



Faculty Council

https://www.umb.edu/faculty_staff/faculty_council
Monday, February 6, 2023, 1:00-3:00 PM
Chancellor's Conference Room
3rd floor, Quinn Administration Building

Agenda

I. Approval of the Agenda

II. A Moment of Silence to Reflect on the Tragic Death of Sayed Arif Faisal, a Former Student of UMass Boston and the Only Child of His Parents, at the tender age of 20.

Sayed Arif Faisal and his family moved to the United States from Bangladesh about 7 or 8 years ago. He joined UMass Boston as a freshman in Fall 2020, after COVID-19 forced us to continue the university operations remotely.

Sayed Arif Faisal was shot and killed by a Cambridge police officer on January 4, 2023, when he was apparently suffering from a mental health crisis.

Many of our students continue to struggle with the physical and mental health issues exacerbated by the pandemic, as well as with gun violence, police brutality and systemic racism.

III. Motion to approve the 12/05/2022 minutes

IV. Motions from the Graduate Studies Committee (Andre Maharaj, Chair)

Motion #1 From: CLA

Request for a new course ANTH 642 Latin American Historical Archaeology: Addressing Colonialism, Nation, Diaspora, and Displacement

Rationale: This course will expand the regional and theoretical topics within the Anthropology Department and the Historical Archaeology graduate program along themes of colonialism, African Diaspora, Latin American societies, and immigration heritage. Considering the rising group of Latin@ students as part of our university and the goal of bringing international students into our graduate program, this course offers a broader understanding of the place of Latinidad in the United States and beyond. The course fits into the Historical Archaeology graduate program curriculum by its emphasis on multicultural societies of the modern world, the archaeology of colonialism, African Diaspora studies, globalization, and public and collaborative archaeology.

Description: This course brings together archaeological narratives, practices, and approaches pertaining to Latin American history and the politics of race, gender, colonialism, and national constructions. Students will explore a variety of dialogues around the topic of *Latinidad* as a historical category built on the bases of narratives of resistance, survival, and recognition. Since the 1960s, Latin American archaeologists have developed their own interpretations of the past, ones that differ from North American archaeology. Latin American historical archaeology specifically has generated post-colonial theories and practices developed in the peripheries and for local communities, aiming for social justice and active processes of decolonization. The course also explores diverse practices and discourses around Latin American material heritage as an adaptable source for ethnic, national, and gender narratives in the present so that students can learn about the past with a deep influence in present social, political, and cultural dynamics around Latin@ collective identities in the Americas.

Motion #2 From: CM

Request for a program change to the MS in Accounting, to make MBA AF 640 Accounting Data Analytics, which is currently an accounting elective, a required course for the MSA program. Students will have one fewer elective.

Rationale: The MSA program has recently been STEM-designated with emphasis on data analytics. This course teaches fundamental skills required for other accounting courses and reflects the core features of our STEM designation. Requiring this course will ensure MSA students understand necessary accounting analytics skills and better prepare them for their future careers.

Motion #3 From: CM

Request to change the name of MBA AF 636 from Quantitative Analysis of Business Data to Applied Econometric Analysis of Business Data and to change the course description.

Rationale: Econometrics has become an essential tool in applied analysis of business and financial data. The name change does not represent a shift in focus or content for the existing course but rather allows for a more marketable name that is also in line with industry practice and perceptions. This name change should enhance student interest in the overall program offerings.

Old description: The objective of the course is to familiarize students with the analytical foundations of quantitative analysis of business data and data management techniques using statistical/data analysis software. Particular emphasis will be placed on hands-on experience with data analysis and the economic interpretation of empirical findings. The course will focus on learning a number of quantitative techniques employed in finance, economics and management. These techniques include linear regression analysis, panel data models, instrumental variables, time series analysis and limited dependent variable models. The course will use data and applications that are drawn from the finance and economics literature as well as consulting practice. This course will also provide students with analytical tools for the development of a Master's thesis.

New description: The objective of the course is to familiarize students with the analytical foundations of econometric analysis of business data and with data management techniques using statistical/data analysis software. Particular emphasis will be placed on hands-on experience with data analysis and on the economic interpretation of empirical findings. The course will focus on learning a number of econometric techniques employed in finance,

economics and management. The course will use data and applications that are drawn from the finance and economics literature as well as consulting practice. This course will also provide students with analytical tools for the development of a Master's thesis.

Motion #4 From: CM

Request to change the name of MBA AF 634 from Risk Management to Financial Engineering and Risk Management and to change the course description.

Rationale: Corporations have steadily increased the use of financial engineering in management of financial risk and in design of desired risk exposures. The name change does not represent a shift in focus or content for the existing course but rather allows for a more marketable name that is also in line with industry practice. This name change should enhance student interest in the overall program offerings.

Old description: The goal of this course is to provide students the fundamentals of corporate financial risk management. The first part of this course develops statistical tools and techniques required to identify and measure different aspects of corporate financial risk. Next these measures are used to build, evaluate and understand financial risk management solutions. One key focus of this course is the role of financial engineering in developing business strategy. Specifically how do companies financially engineer to manage risk caused by variables over which it has little control such as commodity prices, inflation, interest and exchange rates? Case methods will be used to highlight the value of identifying, monitoring and managing of such operational, financial risk.

New description: The goal of this course is to provide students the fundamentals of financial engineering and corporate financial risk management. The course focuses on financial engineering using futures, forwards and swaps in developing business and risk management strategy. Specifically how do companies use financial engineering to manage risk caused by factors over which they have little control such as commodity prices, interest and exchange rates? The course covers both theoretical and practical aspects of financial engineering and risk management. Case studies are used to highlight the value of identifying, monitoring and managing financial risks.

Motion #5 From: CM

Request to change the name of MBA AF 631 from Environmental Accounting and Finance to Sustainable Finance and Impact Investing and to change the course description. The new name reflects a focus on ESG and Impact Investing. The course will be redesigned to expand the coverage on ESG investing, introducing new topics on ESG data and indicators, ESG impact on financial performance, and sustainable investment strategies.

Rationale: Investors are increasingly applying ESG factors as part of the analysis process in investment management to identify material risks and value drivers. Additionally, even though it is not part of mandatory financial reporting, companies are increasingly disclosing ESG information in their annual reports and standalone sustainability reports. The CFA Institute recently developed the Global ESG Disclosure Standards for Investment Products. The CFA Institute is also offering a certification in ESG Investing. This class introduces these new concepts to students. It also complements other courses in investments that focus on traditional financial investment criteria.

Old description: Environmental concerns and climate change are emerging as important business drivers and gaining the attention of accountants, financial managers, and investors. As

investors and society require companies to become more socially and environmentally sustainable, the measurement, management, and external reporting of information about environmental risks and performance is of growing importance. Topics covered in the course include corporate environmental disclosure and reporting, environmental management accounting, carbon markets, green project analysis, corporate environmental risk assessment and valuation, socially responsible investing, and green banking.

New description: This course will introduce ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) investing, exposing students to ESG data and indicators, ESG impact on financial performance, and sustainable investment strategies. Environmental concerns and climate change are emerging as important business drivers and gaining the attention of accountants, financial managers, and investors. As investors and society require companies to become more socially and environmentally sustainable, the measurement, management, and external reporting of information about environmental risks and performance is of growing importance. Topics covered in the course include corporate environmental disclosure and reporting, environmental management accounting, carbon markets, green project analysis, corporate environmental risk assessment and valuation, socially responsible investing, and green banking.

Motion #6 From: CM

Request to change the name of MBA AF 625 from Derivative Securities to Options: Theory and Applications and to change the course description.

Rationale: Options are very popular and very easy to trade for small retail investors using online trading platforms. Options additionally have a strong presence in the finance-oriented social media space. Also, the topic is deep enough to yield a semester worth of material. The name change does not represent a shift in focus or content for the existing course but rather allows for a more marketable name which should enhance student interest in the overall program offerings.

Old description: Derivative securities are securities such as futures contracts and call options whose value is determined by the value of some other underlying variable. Derivative securities have become an essential tool used in both corporate risk management and portfolio management. This course explores the institutional details of the various markets in which derivatives trade. It introduces the theories which govern the pricing of futures, options, and swap contracts. Practical methods of implementing derivatives-related strategies for hedging risks and gaining specified portfolio exposures are covered, as well as methods used to evaluate the outcomes of these strategies.

New description: This course introduces students to options and related derivative securities. They have become an essential tool used in both corporate risk management and portfolio management. This course explores the institutional details of trade, theories of option valuation and practical strategies and methods for hedging risks and gaining specified exposures using options and related derivative securities.

Motion #7 From: CEHD

Request to change the description and modality of CSP 660 Physiological Bases of Behavior

Rationale: This course has traditionally been an on-campus/in-person course. However, when courses shifted to remote/online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students were able to complete online course training modules asynchronously, so that (synchronous) class time could be better used for discussions and group activities. This course focuses on brain anatomy and brain/behavior relationships. The primary modality for delivering the content is via a series of

online modules covering the organization of brain structures and functions as well as the relationship between these and intelligence, neurodevelopment, and developmental disorders. Students interact with these online modules asynchronously, and assignments are integrated throughout the modules to check for understanding. Therefore, pedagogically remote delivery aids with the teaching and learning in the classroom.

Old description: This course will give graduate students foundational knowledge of the biological bases of human behavior. Classes cover systems and structures of the nervous system, neuronal communication, hormonal influences, environmental influences on the brain and nervous system, drug addiction, behavior disorders, anxiety and mood disorders, schizophrenia, and psychopharmacology for these and other disorders.

New description: This course will give graduate students foundational knowledge of the biological bases of human behavior. Course content covers systems and structures of the nervous system, neuronal communication, genetics, hormonal, and environmental influences on the brain and nervous system. The course includes exploration of physiological processes such as perception, memory, language, and emotion. Activities designed to increase understanding of neurodevelopment, problems that cause pathology, and interventions are included.

V. Motion to Approve New Members to Faculty Council Standing Committees for a 2022-2024 term:

- Academic Affairs Committee
- Academic Technology Committee
- Budget and Long-Range Planning Committee
- **Graduate Studies Committee**
 - John Fulton (CLA)
- Library Committee
- Joint Athletics Committee
- Research Committee
- **General Education Committee and Subcommittees**
 - Maria Cisterna Gold, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies) to serve on the Distribution Subcommittee while Nino Keadze, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies) on leave in spring 2023

*Note: *The Executive Committee still seeks nominees for additional vacant seats; additional confirmations are forthcoming.*

VI. “Beacon Budget Model” for UMass Boston: Overview, Status Update, Timelines for Development & Implementation, Questions & Answers

Kathleen Kirleis, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

VII. Motions on the Faculty Council Meetings (Nelson Lande, CLA)

MOVE: That beginning with the March 2023 Faculty Council meeting—and subject to the agreement of the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance, and the Provost—each Faculty Council meeting will begin at 2 pm and end at 4 pm.

MOVE: That beginning with the March 2023 Faculty Council meeting—and subject to the agreement of the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance, & the Provost—the Faculty Council will meet on the following dates:

March: Tuesday, March 7

April: Monday, April 3

May: Tuesday, May 2

September: Monday, September 11

October: Tuesday, October 3

November: Monday, November 6

December: Tuesday, December 5

Whenever the Faculty Council requires a second meeting during any given month, the day of the week of the second meeting will be the same day of the week as the day of the week of the first meeting.

MOVE: That beginning with the March 2023 Faculty Council Meeting, Councilors will be required to attend Faculty Council meetings in person and not by Zoom. Exceptions will be granted to those Councilors who, owing to illness, are unable to attend in person.

VIII. Reports – maximum of 10 minutes

- a. Chancellor – Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
- b. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs – Joseph Berger
- c. Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance – Kathleen Kirleis
- d. Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees – Marlene Kim/Roberta Wollons
- e. Representative from the Faculty Staff Union – Caroline Coscia
- f. Representative from the Professional Staff Union – Michael Mahan
- g. Representative from the Classified Staff Union – Alexa MacPherson or Amanda Achin
- h. Representatives from the Graduate Employee Organization – Chidimma Ozor Commer or Jonathan Vega-Martinez
- i. Representative from the Undergraduate Student Government – TBA
- j. Representative from the Graduate Student Assembly – Delaney Bowen

IX: New Business

X. Motion to Adjourn