

April 3, 2012

Chancellor Jean MacCormack  
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
285 Old Westport Road  
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Dear Chancellor MacCormack,

This letter will formalize with you my request to have your campus prepare and submit for Trustee approval a Faculty Governance Constitution. Trustee Policy requires that these Governance documents be prepared and reviewed and approved by the Trustees. I have attached the Boston, Amherst, Lowell documents which may be helpful to you.

I know that some of the preparation work for completing this task may already be underway at the campus. I appreciate the full briefing you have provided on this issue and the context you have given to the concerns and issues raised in your most recent NEASC Accreditation on this topic. I also recognize that UMass Dartmouth has an operational faculty governance structure which is outlined in the Federation Agreement and which has been functioning on the campus. However, the Trustees have never, in approving the contracts, given full review of those structures. The NEASC report also points out the need for clarity in structures. The report sees the need for an independent faculty voice distinct from that of the union whose major responsibility are employments rights. NEASC has made this governance clarification one of the issues for focused review in the campuses fall focused/substantial change visit.

I would appreciate your moving this work forward immediately because I know that it requires the full engagement and discussion of the faculty. I am confident that this work can be readily accomplished because you can use the governance language included in your collective bargaining agreement as the foundation. You have suggested and I agree that this language may be able to be the core outline of the Constitution. I hope your Constitution will provide the flexibility of action needed in these challenging times, and will, as the NEASC team points out, help to eliminate any ambiguity about roles and responsibilities that can create contention.

Chancellor Jean MacCormack

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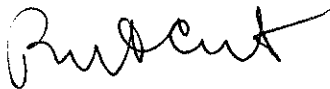
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Chair Karam and I would like to see a full constitution to be ready for review by the Board at soon as possible but not later than the February 2013 at CASA and the full Board Meeting. You can coordinate with the published schedule for deadlines for submission.

There is much to celebrate at UMass Dartmouth from a decade long period of growth and development. This bit of unfinished business will simply bring our structures in line with that growth and strengthen the campus's ability to transparently manage its future development with a nimble and flexible shared governance structure.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Caret", written in a cursive style.

Robert L. Caret

President

c: Chair James Karam  
Senior Vice President Marcellette Williams  
Provost John Farrington