

2-26-1975

Board of Trustees Public Meeting February 26, 1975

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 26, 1975
Bangor, Maine

5
APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Date: March 28, 1975
By: Margaret R. Dexter, Clerk

Public Meeting

PRESENT: Chairman Jean Sampson, Lawrence M. Cutler, James H. Page, Kenneth H. Ramage, Stanley J. Evans, John C. Donovan, Carlton D. Reed, Jr., Nils Y. Wessell, Susan R. Kominsky, Francis A. Brown, H. Sawin Millett, Jr. and Cynthia A. Murray-Beliveau. Staff: Stanley L. Freeman, Jr., Herbert L. Fowle, Jr., Mary Ann Haas, David I. Carter, Paul C. Dunham, JoAnne R. Magill, Arthur S. Buswell, Lloyd J. Jewett, N. Edd Miller, Howard R. Neville, Einar A. Olsen, Stanley F. Salwak and Richard J. Spath. Press and Public.

Ms. Sampson opened the meeting and asked for Committee reports.

Physical Plant Committee. Reporting for Chairman Brown, Mr. Ramage moved Board acceptance of a policy on bid procedures, a copy of which is appended to the file of these minutes. The motion was seconded and VOTED.

Search Committee. Mr. Page reported that the search for a new Chancellor is on schedule. The meeting of the Advisory Committee in Augusta was chaired by Dr. Robert E. L. Strider. The closing date for applications for the position of Chancellor is March 1, 1975.

Educational Policy Committee. Dr. Donovan reported that the Committee compared the 1968 guidelines for tenure with existing policies. In March, the Committee will review the nominations for tenure from the campuses.

Finance Committee. Mr. Page reported that the seven month Status Report on the Unrestricted E & G Budget 1974/75 reflected a balanced budget. A copy of the report is appended to the file of these minutes.

Gifts, Grants and Awards. On motion of Mr. Page, which was seconded, the Board VOTED to accept with gratitude all Gifts, Grants and Awards listed under the dates February 25 and 26, 1975. A full listing of these gifts is appended to the file of these minutes.

Impact of Governor's Budget. Dr. Freeman commented on the impact of Plan A - the Governor's budget recommendation for the University for 1975/1976. At Mr. Page's request, each of the Presidents commented on the impact the Governor's budget would have on each campus. A copy of the Impact Study,

titled "Plan A", is appended to the file of these minutes.

On motion of Mr. Page which was seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED:

Resolved: that after full deliberation of the 1975/1976 Appropriation Request, Operating Budget and the Governor's Recommendation to the 107th Legislature, the Trustees voted as follows:

1. A student tuition increase will not be recommended at this time.
2. Salary and wage adjustments for University personnel should be comparable to those given state employees.
3. The Governor's budget recommendation would curtail vital services and functions of the University and is inadequate at its present level of funding.
4. The Administration is directed to re-establish communications with the Governor and his staff in an effort to reach agreement as to the minimum level of funding necessary for the University to meet the needs of public post-secondary education in the upcoming year.

Chancellor's Report. Dr. Freeman commended A Study of the University of Maine Since Consolidation by the Legislative Committee on Education. On motion of Mr. Brown, which was seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED:

Resolved: That the Board of Trustees acknowledge the report of the Legislative Committee on Education entitled A Study of the University of Maine Since Consolidation, and commends the Committee for its objective inquiry and for the constructive criticism and fundamental support of the University the report conveys.

That the Board of Trustees would welcome an opportunity to meet with the Committee to discuss the University's role in meeting the needs of Maine students and enriching the quality of Maine life. The Acting Chancellor is hereby directed to make the appropriate arrangements for such a meeting.

Acting Chancellor Freeman also commented on several bills before the Legislature. He reported that tuition-free attendance at the University by persons of 65 years or more received an "ought not to pass" recommendation by the Legislative Education Committee because it was a direct interference in the conduct of University business.

He also commented on a bill which would give a cost of living wage adjustment to State employees; a bill which would place the University's budget and selection of Chancellor and Presidents under the State Department of Educational and Cultural Services and a bill to establish a 1202 Commission in the state.

1202. On motion of Dr. Evans which was seconded, the Board VOTED:

Resolved: That the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine recommends that the Legislature establish a permanent post-secondary education commission, meeting the statutory requirements of Section 1202 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and charged with responsibility for broad scope, long-range planning for post-secondary education, and for administration of certain state and federal post-secondary education programs.

That the Board of Trustees urges that establishment of a permanent post-secondary education commission should in no way undermine the principle that each higher education institution in the State of Maine, public and private, shall have control over its education programs and related activities within its board of control. (As enunciated by Section 1-A of Chapter 229 of the Private and Special Laws of the State of Maine and Section 2251 of Title 20 of the Maine Revised Statutes.)

That the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chancellor to convey to the Legislature the opinions of the Board as to the desirable functions and characteristics of such a commission.

Voting for the resolution were Dr. Cutler, Mr. Page, Mr. Ramage, Dr. Evans, Dr. Donovan, Mr. Reed, Dr. Wessell, Ms. Kominsky and Mr. Brown. Ms. Murray-Beliveau and Mr. Millett abstained.

Adjournment.

Margaret R. Dexter
Clerk, Board of Trustees