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Board of Trustees Public Meeting May 24, 1971

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
May 24, 1971 at Gorham, Maine

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Date 9/23/71
By: JoAnne R. Magill, Clerk

Subject To Final Approval

PRESENT: Chairman L. M. Cutler (late), L. M. Cormier, S. T. Hughes, J. H. Page, C. D. Reed, W. G. Robertson, Mrs. Jean Sampson, and N. Y. Wessell, Clerk, J. R. Magill. Staff: D. R. McNeil, S. L. Freeman, H. L. Fowle, W. J. MacLeod, E. S. Godfrey, B. I. Shur, A. C. McGuinness, W. N. Robersen and V. F. Massey. Also present: faculty staff and students from UMP-G, the public and the press.

Chairman Cutler was delayed and the meeting was convened by Vice Chairman Sampson. This special meeting was called to provide an opportunity for representatives of all concerned groups at the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham to present statements to the Board about their dissatisfactions with various aspects of the academic merger currently underway at UMP-G. Mrs. Sampson announced the time schedule and the format of the meeting. By pre-arrangement, time had been allocated to each of the groups, and the following spokesmen read prepared statements, copies of which are attached, except as noted.

Committee of Ten (Gorham Campus faculty)

Spokesmen: Mr. Gerard Chamberland, Chairman, Music Department
Dr. Richard Costello, Director of Athletics
Dr. Anne P. Young, Professor of History
Dr. Philip Rutherford, Professor of English
Dr. Lincoln Fish, Chairman, Mathematics Department
Dr. Allen Kilbury, Director of Educational Media, UMP-G
Dr. John Mitchell, Chairman, Department of Industrial Arts

Chairman Cutler arrived and presided over the meeting following Mr. Chamberland's presentation.

Portland Campus Faculty

Spokesman: Dr. Allen Pease, Associate Professor of Political Science

Gorham Campus Students

Spokesmen: William Murphy
Eric Johnson (no transcript included)

Portland Campus Students

Spokesmen: Gerald McCann, President, Student Senate
William Hilton, Vice President, Student Senate

Law School Faculty

Spokesman: Edward Godfrey, Dean

Middle management - UMP-G

Spokesman: Merrill Cobb, Associate Dean Academic Affairs (Gorham)

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Classified Employees

Spokesmen: Gorham Campus, Mrs. Electra Brown, Bursar
Portland Campus, Philip O'Conner, Night Watchman
(no transcript included)

Gorham Alumni Association

Spokesman: Leslie LaFond, Class of 1957

Following a recess for lunch, Dr. McNeil presented two recommendations for personnel appointments. After discussion, the Board

APPROVED: 1) the appointment of Allen P. Whitmore to the position of Dean of Instruction, University of Maine at Presque Isle, effective August 1, 1971.

2) the appointment of Richard J. Spath as President, University of Maine at Fort Kent, effective July 1, 1971.

Returning to discussion of the Portland-Gorham situation, Mr. Gerald Petrucelli, Chairman of the ad hoc committee on University Governance, commented on various points raised in the statements presented in the morning session, and Acting President William MacLeod summarized the administration's position, to conclude the formal presentations. Dr. MacLeod's statement is appended.

Chairman Cutler opened the meeting to statements from the floor and among the speakers responding, several had prepared remarks to be read into the record and copies are attached, as follows:

Mr. William Slavick, Assistant Professor of English
a member of the Gorham appeal committee.

Mr. James Whitten, Associate Professor of Social Science,
Gorham, reported on the Maine State Conference of
the American Association of University Professors,
during which the governance document had been
discussed.

Mr. William Wise, Assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs,
Gorham.

A number of others offered extemporaneous comments:

Mr. Robert Bourgault, Maine Teachers Association
Miss Patricia Junkins, graduate student, Gorham
Mr. N. Hazlett, student, Portland
Mr. William Warren, Assoc. Prof. of Industrial Arts, Gorham
Mr. Juris Ubans, Asst. Professor of Art, Portland
Mr. James Roberts, Asst. Professor of Political Science,
Portland

Dr. Lincoln Fish, Professor of Mathematics, Gorham
Mr. Eric Johnson, student, Gorham
Miss Deborah Moulton, student, Gorham
Mr. Michael Selkin, Asst. Professor of English, Portland
Mr. William Murphy, student, Gorham
Mr. Philip Benner, student, Gorham

The Trustees directed questions to the individual speakers throughout the presentations. After determining that all who wished to speak had had an opportunity to present their views, Chairman Cutler asked for the Chancellor's comments. Supporting a recommendation from President-designate Calisti, Dr. McNeil proposed a modification of the governance document to provide for establishment of the Faculty Affairs Committee as a permanent standing Committee of the Council with the Vice President for Academic Affairs serving as an ex-officio member. Given this major change, along with Dr. Calisti's stated intention to locate his primary office at Gorham, the Chancellor requested that the various factions try to reach consensus to support the governance document, perhaps on a trial basis for the coming year.

Selected members of the Committee of Ten briefly summarized the Committee's position. Chairman Cutler thanked those who had participated in the hearings and the Trustees moved into discussion of the testimony that had been presented throughout the day. Lacking a quorum, no action was considered, and after further deliberation Chairman Cutler announced that decisions on the Portland-Gorham situation would be referred to the Board for consideration at its next meeting which will be held in Presque Isle, June 10, 1971.

Adjournment.

JoAnne R. Magill

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk, Board of Trustees