

1974

## Board of Trustees April 23, 1974

University Of Maine System

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 23, 1974  
Bangor, Maine

Informal Discussion

PRESENT: Francis A. Brown, Lawrence M. Cutler, John C. Donovan, Stanley J. Evans, Stephen T. Hughes, Susan R. Kominsky, Robert R. Masterton, Carroll R. McGary, Carlton D. Reed, Jean Sampson and Nils Y. Wessell. Staff: Donald R. McNeil, Stanley L. Freeman and Herbert L. Fowle, Jr.

Dr. Cutler convened the meeting and recounted the steps taken by the Board to complete the evaluation of the administration of the Chancellor.

Chancellor McNeil presented his views of progress within the University during the five years of his administration including 1) putting the system together, 2) expanded educational opportunity, 3) improved quality, 4) improved planning for goals and objectives. He also listed objectives for the Board asking that Trustees 1) serve more as spokesmen for the University, 2) exercise more leadership and 3) deal more with policy than detail. He outlined some subjects which the Trustees should address:

1. State funds for private higher education
2. Problems which will arise when the Higher Education Commission is active
3. One university with seven campuses
4. Formula budgeting
5. Criteria for setting priorities

After the Vice Chancellors were excused, the Board discussed with the Chancellor the report of the evaluation. Dr. McGary stated that he felt that there was not consensus on all of the items in the report.

In response to a question from Mr. Reed, the Chancellor stated that there were still many challenges for him in his job.

In the discussion of areas needing improvement, Dr. Wessell asked that the Board be alerted to issues with which it must deal. Mr. Masterton stated that trustees could improve their effectiveness by disciplining themselves to deal only with policy issues.

Dr. Donovan pointed out that a new phase of the merged university was beginning, which would be quite different from phase one and that a different reaction would be necessary.

Mr. Masterton asked Dr. McNeil to list the issues confronting the University in the next few years.

There was discussion of an annual evaluation. Some members felt

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that an evaluation every three to five years would be adequate.

Mr. Reed proposed eliminating committees and have all Board members hear and discuss all subjects.

Several Trustees asked the Chancellor to follow up in his offer to bring to future informal discussions several of the items which he had outlined in his opening statement.

The Chancellor agreed to bring 6 to 8 policy issues which the Board must resolve at some future date.

Adjournment.

Margaret R. Dexter  
Clerk, Board of Trustees.