

1977

# Board of Trustees Educational Policy Committee July 19, 1977

University Of Maine System

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/bot-corp-records>

 Part of the [Educational Administration and Supervision Commons](#)

---

## Repository Citation

University Of Maine System. (date).Board of Trustees [Meeting minutes]. Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine.

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Corporate Records by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact [um.library.technical.services@maine.edu](mailto:um.library.technical.services@maine.edu).

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

July 19, 1977  
Bangor, Maine

*Not approved  
in Sept. 77*

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Nils Wessell, Susan Kominsky, Sawin Millett, Patricia DiMatteo, Artemus Weatherbee, and Daniel O'Leary. Other Trustees: James Page, Stanley Evans, Robert Masterton. Staff: Robert Binswanger, Jeanne Steele, Arthur Buswell, Edd Miller, Howard Neville, Thomas Strauss, and Barnett Shur. Also present: Becky Fisher and UMO staff: Vice President Frederick Hutchinson, Graduate Dean Henry Hooper, and Director of the Darling Center, David Dean.

Dr. Wessell served as Chairman, pro tem, in the absence of Dr. Donovan. The Minutes of the Educational Policy Committee meeting of March 23, 1977 were APPROVED as distributed.

Employment Status of Norman J. Viger, UMO. President Neville reported on the employment status of Mr. Viger, which was then discussed by the Committee. On motion of Mrs. Kominsky seconded by Mr. Millett, and with Mr. Weatherbee abstaining, it was

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees recognize that Mr. Viger, Assistant Professor of General Engineering, UMO, has obtained de facto tenure because he has been kept on probationary status beyond the seven year standard.

Center for Marine Studies. President Neville initiated discussion of a proposed Center for Marine Studies which has been under development at the Orono Campus since Fall, 1975. The President described the background for the development of the proposal which had involved campus personnel from all of the colleges at Orono, alumni, representatives of state government and students. He indicated that the proposal, which was completed by a faculty committee in June, 1976, was being presented at this time to inform the Committee and the Board of a major thrust for UMO. Accompanying President Neville were three Orono staff members who could provide additional information about the proposal: Vice President Frederick Hutchinson, who was responsible for developing the plan; Graduate Dean Henry Hooper to discuss the relationship of the proposed Center to the graduate program; Darling Center Director David Dean, to illustrate how the Center would fit into the long-term program at the Darling Center.

Dr. Evans inquired about the impact of the proposed Center on the University as a whole and on the State, and he suggested that the proposal should have been presented to the Board earlier and in greater detail to enable the Trustees to weigh the broad policy implications in a timely way. In response to questions from Dr. Wessell concerning the nature of the programs being proposed and involvement of other than Orono Campus people in the planning, Dr. Hutchinson indicated that he had met with representatives from State government including

the legislative committee on Marine Resources and staff from the State Department of Marine Resources, and that programs had been proposed by and implemented in cooperation with campuses at Portland-Gorham and Machias. Dr. Hutchinson further indicated that the Center was intended to provide a mechanism for an interdisciplinary approach to marine education and to serve as a focal point for the unique talent and resources the Campus has in this area. Mr. Masterton said the Board should be encouraging Orono to do this but it was important for planning to be undertaken in a sequential way. Dr. Hutchinson said that the proposal was not considered a complete document but one which creates a foundation on which to hire a director with responsibility for initiating discussions and establishing goals and objectives for the Center. There was discussion of the need to involve the Board at an early stage of the planning process so the broad policy issues, such as the University's role in state research and public service, could be explored. Mr. Masterton noted that the hiring of a director before objectives are fleshed out could be premature. He indicated that one of the difficult questions the Trustee and ad hoc planning committee had wrestled with was how to take advantage of the strength of each campus without stifling innovation and he pointed out that proposals should be submitted for review at the policy level where there should be a determination at the beginning about priorities for funding and where, after approval, proposals could be implemented with the full support of the Board. Mr. Weatherbee expressed appreciation for the initiative and leadership the Orono campus had taken and he favored allowing the administration to move forward with the proposal as much as possible, although he did not disagree with the interest in a fuller planning document. After further discussion, it was suggested that the proposal be redrafted, taking the long-range implications into account, and returned for consideration at a future date. On motion of Dr. Evans seconded by Mrs. Kominsky, it was

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees commend UMO for its leadership in marine studies and encourage the campus to continue its efforts by presenting to the Board in 60 days a planning document delineating Center of Marine Studies' responsibilities in relation to other marine efforts within the University and the State of Maine, and setting forth the policy issues or implications involved.

MPBN. Mr. Thomas Strauss, General Manager of MPBN, briefed the Committee on the recent activities of the Task Force of the Maine Advisory Committee on Public Broadcasting which was established to review public broadcasting in Maine and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees for coordination of future planning operations, and funding of MPBN and WCBB, which is the other public broadcasting operation in the state. After studying an advocacy paper from WCBB which contained that station's objections to the status quo and to the possible solution of a merger, along with their recommendation for a new State Commission to distribute state funds to and coordinate activities of both MPBN and WCBB, the Task force requested and received a counter proposal from MPBN which contained its recommendations for state-wide integration of public television services. Mr. Strauss reported that MPBN proposes that each faction retain its autonomy and current board structure, that MPBN contract with WCBB for provision of services to the

Central Maine area, and that fund raising efforts be combined and proceeds divided on a formula basis acceptable to both parties. Dr. Wessell asked what changes this would entail and Dr. Evans, who represents the Board on the Task Force, indicated that services would be provided in essentially the same way as they are now. The contractual relationship with WCBB would function to complete a state system. Dr. Evans added that Task Force reaction to the proposal was positive and he was hopeful that substantive programs could be made from this point. In response to questions, he said that no action was required at this meeting; the proposal was presented for the information of the Trustees. If the Board is comfortable with the proposal as a working document, a more specific recommendation can be developed for presentation in September. The Committee pursued the discussion briefly. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Weatherbee about Board involvement with public television, Dr. Evans elaborated on the rationale for Network association with an institution of higher learning. Mr. Masterton observed that some of the fund raising efforts in the southern Maine area had been objectionable.

Adjournment.



JoAnne R. Magill  
Clerk of the Board