

1971

Board of Trustees Finance Committee September 22, 1971

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joint Session
Finance Committee, Physical Plant Committee
Educational Policy Committee and Executive Session
September 22, 1971
Machias, Maine

PRESENT: Chairman L. M. Cutler, H. L. V. Anderson, H. R. Brown, V. P. Currier, R. H. Cutting, R. N. Haskell, S. T. Hughes, C. R. McGary, C. D. Reed, W. G. Robertson, Mrs. Jean Sampson and Clerk, J. R. Magill.
Absent: Miss L. M. Cormier, J. H. Page, and N. Y. Wessell. One Vacancy.
Staff: D. R. McNeil, S. L. Freeman, H. L. Fowle, A. S. Buswell, L. J. P. Calisti, L. J. Jewett, W. C. Libby, E. A. Olsen, S. F. Salwak, R. J. Spath, A. C. McGuinness, W. N. Robersen, D. I. Carter, F. S. McGuire and B. I. Shur.

Chairman Cutler convened the meeting and announced that the Committee meetings scheduled for the session would be combined and discussion of Committee agenda items would be heard by the full Board, with the Chairman of each Committee presiding, in turn.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Chairman Haskell presiding)

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the Finance
Committee meeting of June 9, 1971, as distributed.

Operating Budgets 1971-72. Final figures for 1971-72 operating budgets were presented for formal confirmation. Questions were raised about a \$50,000 allocation to financial aid for out-of-state students which was voted at the Board meeting on August 10, 1971. Preliminary reports from Campus administrations indicated that the full amount may not be needed for this purpose and there was discussion of the possibility that any balance remaining in the account might be made available to resident students. Mr. Haskell elaborated on a staff recommendation to draw on debt service reserves at the former State Colleges to offset increased operating costs of residence and dining halls and eliminate the prospect of an immediate increase in fees charged to students for room and board at these institutions. After discussion, this matter was referred to the public meeting.

Mr. Haskell reported that the Legal Counsel would determine the legality of co-mingling all debt service reserves from the former State Colleges and the University of Maine. On motion of Mr. Haskell, the Committee VOTED to recommend Board approval of the detailed budget figures, as presented.

Fees. The Committee considered several staff recommendations pertaining to assessment of various fees. Committee action is summarized herewith:

Student Activity Fees. There was consensus that Board intent with respect to administration of student activity funds should be clarified and the Committee agreed to report favorably in the Public Meeting on a staff recommendation which provided for ratification of current fees, and adoption of a revised policy statement.

Recommendations pertaining to transcript fees and a fee schedule for traffic violations were referred to the Public Meeting.

Miscellaneous fees. There was consensus that the Committee would recommend that the Board delegate to the administrative staff authority for approval of miscellaneous fees applicable to only special segments of the University, and the staff was directed to prepare a specific resolution for action by the full Board in the Public Meeting.

Presidential Freeze. Dr. McNeil reported that students expect tuition refunds to be forthcoming if the University is unable to grant Board-authorized salary and wage increases due to restrictions imposed by the nation-wide Presidential Freeze. There was discussion of ways to effect partial refunds or tuition credit if and as a surplus develops. There was consensus that the Board should reassure students that funds allocated for pay increases would not be diverted to other purposes, and the staff was directed to draft a statement for Board action in the Public Meeting.

PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE (Mr. Currier presiding as Chairman, Pro Tem)

Augusta Civic Center lease. Mr. McGuire presented the draft of a proposed lease agreement between the University and the City of Augusta for Committee review, in accordance with previous Board authorization to explore possibilities of leasing space in the Augusta Civic Center. During discussion, reservations were expressed about the financial obligations imposed by a long-range commitment and legislative reaction to the general concept, since long-term leasing of academic and general space represents a significant change in University policy. Questions were raised about projected costs of leasing and whether these represented justifiable savings over University-built facilities. The Chancellor was instructed to discuss the matter with the Legislative Research Committee and to prepare a detailed breakdown and analysis of cost estimates. The staff was asked to draft a statement to indicate Board intent to lease for further discussion in the Public Meeting and, possibly, for use as an official release to the press.

Maine Public Broadcasting Network - land lease/aquisition. The Committee considered several recommendations for the purchase or leasing of land for the use of the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.

Sanford-Springvale area. It was agreed that no action would be taken to acquire approximately four acres of land until the purchase price had been specified. It was understood that the staff would negotiate and report back to the Committee.

St. Francis. Confirmation of a 99-year lease agreement at a cost of \$1.00 was referred to the Public Meeting.

Knox. The Committee discussed, amended and agreed to report favorably on a recommendation to lease a plot of land atop Aborn Mountain, costs not to exceed \$150 per year.

Madawaska. The Committee agreed to recommend Board approval of a long-term lease of a parcel of land owned by the Madawaska Water District.

Since negotiations are incomplete, the Committee agreed to recommend approval of the lease arrangements in the Public Meeting without specification of prices. Mr. Hughes objected to this procedure, in principle.

Capital Construction

Mr. McGuire reported on the current status of capital construction projects. He indicated that actual costs of the aquaculture facility being constructed at the Darling Center would exceed previous estimates by approximately \$56,000 and that President Libby would absorb the additional expense from restricted gift funds available to the Orono Campus.*

A recommendation to name physical facilities at Orono and Augusta was referred to the Public Meeting.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (Chairman Sampson presiding)

It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the Educational Policy Committee meeting of June 9, 1971, as distributed.

A.S. (Data Processing), UMA. Dr. Freeman reported that the Joint Committee of the State Board of Education and the Board of Trustees had reviewed an associate degree program in Data Processing proposed for UMA and that two of the three representatives from the State Board had returned negative votes in response to a mailed ballot. Dr. Freeman suggested that the proposal be resubmitted to the Joint Committee for further discussion in a committee session, and the proposal was TABLED.

Cooperative education - UMPG. Dr. Freeman reported on the progress of the cooperative education program which is modeled on the Northeastern University plan, and which will be initiated by the Department of Business Administration at Portland-Gorham in the Spring semester, 1972.

*In response to questions raised during discussion, President Libby elaborated on the source of these funds by letter dated 9/28/71 "...Let the record show that the money earmarked for this purpose is a gift of \$50,000 made by Mr. Ira Darling, which money is currently on deposit with the University of Maine Foundation. These dollars are available in principal amount for this purpose and clearly in line with Mr. Darling's original wishes as to the manner in which the money was to be spent."
The letter in its entirety is appended to the file copy of these minutes.

Student/faculty appointments to Board Committees. Dr. McNeil reported that staff efforts to establish criteria for appointment of students and faculty to membership on standing committees of the Board were still unproductive. He suggested that the matter be referred to the University of Maine Organization of Student Governments and to the Faculty Liaison Council for study and the development of recommendations for the Board. After discussion, the Committee concurred with the Chancellor's suggestion and expressed a desire to have recommendations at the earliest possible date.

There being no objection, consideration of remaining agenda of the Educational Policy Committee was temporarily suspended and Chairman Cutler presided to permit discussion of an item from the Executive Session agenda.

Russell estate. Mr. Fowle reported on the details of a bequest from the estate of Winifred S. Russell which stipulates that the University receive the income from a trust fund of thirty thousand dollars, such income to be used to establish a professorial chair at the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham in honor of Dr. Walter E. Russell, former principal at Gorham. The terms of the will and summary of administrative action on the bequest, to date, is appended to the file of these minutes. After discussion and on motion of Mr. Anderson which was seconded by Dr. Brown, the Board of Trustees
VOTED: to accept the terms and conditions of the bequest of Winifred S. Russell and to establish the Walter E. Russell Chair in Philosophy and Education at the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham.

Mrs. Sampson returned to the Chair to dispose of the remainder of the Educational Policy Committee agenda.

Named Professorships and Chairs - policy statement. The Chancellor presented guidelines developed for named professorships and chairs which, with the concurrence of the Administrative Council, he recommended for approval as policy for the University. After discussion, it was agreed that the Committee would report favorably on adoption of the guidelines in the Public Meeting scheduled for November, 1971.

All other items on the agenda were referred to the Public Meeting.

There being no objection, the report of the Chairman of the Public Information Committee was referred to the Public Meeting.

With Chairman Cutler presiding, the Board moved to Executive Session for discussion of remaining agenda.


Personnel. On motion of Dr. Brown, the Board
APPROVED all personnel recommendations listed under dates of September 22,23, 1971, copies of which are appended to the permanent file of these minutes.

Acting Appointments. In response to a request from the Chancellor for guidance on procedures for acting appointments, Mr. Haskell moved: that approval of appointments to the position of Acting President be reserved to the Board of Trustees. The Chancellor is hereby authorized to approve those for Deans and above and authority for approval of all others is delegated to the President of each Campus.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved, seconded and VOTED: to approve the minutes of the following meetings as distributed:
Executive Session, June 9, 1971
Executive Committee and Executive Session, July 14, 1971
Executive Committee, August 9, 1971
Closed Executive Session, August 10, 1971

All other items were referred to the Public Meeting.

Adjournment.


JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk, Board of Trustees