Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2023  
2-4pm  
Zoom Videoconferencing

**Members present:**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Achilov Dilshod</td>
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<td>Dempsey Anna</td>
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<td>Ahrens Scott</td>
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<td>Eckert Maureen</td>
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<td>Albin Laurel</td>
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<td>Eisenhart Chris</td>
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<td>VACANT</td>
<td>Evans Shari</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>Arora Anupama</td>
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<td>Fisher Anthony</td>
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<td>Arruda Elisabeth</td>
<td>Fisher Robert</td>
<td>O’Rielly Grant</td>
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<td>Avery Shannon</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Fletcher Megan</td>
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<td>Ayotte Brian</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Fowler Alex</td>
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<td>Barrett Diana</td>
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<td>Franz Laura</td>
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<td>Ber ggren Heidi</td>
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<td>Gardner Catherine</td>
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<td>Bhownick Sankha</td>
<td>Gulbransen Karen</td>
<td>Revell Andrew</td>
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<td>Borim Dario</td>
<td>Hall Maureen</td>
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<td>Botvin Joshua</td>
<td>Huang Rui</td>
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<td>Bowman Julie</td>
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<td>Jia Xiaofei</td>
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<td>Bromage Erin</td>
<td>Kayumova Shakhnoza</td>
<td>Schuler Monika</td>
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<td>Buck Elisabeth</td>
<td>Khatib Firas</td>
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<td>Caldera Kathryn</td>
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<td>Kim Saeja</td>
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FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
September 22, 2023, 2-4pm, Zoom

- Administrative Notes (Brian Ayotte)
  ☑ Welcome
  ☑ Retirement of Ralph Clifford
  ☑ Application of Robert’s Rules to debates
- President’s Report (Brian Ayotte)
  ☑ Thank you for your participation
  ☑ Thank you to Doug, Katy, and Kari
  ☑ Professional development & wellness opportunity on September 27th on stress and burnout
  ☑ Introduction on new voting process via Zoom room and Qualtrics
- Call to Order at 2:15pm
- Approval of May 4th minutes
  ☑ Motion made (Andrew Revell) and seconded (Doug Roscoe)
    ■ No objections – Minutes approved
- Board of Trustees Representative’s Report (Doug Roscoe)
  ☑ BOT met on September 21st – both representatives were unable to attend because they were teaching
  ☑ Attended the joint meeting of the BOT’s Administration and Finance Committee and Academic and Student Affairs Committee
  ☑ Administration & Finance
UMass system ended last fiscal year with a 4.4% positive operating margin
   ● Each campus overperformed its budget projection

Enrollment is up overall across the system
   ● Down a tiny bit in undergraduate enrollment, up with graduate and outstate enrollments

Salary increases create a funding challenge
Deferred maintenance across system at $4.8 billion

Academic and Student Affairs

Application sharing process
   ● In the past, UMass Amherst had application process where students who were not admitted were automatically directed to our Admissions
   ● Process is now rolled out to other UMass campuses

New staff members in the President’s office
   ■ Interim Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and Equity
   ■ Deputy Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and Equity

Chancellor’s Remarks (Mark Fuller)

Budget forum within the next few weeks

State of the campus
   ■ Highest first year student class since 2015
   ■ All-time record graduate student class
   ■ Cost estimates have increased
      ● Caused by coming out of pandemic and the building projects that have been on hold nationwide – supply chains are limited resulting in inflation

   ■ LARTS building renovation
      ● $72 million from the state
      ● Costs have increased to $97 million because of new green energy codes, etc.

   ■ Highest amount of deferred maintenance in UMass system

Future of CVPA and Star Store
   ■ Explanation of what happened with the Star Store

Capital projects
   ■ LARTS building renovation
      ● Take out a bond to cover the difference between the actual costs and what was received from the state

   ■ Recent completion of SENG building renovation
   ■ New telecommunications equipment for the Grand Reading Room

Strategic planning
   ■ Interested in getting colleges and units involved to discuss goals and the university’s objectives on recruitment, retention, reputation, etc.
■ There will be an upcoming forum

- **Unfinished Business**
  - Update on Health & Society Department formation
    - Still under consideration & issues are being discussed
  - Update on Learning Management System
    - Looking into pricing and packages
    - Faculty Senate and relevant committees and stakeholders will be consulted at the next decision point – most likely transition and implementation.

- **New Business**
  - Creation of new ad hoc committees (Brian Ayotte)
    - Steering Committee is exploring the need and will develop them soon
      - Grade Appeal Process
        - Evaluating different models to make the process more user-friendly from the student perspective
      - Academic Integrity
        - Currently housed primarily in Student Affairs
        - Ensure faculty have a voice in the process to add necessary perspective of academic consequences of decisions
      - Facilities
        - Start as ad hoc and convert to standing
        - Important matter for faculty given the upcoming LARTS renovation, Star Store closure and relocation of classes, etc.
  - Recommended course caps (Meghan Fair)

- **Discussion**

- **Provost’s Report (Ram Bala)**
  - Institution has tripled the number of internation students
    - Now working to support these students
  - Online and continuing education seeing double digit growth
    - MOUs with SouthCoast Hospital Group and Amazon
  - Increasing funding available for professional travel
  - Incentivizing faculty to adopt and create open source resources for students
  - Slate for Student Success launched in the summer
    - Seamlessly share information about students

- **Motion to Adjourn**
  - Made (Doug Roscoe) and seconded