

**UMass Boston Renewal: Fidelity to Urban Mission  
Meeting Notes**

**Sub-committee:** External Relations  
**Date/Time of Meeting:** October 26, 2006  
**Location:** Campus Center Room 1110  
**Co-chairs:** Drew O'Brien, Joan Becker  
**Notetaker:** Dawnette L. Ekejiuba  
**Attendees:** Gail Hobin, John Ciccarelli, Jain Ravidich-Higgins, Ed Hayward, Sharon Kennedy, Apurva Mehta, Kathy Teehan, Jim Smith, Barbara Lewis  
**Excused:** Joan Becker, Ellen Hume, Darrell Byers, Asgedet Stefanos, Kyle McInnis

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	DECISIONS	ACTION ITEMS
Recap of last meeting	-It's important that all members have access to the strategic planning website. Jim Smith did not.	-Jim Smith's email address was recorded <a href="mailto:jsmith@publicpolicylaw.com">jsmith@publicpolicylaw.com</a>	Drew will send Jim the link to the strategic plan website
Membership Update	Office of Athletics and Recreation will have a member join this subcommittee.  -Jason LeBlanc, UMB Sailing Program Manager joining the subcommittee. Jason's father is Brian LeBlanc who works in the Office of Central Reprographics.	Joan and Drew have discussed with Charlie Titus.  Committee approved Jason LeBlanc	
Other updates- committee charge, adding to the "to do" list, etc...	- <u>committee charge</u> The group discussed developing a more specific and detailed "charge" to guide	-decision made to continue the conversation of devising a tailored "charge" for this	

	<p>them through this process</p> <p><u>-“to do’s”</u> Kathy Teehan will do an enrollment presentation on 11/30/06. The group also reviewed future meetings.</p>	committee	
<p><b>Discussion item (per email of 10/24/06</b></p> <p><b>-your opinion of the university</b></p> <p><b>-what kind of relationships do we have w/ constituents? Are they positive? Are they negative,etc...</b></p> <p><b>-how do we involve the community</b></p> <p><b>-how do we define who our neighbors are?</b></p> <p><b>-what role would the community play in this process</b></p>	<p>-subcommittee to host an open community meeting in February 07.</p> <p><u>The following are questions, comments and suggestions that followed the above:</u></p> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <p>-How do we choose the community folks that should attend this meeting?</p> <p>-how much of a role should the community play in this process?</p> <p>-who exactly is our neighbor/community. Need to define.</p> <p>-How do we engage them?</p> <p>-what are the expectations of the community we do serve?</p> <p>-how do we change the perception that we are bad neighbors?</p> <p><u>-Concerns</u> community involvement could do the following: a). raise the bar</p>		<p>-Drew will continue conversations with the Univ. of Pennsylvania and possibly take another trip there</p> <p>-Jain will obtain model research information from Chris Hogan</p> <p>-John C. will forward to group members the “Are you on the map Project findings</p> <p>-discussion will continue at next meeting on 11/9/06</p>

- b). give the perception that we are catering to a particular group
- c). concerns about being too transparent and open and risk having the process hi-jacked

Suggestions:

-call a meeting of the Boston delegation and City Counselors before the “open community meeting”

-Need to research how other colleges and universities dealt with their communities input during a strategic plan/master plan process

- Need to make sure the committee is not just telling the community what we’ve already done but present the process in a way that the community understands that their input is valuable. Timing is key

-community should have two roles in the strategic plan.

1. Master Plan
2. this subcommittee

-get the community input via the strategic plan website. Set up the site so that the community can access it and forward their input and feedback via an e-mail link

	<p>-group need to find out how other universities and colleges handled their respective communities relative to the strategic/master plan process</p> <p>-need to do a broader search beyond northeastern and surrounding universities</p> <p><u>Open discussion:</u></p> <p>-a lot happening with our faculty and the community. Most of it not acknowledged or recognized.</p> <p>-no focus on areas of expertise that we can build on. A lot happening, no accolades</p> <p>-community efforts difficult without a centralized "community partnership office</p> <p>-need a culture change from within. Need to happen internally, then it will happen externally. No collectivity</p> <p>-example given of the university of Pennsylvania's community partnership office. The office drove their master plan campus wide discussion. This example was given to strengthen the point of UMB's need to establish such an office.</p> <p>-Chris Hogan currently establishing a</p>		
--	---	--	--

	<p>model of what other colleges and universities are doing in the area of community partnership offices and their initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-need to engage the community to thrive not to survive</li><li>-there seems to be no return factor with the community</li><li>-need to acknowledge the greater community - 128 belt</li><li>-is there an underserved population of students that we could tap into to provide an ongoing stream of students which will help us thrive and survive</li><li>-UMB is the biggest employer in this section of the city</li><li>-need to look at our urban peers who have been in this same situation regarding their surrounding communities</li><li>-What's good, what's bad:</li><li>-we are never proactive. We only go to the community when we need them</li><li>-we are not good at long term relationships. Harbor Point used as an example. Since their expectations of us have never been clearly articulated, we</li></ul>		
--	---	--	--

	<p>always seem to fall short with them. Always seem to encounter animosity from Harbor Point because of this unclear expectation</p> <p>-internal community against dorms due to fear that dormitories will take us away from our urban mission</p> <p>-need to define the parameters of our community partnership. We are being taken for granted. Need more give and take from the community</p> <p>-need to quantify our community involvement in terms of lives affected and monies spent</p> <p>-need to clearly define success in the community</p>		