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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 21, 1974
Portland Gorham

## Informal Discussion

PRESENT: Chairman Lawrence M. Cutler, Jean Sampson, Nils Y. Wessell, Kenneth H. Ramage, Carroll R. McGary, Francis A. Brown, John C. Donovan, James H. Page, Carlton D. Reed, Stanley J. Evans, Susan R. Kominsky, Stephen T. Hughes. Staff: Donald R. McNeil, Herbert L. Fowle, Stanley L. Freeman, George Shur, Barnett I. Shur, Stanley F. Salwak.

Dr. McNeil asked University legal counsel to explain to the trustees the nature of the legal suit being brought against trustees by Lela H. Benson, formerly an employee at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. George Shur asked that each trustee send to his office the papers being served by the U. S. Marshal for the alleged civil rights violation so that Barney could file an appearance for each person being sued.

After the discussion, Mr. Shur, President Salwak and Mr. Shur withdrew.

Chancellor McNeil outlined several issues upon which the trustees make policy decision in the future.

One University. Mr. Page called for discussion of the "One University" issue and outlined his belief that "One University" should continue and cited as challenges to the concept on which the merger was based, 14 points in a presidential speech requiring board approval, a proposed 80/20 distribution of tuition raised funds, regional names for campuses and rules for campus building practices.

Trustee Views. With the exception of Mr. Reed, several trustees present spoke reaffirming their commitment to One University, citing such examples as a proposed divergence from the trustee policy establishing free speech and assembly, campus line budgeting in the legislature, exposure in the press of ideas before they are policy, dictatorial administrative style.

Mr. Reed spoke for strong campus presidents and strong campuses, acceptance and encouragement of different viewpoints, input from campuses to the trustees, his opposition to automatic approval, equal tuition on campuses and his fear of bigness and central control.

Adjournment.