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## Board of Trustees and Administrative Council March 25, 1985

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
Board of Trustees

University of Maine at Orono  
March 25, 1985

Joint Session Administrative Council  
and  
Board of Trustees

PRESENT: Chairman Joseph Hakanson, James Bowers, Francis Brown, Robert Dunfey, Geneva Kirk, Richard Marshall, Richard Morin, Harrison Richardson, Barbara Sanford. Chancellor McCarthy, Robert Woodbury, Frederic Reynolds, Arthur Johnson, Byron Skinner, Judith Sturnick, Richard Spath, Constance Carlson, Harlan Philippi, William Sullivan, Mary Ann Haas, Samuel D'Amico.

The Trustees joined the Administrative Council for the Council's breakfast work session at which the Chancellor presided. Discussion items are summarized below.

-Visiting Committee. The Chancellor reported that the Committee appointed by the Governor to study the University, had met with the Chancellor's Office staff to review the central administrative operations. He briefly outlined the nature of the staff's presentations which included an overview of the several functions, demographic projections, and a detailed report on the five-year planning process which is underway.

-Status of Five-Year Plan. The next step in the process will be to establish a series of study groups which will present the specific aspects of the Plan for public review and comment, in order to develop recommendations for implementation.

-School of Applied Science, USM. President Woodbury reported that the proposal for a School of Applied Science is actually a reorganization which would bring together several programs now being administered separately. These include Computer Science, Industrial Education and Technology, and engineering activities which at present are limited to the master's in electrical engineering brokered from Orono, although USM has a BSEE in the planning stage. The President said he has taken the position that a duplicate School of Engineering should not be established in Southern Maine, despite strong pressure in the area for such a move. He said the School of Applied Science is potentially a staging ground for developments and expansion in related fields and while there may be some duplication of

programs, other offerings will provide a fresh approach appropriate to area needs. There was discussion of some public perceptions that this proposal is simply the first step in the establishment of a School of Engineering at USM. Mr. Brown said he thought the program approval process is not clearly understood outside the institution and that it will be important to note that acceptance of this proposal does not convey blanket approval for other programs. President Johnson said that decisions will have to be made about assignment of undergraduate programs, and about how the University will fund its commitments. Chancellor McCarthy pointed out that the most difficult tasks in the planning process will be to decide what the University will not attempt to do, and to determine where its programs will be located.

-Admissions/Readmissions. Vice Chancellor Harlan Philippi noted that the policy proposal had been through the approval process several times. He reported that since the December Board meeting when it was referred back to the staff for further discussion, the Chief Academic Officers (CAO) had met with the students who objected to the proposal, and had reaffirmed their approval of the policy statement. The basic issue is that the CAO believe a system-wide policy is needed, and the students prefer to have local options. Mr. Brown reported that the policy had been discussed by the Educational Policy Committee at its meeting on the previous day where it was endorsed by the Trustee members of the Committee. Student Representative Michael Saltz had presented an alternative statement which was also discussed but failed to generate other support. President Carlson said she thought the policy was desirable, too, in the sense that it would set a standard for the system, which would be important to the public's perception of the institution.

-Budget Request. The Chancellor noted that while the Governor is recommending full funding of the University's Part I budget request, he has not made any recommendation on the items requested in Part II. The Chancellor indicated he would be exploring the possibility of having separate legislation introduced to insure that the Part II request, which nominally include new and expanded programs but which, he said, actually constitute a reinforcement of existing programs, would be given a hearing in the Legislature. No objections were raised to this approach.

-Lewiston Project. Taking note of the probability that there will be another referendum in Lewiston to determine whether the City will provide start-up funding for the Lewiston project, Chancellor McCarthy said that assumptions need to be clarified again to insure that the terms and conditions for implementing the project are understood by all participants. He said his earlier understanding was that the Legislature had made a commitment to an annual appropriation of \$2 million for the Lewiston program, and it

will be essential to affirm that the Appropriation will in fact be made available on an annual basis. Mr. Richardson said he, too, understood that the commitment was for \$2 million per year and if that should not be the case, the Trustees should review their action on the project before the City holds another referendum.

-By prior arrangement, a delegation of UMO faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences was introduced to present their request for an exception to University personnel policy which prohibits awarding tenure to academic deans. The delegation included Acting Dean Stephen Norton, and two members of the Search Committee which is recruiting for a new Dean for the College: Chairman Jefferson White and Michael Harris. Members of the delegation spoke to the problems they perceived in negotiating for new leadership for the College, without the incentive of a tenured appointment. They reported that tenure for academic deans is normal practice in other institutions and, if the Board's system-wide policy could not be revised at this time, they requested that an exception be granted to enable UMO's College of Arts and Sciences to recruit for the Deanship on the same basis it may recruit for senior faculty, which permits conferral of academic rank at the time of appointment and submission of a recommendation for tenure status after a one-year probationary period. Mr. Brown reported that there have been instances where problems developed with some individuals who were tenured on appointment, and Trustees are concerned about granting tenure on the strength of evaluation in a recruitment process. He inquired about the delegation's reaction to a recommendation for a rolling contract that the Board will be considering in its meeting later in the day. Professor Lewis responded that prospects for achieving tenure at the end of an administrative appointment puts a Dean in an awkward position. Over the course of the Deanship, the need to make decisions which affect the Department the Dean would be associated with later, may prove to be a liability when the Dean subsequently attempts to achieve tenure in that Department. He said the person selected as Dean of the College should be a peer and it would be a mistake to appoint leadership who is accorded less respect and recognition than other college faculty. After their presentation, the delegation thanked the Trustees and the Council for the opportunity to present their request, and they departed. During the discussion which followed, the Chancellor acknowledged that the delegation had raised valid issues, but he pointed out that any change in policy for the benefit of the College of Arts and Sciences ultimately will have consequences for the system as a whole. The Presidents and the Trustees concurred that exception status for a single college would not provide an appropriate solution. After further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

