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Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Committee January 28, 1975

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 28, 1975
Bangor, Maine

ad hoc Committee on Medical Education

PRESENT: Chairman Nils Y. Wessell (later), Stanley J. Evans, Lawrence M. Cutler, Robert R. Masterton, Jean Sampson and John C. Donovan. Staff: Stanley L. Freeman, Jr., Mary Ann Haas, Sally V. Holm, JoAnne R. Magill, Scott Sterling, Robert W. Coon and William S. Wilson.

Dr. Evans chaired the meeting in Chairman Wessell's absence.

Dr. Coon reported that the Veterans Administration application for funding has been returned and will be resubmitted March 1, 1975. The letter of reasonable assurance of accreditation for a University of Maine School of Medicine will be submitted later, when obtained.

The request to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, a joint committee of the Council of the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges, for a letter of reasonable assurance of accreditation depends on positive legislative action for funding.

Potential space for the School of Medicine is available at the Bangor Mental Health Institute. One of two options would not require renovations.

Dr. Freeman reported that a bill has been drafted for submission to the 107th Legislature to authorize the University of Maine to proceed with the development of a School of Medicine. This would repeal and replace the 1951 law. The draft of the new law is as follows:

"The Board of Trustees of the University of Maine is authorized to establish and implement such plans as they deem necessary for a School of Medicine as a component of the University of Maine. Said Board of Trustees shall be under no duty to perform any function under this provision unless and until, in its opinion, the said Board has received or is assured of sufficient funds either by gift or grant from any source and by appropriations by the State of Maine to successfully operate said School of Medicine. Further, the minimum standards of operation of said school shall meet requirements necessary for accreditation.

Said Board is authorized to confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine upon such students of the University of Maine School of Medicine as complete the course of study to the satisfaction of said Board."

If the legislature approves the legislative document, the medical school could be accepting its first students by 1976. However, if there is a delay and the bill has to be resubmitted to the special session, the staff would have to look again at the funding and timetable for admission of its first students.

Dr. Wessell arrived and chaired the meeting. Dr. Coon stated that the Medical Advisory Council had been named to act in an advisory relationship to the School and to the Board. Suggestion was made that a member of the Maine Medical Center Board of Trustees should be added to the membership. A copy of the amended list of individuals invited to be members is appended to the file of these minutes.

Dr. Coon summarized the status of projected funding from AHEC, MEHEIA and state appropriations for the medical school and reported on the various health education activities of the Institute for Health Sciences Education.

There was discussion of private fund raising for the medical school. The staff has been approached by several enthusiastic supporters with potential givers to the school. The administration will look into the Board policy, if any, on this matter.

Adjournment.

Margaret R. Dexter
Clerk, Board of Trustees