

1981

Board of Trustees Executive Committee April 27, 1981

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Committee
April 27, 1981
Orono, Maine

PRESENT: Chairman Stanley Evans, Francis Brown, Richard Morin, Elizabeth Russell. Other Trustees: Joseph Hakanson, Maurice Keene, Richard Marshall, Harrison Richardson, John Robinson. Faculty representatives: Ralph Jans, Christina Baker, Doris Baker, John Zaner, Sharon Zimmer-Boucher. Student representatives: Cheryl Keep, Dana Murch, Maxelle Smith, David Spellman. Staff: Chancellor McCarthy, William Sullivan, Robert Binswanger, Mary Ann Haas, Constance Carlson, Paul Silverman, Hilton Power, Robert Woodbury. Press and public.

Chairman Evans convened the meeting which was scheduled to brief faculty and student representatives on the agenda.

Mr. Brown reported briefly on the discussion of student activity fee assessment which had taken place in the joint session of the Finance and Student Affairs Committees meeting the previous day. He said he thought the discussion had helped to focus the issue of voluntary versus mandatory activity fees, as well as the question of a system-wide referendum at some regular interval. President Silverman distributed a written statement on fee issues prepared by the UMO Student Government, which had been received too late to be circulated with materials for the meeting.

Mr. Murch reported that the student representatives endorse the recommendation on tuition billing practice, which was also discussed in the joint meeting, and that they concur with the staff's intention to recommend elimination of the \$5.00 registration fee presently charged part-time students. Mr. Murch said that UMA students pay a higher percentage of operating costs than other students in the system and he inquired about the possibility that credit hour charges would be differentiated between campuses. Chancellor McCarthy pointed out that the historical mandate for part-time programs to be self-supporting has placed a disproportionate burden on campuses with large numbers of part-time students, and he said the staff would be reviewing the issue.

President Silverman responded to a question from Professor Zaner concerning long range funding for two professorial appointments in Geological Sciences at UMO. President Silverman said it is expected that these research appointments will generate outside funds.

There was discussion of transferability policy on which a status report had been prepared for presentation at the meeting of the full Board. Chancellor McCarthy touched on some of the aspects which are being studied as part of the ongoing review of transferability policy and procedures. He outlined a proposal for the appointment of an ombudsman on each campus who would be responsible for resolving transfer problems, and indicated that transfera-

bility conditions and procedures need to be communicated more clearly to students, parents and staff in acceptance letters, college catalogs, student handbooks and other University publications. Mr. Murch reported that he was instrumental in having a bill (LD 1005) submitted to the Legislature which would mandate a common course numbering system at the University. He said this system would enable students to determine, from the catalog, which courses were transferable. Mr. Robinson said such legislation would be damaging to the University and should be opposed by the Board. Dr. Russell concurred and expressed support for the ombudsman approach. The Chancellor pointed out that the University is a very complex institution where quality must be maintained throughout a wide range of programs which could not be standardized. He outlined actions already taken to improve the transfer process and indicated that most students now transfer without difficulty. He reiterated that the ombudsman mechanism would be the better approach to the remaining problems. Mr. Brown said he thought the number of students who still have trouble is very small and he endorsed the record-keeping component in the ombudsman proposal as an essential instrument for evaluation of the transfer process. There was further discussion of transfer issues in general. It was pointed out that some problems ascribed to the transfer process are, in fact, matriculation matters instead.

Professor Zimmer-Boucher read a statement from Professor Rebecca Herrick, who could not be present, in which she commended the Board for addressing the question of low pensions for older University retirees, and requested attention to what she perceived as inequities between the University retirement program and the Maine State Retirement system, in which some former Teacher College personnel are still enrolled. Professor Zimmer-Boucher pointed out that this request has been presented before although the issue has not been explored. She said that the inequity, if one exists, should be studied, and if there is no inequity, that information should be made available.

UMO Student Representative David Spellman, who arrived late, spoke to criticism voiced at the meeting on the previous day with respect to funding of certain services by the UMO student government. Mr. Spellman said the Student Senate does fund a number of services for students which include a food co-op, day care and legal services, among others. He reported that the Senate has recently had extensive discussions of the legal services function, for which some critics recommend that user fees be assessed. In response to comments concerning the accountability of the Senate, Mr. Spellman indicated that the Senate is audited by a private firm and is accountable.

Adjournment.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk of the Board

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Committee
University of Maine at Orono
April 27, 1981

PRESENT: Chairman Stanley Evans, Francis Brown, Thomas Monaghan,
Richard Morin and Elizabeth Russell. Staff: Chancellor
McCarthy.

Chairman Evans convened the meeting.

The Chairman requested that in accordance with the By-Laws of the Board, a Nominating Committee be appointed to recommend a slate of officers for election at the May meeting. After discussion and on motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to appoint the following Trustees to a
Nominating Committee: Thomas Monaghan,
Chairman; Ellen Platz, Harrison
Richardson.

Chancellor McCarthy briefed the Committee on his recommendation for interim leadership at the Farmington Campus, in view of President Olsen's upcoming retirement. The Chancellor said he had met with the Farmington deans and administrators to solicit their opinions, and that his nominee for Acting President, Dr. Harlan Philippi, is acceptable to the Campus. Dr. Philippi is currently serving as Director of Health Professions Education and the Chancellor indicated that an assistant could be provided for Dr. Philippi to enable him to continue in this capacity during his term as Acting President. The matter was referred to the meeting of the full Board for discussion.

There was brief and informal discussion of tuition and fees for the coming year. Chancellor McCarthy reported that the increase in in-state tuition is expected to be about 15%, and that the method for determining full cost for out-of-state tuition is under review. He suggested that it may not be practical to charge non-residents at the smaller campuses the same rate that non-residents at the graduate centers are charged, in view of the differences in available services at these larger campuses. The staff is studying possibilities for bracketing tuition costs to reflect these differences.

Chancellor McCarthy reported informally to the Committee on a personnel problem concerning a faculty member at UMO.

There was brief discussion of the payment of travel expenses to Board meetings during the summer for faculty and student representatives. There was consensus that reimburseable expenses would be limited to in-state travel.

Adjournment.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk, Board of Trustees