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Board of Trustees May 23, 1983

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 23, 1983
Bangor Community College

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas Monaghan, Francis Brown, Patricia DiMatteo, Alan Elkins, Stanley Evans, Joseph Hakanson, Peter Johnston, Richard Marshall, Richard Morin, Harrison Richardson, Ellen Wasserman.
Absent: Severin Beliveau, Richard Redmond. Two vacancies.
Staff: Chancellor McCarthy, William Sullivan, Harlan Philippi, Mary Ann Haas, Samuel D'Amico, Constance Carlson, Judith Sturnick, Paul Silverman, Robert Woodbury, Hilton Power, Frederic Reynolds, Richard Spath. Press and public.

Chairman Monaghan convened the meeting. On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the meetings of April 25, 1983 were approved as circulated. The Chairman noted the absence of Trustee Elizabeth Russell who, having celebrated her 70th birthday, is subject to the mandatory retirement provision in the University's Charter.

1. Chairman's Remarks. Referring to a number of recent national studies which have focused on purported inadequacies in secondary education, Mr. Monaghan asked the Presidents to comment on the advisability of the University raising its admissions standards as a means to motivate students, and the effect, if any, this would have on the University. President Silverman indicated that UMO would probably remain competitive since its students tend to be substantially above the national average, but he said any upgrading of admissions requirements should be undertaken only in concert with the high schools. He reported that high school principals are encouraging the University to raise admissions standards because they believe this would strengthen their efforts to motivate students and develop the high school curriculum. President Woodbury reported that USM has begun to form associations of teachers, by discipline, who will be working together on these problems. He pointed out that the issue is actually one of exit standards, rather than admissions standards, and recommended that the University specify what its expectations are, both for prospective students and for its graduates. If students knew, for instance, that they would be required to meet a certain proficiency level in foreign languages, they would probably begin to prepare in high school. President Woodbury said the non-traditional students must also be considered. Rather than raise standards and accept only 10% of the applicants, he said the University should endeavor to work with students, whatever their level, to enable them to achieve the proficiency required to complete their courses of study. President Sturnick concurred with the need to make the University's expectations clear, and to work with the high schools on any changes in standards. Since it would be necessary to provide advance notice of higher standards, she said it would be three or four years before these could be imposed, even if the University were to move in that direction immediately. President Carlson pointed out that appropriate faculty may not be available in the high schools to deliver the programs needed to

meet the higher standards, and these shortages may not be easy to solve. She noted that at Presque Isle, non-traditional students over 25 years of age constitute almost 40% of the enrollment. She expressed concern that analytical testing of ability be available for these students as an alternative to requirements for traditional prerequisites. Chancellor McCarthy indicated that standards and excellence are one aspect of the issue. The other aspect is the need to maintain access, which is an important part of the University's pluralistic mission. He said the national mood of dissatisfaction with both secondary and higher education is well founded. The expansion which was undertaken to provide better access has diluted requirements in some areas and the educational system needs to be redesigned. He pointed out that some programs have always maintained very rigorous admissions standards. The task is to carefully tailor the requirements to meet the diverse needs, and to do so in concert with the secondary school systems. Mr. Monaghan asked what initiatives the University should take to resolve the problems. The Chancellor pointed out that the problems are state-wide and involve institutions other than the University. There is a proposal before the Legislature to establish a Commission to evaluate the situation in the State. He suggested that the University should participate in the evaluation if the Commission is established, and also work with other entities in the educational system. In the meantime, he said the University should review its own practices internally. Mr. Monaghan said he thought the University had a responsibility to take some initiative in this area and he suggested that the Administrative Council prepare recommendations for the directions the University should take. After further discussion, it was agreed that the Chancellor and the Presidents would consider whether the findings of the several national secondary education studies are pertinent to the State of Maine and, if so, what the University can do to assist the high schools of the state to solve the problems. The report of the Chancellor and the Presidents will be presented at the September meeting.

2. Chancellor's Remarks. Chancellor McCarthy reported that he has reconstituted the Faculty Liaison Council, which was discontinued with the advent of collective bargaining, and it will serve as a forum for communication and interaction with the University faculty. The Council has fourteen members which include the faculty representatives to the standing committees of the Board, and the presidents of the faculty governance organization from each Campus. He said the first meeting, which was held recently, was very successful. The Council discussed the quality of education and ways to improve the academic component of the institution. The Council will meet at least once per quarter and the next meeting, which will be held in September, will focus on libraries. The same structure will be used to establish a similar forum for students, with membership incorporating the student representatives and other students drawn from the University of Maine Organization of Student Governments.

The Chancellor reported that he and a number of Trustees had attended a dinner meeting with the Education Committee of the Legislature for informal discussion of University issues. He said it would be beneficial to have more meetings of the Trustees and the Education Committee in both formal and informal settings.

The Chancellor has provided the Governor with a detailed list of actions the University has taken over recent years to reallocate funds or to forego programs and activities in order to balance its budget. He said he thought the University has done more than any public agency in the State to live within its budget. The policy has been to forego all new programs except those which could be implemented through reallocations from existing funds. He indicated that this policy would insure survival but would not permit the development of an excellent educational institution, and the University is deteriorating from within. Chancellor McCarthy said it is time for a broad-based plea for more money for improvement of the educational program, graduate and undergraduate, and the University must begin to make its unmet needs known on a state-wide basis.

3. Revision to Tuition Residency Policy. Mr. Hakanson, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the recommendation. The policy statement had been revised to assure full conformity with a recent court decision which upheld the University's policy in all respects except one minor aspect which was found to go beyond constitutional limits. The exception is explained in detail in a memorandum from University Counsel dated April 22, 1983, a copy of which is appended to the file of these minutes. On motion of Mr. Hakanson, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: that the "Rules Governing In-State and Out-of-State Tuition" be effective immediately.

The full text of the policy is appended to the file of these minutes.

4. Gifts, Grants and Awards. On motion of Mr. Hakanson, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to accept with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under date of May 23, 1983.

5. Appointment of External Auditors. On motion of Mr. Hakanson, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to reappoint Arthur Andersen & Company to examine the University's FY83 financial statements in accordance with the letter of understanding dated April 21, 1983, from Arthur Andersen & Company to Mr. William Sullivan, Vice Chancellor for Administration. A copy of the letter is appended to the file of these minutes.

6. Changes in Administrative Structure, UMO. Mr. Hakanson presented the recommendation for changes in the administrative structure, which have emerged from the self-review process on the Orono Campus. On motion of Mr. Hakanson, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve President Silverman's proposal

1. that the position of Academic Vice President be expanded and designated as Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs;
2. that the Offices of Associate to the President and Executive Director of Planning and Public Affairs be combined in the Office of Vice President for Planning and Public Affairs and the position title be so designated;
3. that the Offices of Vice President for Research and Public Service and Dean of the Graduate School be combined in the Office of Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and the position title be so designated.

7. Report of the Nominating Committee. In March a Nominating Committee was appointed in accordance with the By-laws of the Board, to present a slate of officers at the annual meeting. The members of the Committee were Stanley Evans, Chairman; Richard Marshall and Ellen Wasserman. On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Evans nominated Thomas Monaghan as Chairman and Francis Brown as Vice Chairman. The Chair called for further nominations from the floor. On motion made and seconded, nominations were closed. On motion made and seconded, the slate was unanimously approved.

8. Reports of the Presidents.

- University of Maine at Presque Isle. President Constance Carlson reported.

- . The latest in the ongoing series of business breakfasts was held in the final week of the Spring semester. The breakfast meetings have achieved considerable standing in the region. The speaker for the most recent breakfast was Howard Cousins, Vice President of Marketing, Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. Speakers for the other breakfasts held this year were Judge Conrad Cyr, who is a native of Limestone, and Dr. Wayne Ayers, Vice President of the First National Bank of Boston.
- . There was a capacity audience at the Spring Commencement to hear journalist Robert MacNeil who gave the Commencement address.
- . Title III funds have enabled the Campus to develop improved statistical analyses of graduates. Figures available for 1982 indicate that almost 20% of the graduates are continuing their education.

- University of Maine at Farmington. President Judith Sturnick reported.

- . The President will convene a two-day symposium for faculty and

professional staff. Under the general topic of Academic Excellence, discussions will focus on the philosophy of basic education, developmental education, the role of the curriculum and the computer in the curriculum, among other topics.

- . Two UMF faculty have received NEA stipends for off-campus study this summer.
- University of Maine at Orono. President Paul Silverman reported.
 - . Ground-breaking ceremonies for the Performing Arts Center will be held on June 3d.
 - . Congratulations were extended to USM for the achievements of its championship softball team.
 - . The UMO Black Bears baseball team will defend their regional title at Orono this coming weekend.
- University of Southern Maine. President Robert Woodbury reported.
 - . The USM baseball team lost to UMO again this year. However, in a day long moot court competition between UMO and USM political science students, USM emerged triumphant in virtually every category.
 - . A new program in teacher education will begin in June. The program was designed to attract able arts and sciences graduates, now in mid-career, who would be interested in becoming high school teachers. The response has been overwhelming. Sixty applications were received from talented people between the ages of 30 and 50, with a wide range of backgrounds and experience. Thirty-seven candidates were interviewed and 17 have been enrolled for the program which begins in June and which will culminate in certification as high school teachers in January.
- University of Maine at Augusta. President Hilton Power reported.
 - . For two months this summer, UMA will be cooperating with the Maine Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the City of Augusta in an archeological dig on the site of Fort Western. Fort Western was established on the Kennebec River about 1754 and the first 20-30 years of its existence is not well documented. The City soon will be making some major changes in the layout of the area and this will be the last opportunity to mount a project of this nature.
- University of Maine at Machias. President Frederic Reynolds reported.
 - . The former UMO Forestry Camp at Princeton is gradually being restored to use. When Orono gave up the Forestry Camp several years ago, the

facility was assigned to UMM. The original lodge burned down and was eventually rebuilt by the central office of Physical Facilities. UMM has been exploring ways to use the facility for its environmental program, within the constraints of its budget. The Campus has just completed a week-long program for elementary school children, their principals and their parents, for study of the area's flora and fauna. Environmental studies majors and recreation management majors from UMM provided the instruction for the program with assistance from personnel from St. Regis Paper Co. and Georgia-Pacific. The program was very well received and offered the children an experience that could not be duplicated through classroom activities. The Campus expects to develop additional programs of this nature, and arrangements for use of the facility are being worked out with community and institutional groups in the region.

- University of Maine at Fort Kent. President Richard Spath reported.

- . Campus students will benefit from the Thomas S. Pinkham Scholarship Fund established at Fort Kent through the gift of \$7,500 donated by the Great Northern Paper Company as a challenge grant, in tribute to Mr. Pinkham who has been an important presence in the area, and a valuable friend of the Campus.

9. Capital Construction Status Report. Mrs. DiMatteo, Chair of the Physical Plant Committee, called attention to the report, which was circulated for information with materials for the meeting. No action was required.

10. Appointment of Professor of Civil Engineering, UMO. Dr. Evans, Chairman of the Personnel and Employee Relations Committee moved adoption of the recommendation. The motion was seconded and it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Dr. Stanislaus J. Britvec, as Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Maine at Orono, effective September 1, 1983, at an academic year salary of \$42,000. The appointment would be for an initial two-year term. He will be granted three years of credit toward the probationary period for tenure consideration.

11. Appointment of Assistant Dean and Associate Professor of Nursing, UMO. On motion of Dr. Evans, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the appointment of Ms. Marjorie C. Keller, as Assistant Dean and Associate Professor of Nursing, University of Maine School of Nursing, effective September 1, 1983, at a salary of \$28,000 with an administrative stipend of \$3,000. The appointment would be for two years.

12. Appointment of Dean, College of Forest Resources and Professor of Forest Resources, UMO. On motion of Dr. Evans, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the appointment of Dr. Gregory N. Brown, as Dean of the College of Forest Resources and Professor of Forest Resources, University of Maine at Orono, effective July 1, 1983, at a salary of \$45,000 plus a \$5,000 administrative stipend. The fiscal year appointment would be for a five-year term with the understanding that upon completion or termination of his administrative appointment he would have a three-year probationary period for tenure consideration.

13. Collective Bargaining Status Report. Mr. D'Amico reported that the University has commenced negotiations with four of the five bargaining units. Negotiations are progressing slowly at this stage but the tenor at the bargaining table is very good.

14. Pending Legislation. Mr. D'Amico reported on the major legislation that remains to be resolved in this session.

- LD 29 to create a student seat on the Board - failed enactment in the House and has been tabled in the Senate.
- LD 970 to provide citizen input at meetings of the Board - has been withdrawn.
- LD 1091 to insure state enforcement of equal opportunity in state-supported educational programs - still in Committee. A number of amendments have been offered by its sponsors.
- LD 1204 to incorporate last/best offer provisions in labor relations laws affecting municipalities and the University of Maine - still in Committee. Ought-to-pass report is expected. The University has testified in opposition to the bill.
- LD 1566 A new draft of the act to review and evaluate the University of Maine system - reported out of committee as Ought-to-Pass. The new draft makes some changes which provide for rewriting the Private and Special Laws and Title 20 statutes which apply to the University - has been tabled by the Appropriations Committee.

Chancellor McCarthy noted that this bill has been changed significantly by the amendments and suggested that the Trustees might want to determine whether further communication of their position to the Legislature would be desirable. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Brown recommended that the Board communicate its opposition to the provision for

rewriting the statutes which pertain to the University. Mr. Brown pointed out that codification efforts often result in startling and substantial changes in the law and he was concerned for the possibility that such codification could have far reaching consequences for the institution. After discussion and on motion of Mr. Richardson which was seconded, the Board voted to take a position in opposition to LD 1566.

15. Other Business.

Dr. Evans briefed the Trustees on problems at National Public Radio (NPR) which may have some implications for public broadcasting. Dr. Evans, who chairs the Finance Committee of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) reported that NPR is being audited in the wake of a substantial deficit and management problems. He noted that NPR is separate and distinct from PBS but there is some concern at the national level that NPR's problems may impact negatively on funding proposals for PBS, which are currently pending before Congress. Dr. Evan's report was for information only, and intended to keep the Board advised of problems which may receive attention in the public press.

Chairman Monaghan reminded the audience that the Board provides time for citizen input at its meetings, and invited anyone who wished to do so to comment on any topic of their choice.

The Chairman announced that in the coming year, the Board would hold meetings on five of the University Campuses, and that one of the meetings at BCC would be designated a campus visit, specifically for the Bangor Community College. The Trustees suggested that the meeting schedule be kept flexible enough to permit Campus visits to coincide with special events on occasion.

Mr. Richardson reminded the Presidents that one of the missions of each Campus is to engender public support for the University, and he urged the Presidents to engage their legislators in that process.

Mr. Morin suggested that Robert Binswanger, who has resigned as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, receive a letter of appreciation for his contributions to the institution. Mr. Monaghan said he would write the letter on behalf of the Board.

On behalf of Vice Chairman Brown and himself, Mr. Monaghan thanked the Trustees for their support and confidence in re-electing him and Mr. Brown for another term. Mr. Monaghan also expressed his appreciation to Mr. Richardson and Mr. Brown for their many hours they have devoted to the University through their work on the Legislative Affairs Committee.

On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk