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Board of Trustees Joint Session April 27, 1977

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEESDATE: May 25, 1977April 27, 1977
Presque Isle, Maine

CLERK: _____

Joint Session Finance & Student Affairs Committees

PRESENT: Susan Kominsky, Cynthia Murray-Beliveau, Nils Wessell, Robert Masterton, Bernard Carpenter, Artemus Weatherbee, Becky Fisher, Gretchen Ryder and Grattan Murphy. Other Trustees: James Page, Stanley Evans. Staff: Chancellor McCarthy, William Sullivan, Robert Binswanger, Mary Ann Haas, Russell Smith, Ford Campbell, Jeanne Steele, Edd Miller and John Blake. Press.

Ms. Kominsky chaired the joint meeting.

The minutes of the joint Finance and Student Affairs Committees of March 23, 1977 were approved as circulated.

Financial Plan - Budget and Tuition. Mr. Sullivan presented a detailed report on the current fiscal situation which included a schedule for budget presentation and tuition planning. He reviewed the budget request, comparing the University's request for increased funding with the Governor's recommendation which calls for a smaller increase. Mr. Sullivan pointed out that mandatory increases in operating costs alone would absorb more funds than the Governor is recommending and that the prospects for salary increases are slight if the level of funding requested by the University is not approved. Professor Murphy objected to excluding salary increases from consideration as a mandatory cost. Mr. Sullivan briefed the Committees on the report of the Administrative Council sub-committee on long range tuition policy review and there was discussion of the fair-share concept, which will serve as the foundation for setting tuition, and of the implications of assessing tuition on a credit-hour basis. Mr. Sullivan elaborated on the calculation of average cost per full time equivalency (FTE) student in response to a question from Ms. Fisher, and indicated he would summarize the explanation for circulation to Trustees and committee members.

During the discussion, Dr. Wessell recorded his reservations about the concept of full cost as a basis for establishing tuition because he believes it works against the diversified student body which he finds beneficial to the institution. Ms. Kominsky was concerned for the need to have the specific tuition proposals, at least for out-of-state students, in order that students would have as much notice as possible of impending increases. Since these won't depend on legislative appropriation, Mr. Sullivan expected they could be presented in May. The recommendation for long-range tuition policy will also be on the agenda for the May meeting.

Adjournment.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk, Board of Trustees