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Board of Trustees Educational Policy Committee march 27, 1974

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11
Date: Sept 24, 1974
By: Margaret R. Dexter, Clerk

March 27, 1974
Bangor, Maine

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Chairman Jean Sampson, Stanley J. Evans, Susan R. Kominsky, Carroll R. McGary, Nils Y. Wessell, Francis A. Brown, Lawrence M. Cutler, Charles Major, Peter Simon. Chancellor Donald R. McNeil, Stanley L. Freeman, Jr., Barnett I. Shur, Mary Ann Haas, Paul C. Dunham. Arthur Buswell, Lloyd Jewett, N. Edd Miller, Howard Neville, Einar Olsen, Stanley Salwak, Richard Spath. James Aldrich, Regina Koch.

Tenure. The annual nominations by campuses for appointments to tenure were reviewed. The committee questioned several recommendations for tenure for persons at the assistant professor rank. There was also a discussion of projection of percentages of faculty who will be on tenure by 1980. The question of early retirement as an alternative to tenure was raised. Dr. McGary spoke of collective bargaining as a method of improving tenure selection.

Dr. Wessell questioned the system which requires faculty to apply for tenure. It was explained that under the old state college system it was necessary for a professor to announce his eligibility for tenure to the president.

Several of the presidents present made statements on each of their tenure recommendations at the assistant professor level. There was consensus that Trustees should only review correct procedures to be sure that high standards are being followed in tenure selection. There was also consensus that ordinarily a terminal degree should be expected, but that there could be exceptions in granting tenure. Committee members also expressed themselves as being opposed to fixed percentages of faculty on tenure. Other suggestions were that criteria should be different in different departments, but that there should be a consistency of rationale by which a department arrives at the criteria for granting tenure appropriate to the mission of the department.

It was moved, seconded and voted that tenure nominations received from the campuses be recommended to the full Board. It was agreed that tenure recommendations would be brought to the Educational Policy Committee in the future.

Faculty Rank and Chair. On motion of Mrs. Kominsky, which was seconded, the committee voted to grant faculty rank and tenure for Presidents Buswell and Spath and that Edward M. Holmes be appointed as a Lloyd H. Elliott Professor of English at Orono.

Bangor Community College. On motion of Dr. McGary, which was seconded, the committee approved the name change of the Bangor campus to Bangor Community College effective July 1, with the idea that the Board need not act on this matter.

Open Forum. The committee considered a proposal from MPBN following up a suggestion by former University of Maine at Orono President Winthrop C. Libby, that the Board meet with the public and discuss in open forum problems confronting the University. The MPBN suggestion was that the Trustees be on a televised program with a telephone hookup so that people could call in their questions. The committee agreed to recommend that the Board try an open forum meeting at a town in the state which does not have a University campus and that at some future date they would try a televised forum program on MPBN.

NEBHE Participation Renewal. Dr. Freeman reported that the NEBHE participation agreement expires in June and that unless the Board indicated an opposite direction, the staff would work on a selection of courses to be included in the upcoming NEBHE agreement.

Transfer Policy. On motion of Dr. McGary, which was seconded, the committee voted to recommend as policy the following:

Students may apply to transfer from one campus to another. If a student is accepted for transfer, all undergraduate degree credits obtained at any unit of the University will be transferable to any other unit. Each transfer student will be expected to meet the established requirements of the academic program into which transfer is affected.

Tri-Campus Program. It was moved, seconded and voted that the committee would recommend Board approval of an environmental studies program to be offered jointly by UMA, UMPI and UMEK. A complete text of the proposal summary is appended to the file of these minutes.

Honorary Degree. It was moved, seconded and voted to recommend the nomination by the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham that Edward J. McGeachey be granted an honorary degree at the May commencement.

Adjournment.

From a tape recording of the session.

Margaret R. Dexter
Clerk, Board of Trustees