

11-29-1977

## Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee November 29, 1977

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEESDATE: 1/25/78

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November 29, 1977  
Farmington, MaineCLERK: JoAnne R. MagillSTUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Chairman Susan R. Kominsky, Ellen W. Platz, Elizabeth S. Russell, Jamie Eves, Roger Teachout. Other Trustees: Patricia Dimatteo, Stanley Evans, Robert Masterton. Staff: Robert Binswanger, Mary Ann Haas, Edd Miller. Also present: William Geller, Vice President for Student Affairs, Farmington, Becky Fisher, James Horan, Farmington students.

Chairman Kominsky convened the meeting, which was a forum for discussion between Farmington students and Trustees. After a brief explanation of the role of the Trustees with regard to students, the following issues were discussed.

Student Activity Fee. Students discussed the perceived inequity of commuter student payment of activity fees. Although commuters compose 50% of the student population, it was noted that few of these older students are able to participate in campus functions. Discussion of this problem followed, with some participants expressing the view that students should take a more active role in expressing their feelings to campus administration.

Alcohol Use. Students described difficulties inherent in monitoring the drinking law on campus, which prohibits students under 20 years of age from consuming alcohol in public. Students responsible for the law's enforcement expressed dissatisfaction with the change in their formerly friendly relations with other students, feeling they are now cast in a "policeman" role. Curtailment of many campus social functions involving students of varying ages has been another result. It was noted that the problem is intensified by the fact that 56% of the students at Farmington are under 20 years of age. Clarification was requested of the Trustees as to what areas on campus constitute public and private places, how the law is to be interpreted on each campus and what specific boundaries have been set to properly adhere to the law. Dr. Haas stated that guidelines had been developed on the various campuses. It was suggested that student need to more actively consult with campus administration to further clarify the legalities involved, as well as to devise more workable methods of enforcing the law.

Revised Copyright Law. Students inquired about campus repercussions to infraction of the copyright law, and were informed by Vice Chancellor Binswanger that a statement which would attempt to clarify the complex issues involved would be available for campus review in mid-December.

Other business. Students discussed various budgetary concerns, particularly the need for library improvements; the need for additional library books was also noted. Another topic of concern was the need for better, more effective communication to increase student awareness of campus and intercampus issues. Students were informed that UMOSG is preparing a student oriented newsletter, intended for wide distribution in the near future.

Adjournment.

Mary E. Phillips for  
JoAnne R. Magill  
Clerk of the Board