

**Graduate Student Senate
Meeting MINUTES**

Date/Time: November 6, 2014, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Location: Campus Center Conference Room

Guest(s): Richard Aimee, SBA President

Jacob Miller, UMass Dartmouth Student Trustee and student member of the
Chancellor's Cabinet

Name	Position/College	Meeting Status
Robert Nanna	President College of Arts and Science, School of Education	present
Catherine Sauter	Vice President School of Law	present
Zachary Grant	Treasurer College of Engineering	absent/excused
Trevor Mattos	Secretary College of Arts and Science, Public Policy	present
Steven Briggs	Advisor	present

Senator	College	Meeting Status
Sidafa Conde	College of Engineering	absent/resigned
R. Bart Henderson	School of Law	present
Elizabeth Janson	College of Arts and Science, School of Education	present
Jane Murphy	College of Nursing	present
Kien Nguyen	College of Business	present
Russell Prigodich	College of Visual and Performing Arts	absent/excused
Katyanne Shoemaker	School of Marine Science and Technology	absent/excused

Joe Truschelli	College of Business	absent/excused
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Meeting called to order by Robert Nanna, GSS President at 4:10 p.m.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow-Up/Person(s) Responsible
Announcement	Robert stated that we would not be able to vote on any items this evening due to not having a quorum present.	Voting on agenda items will be done at the next meeting
Jacob Miller, UMD Student Trustee	<p>Jacob Miller described his position to GSS. He serves as a Student Trustee on the Board of Trustees for the university. Although he doesn't have a vote this year, he does have a voice. He is involved with Academic Affairs and the Finance Committee. He is involved in ongoing discussions with the Chancellor and other administrators. He regularly attends meetings for various committees on campus and other UMass campuses. He wants to make himself available to us as a method of two way communication and open to questions or comments. Jacob is also is a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet on Policy Making as a voting member. He is the only student and he is able to advocate with administration for all students.</p> <p>Jane asked who Jacob represents. He represents all students at UMass.</p> <p>Jacob says the Board of Trustees is concerned with budget and reputation of University. Challenges faced are fund raising and cost. The budgetary concerns remain but they are trying to keep the university competitive and affordable.</p> <p>Jacob supports the strategic plan, as an important goal set for the university. UMass D is looking for partnerships for research and development</p>	None

	<p>funding. A research rich environment makes the school more competitive at an international level. Making UMass D a research university is important. UMass D has the lowest research university status within UMass system. All UMass campuses are pushing research as a driver of the economy and moving universities forward as more competitive institutions.</p> <p>Liz mentioned lack of facilities and infrastructure, limiting the capacity of the university to advance. Jacob mentioned that a Public-Private partnership was cleared for a new campus center, but there are local politics to consider. There are other conference areas in the local area that would believe a campus center would take away from their established businesses.</p> <p>Liz also mentioned strain on professors in educational leadership program. There are few faculty and they need to mentor up to 16 graduate students at one time. She described the facilities at length; facilities are very poor and need to be upgraded to attract more students. The current facilities do not make a good impression on the few international students in the program.</p> <p>Jane mentioned that the nursing department's technology is seriously lacking, including intermittent access WiFi. Also, old projectors negatively affect student and staff presentations.</p> <p>Jacob says we can be advocates, to the Chancellor, staff and administrators. Advocacy is what will lead to change. However, he will voice our concerns to the administration.</p> <p>Steve talked about poor lighting on campus. It's a big issue. He described not being able to see people outdoors after dark. Jacob mentioned the 'lighting walk,' where the lighting situation is</p>	
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	<p>evaluated by staff. We are welcome to attend the lighting walks.</p> <p>Bart said streetlights reduce crime by 87% in a particular area. Crime is very alarming, especially with the recent stabbing on campus.</p> <p>Steve mentioned SRTA buses drive unsafely. Jacob discussed a potential initiative to remove Ring Road parking and making it a safe walking/biking lane. Everyone was very much in favor of this idea.</p> <p>Liz mentioned access for handicapped individuals. We need to make the campus more handicap-accessible. Services for deaf participants are also very difficult to secure, and costly. Liz said that UMass D has a very bad reputation among the local deaf community. She recently brought a handicapped individual around the campus and -without a second individual to help her - it would have been nearly impossible. This is because our facilities are not handicap accessible in many places.</p> <p>Jacob Miller provided his email address: jmiller7@umassd.edu. We are free to contact him about any issues we discussed. He is happy to help however possible.</p> <p>Rob invited Jacob back to give us updates.</p>	
SBA Announcement	Richard Aimee, President of SBA discussed recent developments with SBA. He has been in touch with Dr. Milstone about the law school having their own SGA.	None
Relay for Life	Robert discussed Relay for Life, April 24th, which is an all night walk for cancer. Robert has created a GSS team. It costs \$10 to participate. All Senators were invited to participate. Those	Interested Senator's are encouraged to join the GSS

	involved raise money until the April event and then participate in the all night walk.	Relay for Life team.
Election	Sidafa Conde resigned. He is nearing the end of his studies, and is very busy with research. He needed more time to focus on research. There is now an open engineering seat. We still have an open Business school seat as well. Two guests, who were interested in the business school senate seat, did not attend the meeting as scheduled. One business seat prospective senator was nominated by faculty - Quang Hong Cung.	Open Senate seats: Engineering, Business School
Scholarship	Jane asked Tia Bullard about incremental deposits for an endowed scholarship. Incremental deposits are possible. Tia told us that we also have the option to make a non-endowed scholarship fund. Either way, incremental deposits for an endowed scholarship must reach \$25,000 within 5 years. GSS thinks this is feasible. Robert reminded the group that we had discussed using Celtics proceeds for scholarship fund.	Celtics ticket fund raising will be transferred into an account for the endowed scholarship by Zack Grant. Liz Janson will give an update to Zack once all tickets have been sold.
Saving Trees	We discussed eliminating printed documents from our meetings. Bart and Trevor supported using electronic files in place of printed documents. Rob and Cate explained that WiFi issues and lack of access to a laptop could limit access to important documents (like funding proposals) during our meetings. Liz suggested each meeting have 1 printed version of each important document that can be reviewed by any senator in attendance. We will continue to print meeting agendas for everyone. Senators may review documents before the meeting or use the hard copy at the meeting. Steve will look for a document camera that GSS can use to limit issues regarding access to important documents during meetings.	Next meeting only agenda will be copied for Senators. One copy of pertinent documents will be printed to be shared among the group. Senators are responsible for reviewing all documents prior to the meeting.

Celtics Tickets	Celtics tickets are still on sale. We still have about 40 tickets left. Steve will send out another email on November 7.	Follow-up email by Steve for available Celtics tickets
Policy	<p>Cate brought up bylaw amendment, we will vote next meeting.</p> <p>Chinese Club Constitution has been revised and the version new copy includes the changes we requested. Jane and Cate will re-review to make sure all changes have been completed. If so, this constitution is automatically approved, per our decision (which we voted on) to pass the constitution conditionally, based on small adjustments in phrasing.</p>	Next meeting: vote on bylaws amendment.
Safety on Campus	Cate discussed pepper spray for young women on campus. To carry pepper spray, one must first take a class with the police. Cate suggested that UMass D police hold a training session so that women can carry pepper spray to protect themselves in light of recent public security issues on campus. Steve Briggs said that Steve Mello, of public safety, is the person to talk to about this.	Cate will follow-up with Steve Mello about setting up training for use of pepper spray.
Educational Leadership Conference	Jane opened up a discussion on the Educational Leadership Conference that will take place November 14-15. Jane wanted to make sure that Liz had enough money to cover the catering. Liz checked about reducing food costs, no luck. It was noted that Liz was able to secure Department Support of \$3,644 and \$700 in fund raising.	Liz will contact Zack to get funds transferred into the account for catering.
Finance Committee	Budget proposals will wait until next meeting.	Next meeting: Vietnamese Student Association budget proposal

Other business	Next meeting we will review two sets of minutes.	10/22/14 and 11/6/14 minutes
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Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Trevor Mattos
GSS Secretary