

**FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 3, 2026**

**INVITEES/ATTENDEES**

| Officers/Rules Committee  | Voting Members 1             | Voting Members 2           | Non-Voting Members 1             | Non-Voting Members 2                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Walker, Amy (Chair)       | Abdennur, Nezar              | <b>Landers, John</b>       | <b>Abraham, George</b>           | <b>Makris, Joseph</b>                 |
| Lauer, Emily (Vice Chair) | Amenta, Peter                | <b>Lauer, Emily</b>        | <b>Acosta, Alan</b>              | Mattocks, Kristin                     |
| Arun Chutani (Secretary)  | <b>Benanti, Jennifer</b>     | <b>Lindholm, Mary</b>      | <b>Ahn, Mary</b>                 | <b>McManus, David</b>                 |
|                           | <b>Bolon, Daniel</b>         | Ma, Angela                 | Barnett, William K               | Munro, James                          |
|                           | <b>Boula, Estafanous</b>     | <b>Martenis, Ned</b>       | Colombo, Lisa M                  | <b>Munson, Mary</b>                   |
|                           | <b>Bradford, Carla</b>       | <b>McIntyre, Joyce</b>     | <b>Culverwell, Marcy</b>         | Piorun, Mary/Jessica<br><b>Kilham</b> |
|                           | Bucci, Vanni                 | <b>Mehta, Savant</b>       | <b>Darcy, Leslie</b>             | <b>Poza, Ricardo</b>                  |
|                           | Chutani, Arun                | <b>Mitchell, Amir</b>      | Dickson, Eric                    | <b>Potts, Stacy</b>                   |
|                           | <b>Cornine, Amanda</b>       | <b>Moaddab, Mehrak</b>     | Duncan, Marlina                  | Precourt, Justin                      |
|                           | Crist, Michelle              | Moormann, Ann              | Fitzgerald, Kate                 | Rosal, Milagros                       |
|                           | <b>Day, Philip</b>           | Phongsamphanh, Saylee      | Flotte, Terence                  | Smith, Liza                           |
|                           | Doherty, Meaghan             | Reboldi, Andrea            | <b>Giannaris, Eustathia Lela</b> | <b>Stewart, Prescott</b>              |
|                           | <b>Edmiston, E. Kale</b>     | <b>Sadasivam, Rajani</b>   | <b>Green, Emily</b>              | Teng, Christopher                     |
|                           | Fantasia, Jennifer           | <b>Scarpelli, Victoria</b> | Johnson, Mark                    | Vaidya, Ruben                         |
|                           | <b>Gkrouzman, Elena</b>      | Slosar-Cheah, Magdalena    | <b>Kannan, Suresh</b>            | Vitello, Joan                         |
|                           | <b>Hamar, Benjamin</b>       | Tang, Qi                   | Kedian, Tracy                    | <b>Xixis, George</b>                  |
|                           | Kamil, Syed                  | <b>Vogelzang, Jayne</b>    | <b>Lane, Mary Ellen</b>          | Yalamanchili, Abhi                    |
|                           | <b>Kapoor, Monica</b>        | <b>Walker, Amy</b>         | Larkin, Anne                     | Zai, Adrian H                         |
|                           | <b>Keeler-Klunk, Allison</b> | <b>Walker, Rachel</b>      | <b>Larson, Lisa</b>              |                                       |
|                           | Korostelev, Andrei           | <b>Weaver, David</b>       | <b>Leiber, Lee</b>               |                                       |
|                           | Lalli, Angela                | <b>White, William</b>      | Lewis, Brian                     |                                       |

Dr. Amy Walker called the meeting to order.

**STANDING REPORTS**

***Chancellor's Updates***

Dr. McManus thanked the faculty council for all their efforts and acknowledged the results from last year's survey. He stated that addressing the concerns from that survey are a top priority.

Dr. McManus stated he has been working to address the budget gap and that they have already identified 2/3 of that gap in which the solutions should have limited impact on faculty, learners and key mission areas. Dr. McManus stated they are focusing on areas like Mass Biologics, which while important does not directly impact the research and education missions.

Dr. McManus also shared that he has directed administration and finance to provide greater flexibility and autonomy to department chairs who are operating within and will not exceed their budget. Dr. McManus noted that hiring controls remain in place.

Lastly, Dr. McManus shared an update regarding DRIVE. Dr. McManus stated he visits the State House, meets with legislators, and is working with the executive branch to make sure UMass Chan is seen and that DRIVE gets enacted. Dr. McManus indicated that DRIVE was written into the legislature's economic development bill. The amount of money differs between the Senate and the House, and it is still

unclear exactly how much UMass Chan will receive. Dr. McManus indicated he spends time each week working to get DRIVE over the finish line.

### ***VPFA Updates***

As this was the first meeting of the academic year, Dr. Mary Ahn provided a brief overview of the Office of Faculty Affairs. Dr. Ahn discussed faculty statistics, what faculty-facing activities the office conducts and some of the faculty development offerings that are currently available.

Dr. Ahn then gave an update on the current APR system, noting that 484 school-employed faculty have completed their APR and just over 1000 clinical faculty have completed theirs.

Lastly Dr. Ahn reminded everyone that CVs can now have the dates right or left aligned and that the AI CV tool has completed its pilot with over 30 faculty participating. She is hopeful that they will be able to roll out this tool later this fall.

### ***Brief Discussion and Vote: Minutes***

Having determined a quorum was met, the meeting minutes from the June meeting were approved.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Faculty Council Chair Updates, Welcome New Members, Faculty Council Non-Voting Membership & Officers' Election**

Dr. Amy Walker started with the goals of Faculty Council, which is to build Faculty Council into a more effective and representative voice for all aspects of faculty. Both the Faculty Council chair and vice chair can attend the public portions of the Board of Trustees meetings and plan to bring back anything they are able to learn to the Faculty Council. This year, one of the goals is to bring a member of the president's office or a Board of Trustee member to UMass Chan.

Dr. Walker welcomed new voting and non-voting members and thanked past members.

Lastly Dr. Walker presented the members of the rules committee; these were approved. The rules committee is still looking for at least 1 additional member.

### **AI Guidance Updates**

Dr. Melissa Fischer stated the guidance document has been updated substantially based on feedback from faculty council and other institutional members. The goal is responsible, ethical, and safe use of generative AI across UMass Chan with a big focus on user accountability. Dr. Fischer stated that all three schools have their own AI policies with regards to education and utilization of AI and note in the guidance document that individuals should ensure that they are adhering to what their individual school has put forward as well. Next steps include bringing the document to the Information Technology Committee, the IT committee and then the Chancellor's cabinet and other various Chair's Councils. The final version then goes to the Executive Vice Chancellor of Accounts and Finance to be signed off by them and Lee Leiber.

Meeting adjourned.