca)

- Meeting recently held on November 8th
  - Discussed work the committee could do more strategically
  - Narrowed down to 2 questions
    - Undergraduate question: How can a major or department become more involved in an admissions decision?
      - Address retention by dealing with potential academic issues at the outset
    - Graduate question: How is the university planning on addressing the low English proficiency of incoming international graduate students?

Library Committee (Matthew Sneider)

- Meetings usually held monthly
- Several leadership changes since December 2022
  - Interim Dean Judith Farrar
    - Restored the Collections Development Committee
  - Dean Nancy Godleski
    - Current dean
- Conducted usability trials of the Library’s new website
  - Changes have been made based on recommendations
- Upcoming matter: creation of an institutional repository
  - Based on requirement from the federal Office of Science and Technology Policy
  - Currently does not exist
  - Working group being formed to address this issue
- Negotiating transformative agreements
  - Traditional subscriptions to access electronic journal content and article processing (publishing) charges
- Library staffing
  - New Dean is making headway with new hires
  - Still understaffed with a number of positions to fill

Policy & Process Committee (Lorraine Heffernan)

- Have not met yet; last meeting was December 2022
- Committee currently short-staffed
- Reviewing the amnesty policy
  - UMass Amherst changed its policy from 5 years to 3
  - UMass Dartmouth is still at 5 years
- Next issue will be the incomplete policy

New Business

- Faculty engagement
  - Steering committee discussed different approaches
- Will update on any progress
- Provost’s Report (Ram Bala)
  - Unexpected passing of Dr. Yuegang Zuo
  - Highlight 2 junior faculty on achievements
    - Professor Bombardi received $500,000 award from the Environmental Protection Agency
    - Professor Ling received the National Science Foundation Career Award
  - Faculty Federation Annual Awards
    - Scholar of the Year: Pamela Karimi
    - Leo M. Sullivan Teacher of the Year: Hong Liu
    - Bruce Sparfven ESU Service Award: Brian Sullivan
  - Reminder to submit grades no later than December 20th
  - Reminder on textbook submissions for the spring semester
  - Update on spring 2024 registrations
    - Numbers are up compared to last year
- Student Affairs (Kimberly Scott)
  - CARE process
    - Information usually does not come back to faculty, but there should be a confirmation email once a case has been submitted
  - Book vouchers
    - Challenge in getting students to use the vouchers
    - Preference for refund instead
    - Trying to find a better way for students who qualify to actually use their vouchers
  - Working on students using the resources available to them to succeed academically
  - Hosting training sessions for faculty on a variety of topics
  - Working with OFD to do another book group
    - My Freshman Year: What a Professor Learned by Becoming a Student
- Motion to Adjourn
  - Made and seconded