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Board of Trustees Finance Committee July 19, 1987

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees

Maine Public Broadcasting Network
Bangor, Maine
July 19, 1987

Finance Committee

PRESENT: Chairman David Flanagan; Robert Dunfey, Robert Foster, Joseph Hakanson, James Storer. Other Trustees: Patricia Collins, Geneva Kirk, Richard Morin, Harrison Richardson and George Wood. Faculty Representatives: Carol Ann Hall, Sharon Zimmer-Boucher, Rodney Cole and Ralph Jans for William Little. Staff: Chancellor Woodbury, William Sullivan, Russell Smith, Richard Bowers, Richard Eustis, Frederic Reynolds, Dale Lick, Barbara Leondar, Patricia Plante and James Roach. Press and public.

Chairman David Flanagan convened the meeting which had been scheduled for consideration of operating budgets and tuition rates for FY88. Chancellor Woodbury's presentation on the budget outlined the steps in the budget process and took note of: major budget categories; total revenue; the base budget for FY1987; and the additional funds available for 1988. A summary of his presentation is appended to the file of these minutes. There was discussion of the increase for 1988, which included \$1 million added to the University's appropriation by the Legislature and earmarked, by the Legislature, in specific amounts to specific Campuses. The line items included funds for Lewiston-Auburn and for each campus except Orono. Mr. Richardson expressed grave reservations about the allocation by the Legislature and suggested that it should be pointed out that such action infringes on the managerial responsibilities vested in the Trustees by the University's charter. He stressed that he was not suggesting a confrontational exchange, noting his awareness of and appreciation for the improved relations with the legislative branch. He did recommend that Board action on the distribution of operating funds be deferred until September to allow time for a meeting to be arranged with the Governor and legislative leadership to discuss this issue. In response to questions it was determined that the figures used by the Legislature in allocating funds to Campuses had been extracted from the University's Part II request, and that Orono was not included on this list since the Campus had received very favorable treatment in the distribution of State funds last year. During further discussion there was consensus that legislative infringement on Trustee responsibilities should be opposed and the matter pursued with legislative leadership. There was also agreement that the improved relations which now obtain between the University and the Legislature have been hard won, are valuable, and should not be undermined. Mr. Flanagan commended Mr. Richardson for raising the issue and asked that the matter be pursued with the appropriate principals and on his motion, which was seconded, the operating budget was referred to the Board with a recommendation for favorable action.

Tuition rates for FY88. The Chair presented the recommendation which listed rates consistent with the two-year plan approved in September, 1986, and provided for a 5% in-state increase and an equal dollar increase for out-of-state students. On motion of Mr. Flanagan, which was seconded, the proposal was forwarded with a favorable recommendation for Board action.

Changes in non-voluntary fees. The proposal was self-explanatory and in full compliance with Board policy and it was forwarded to the Board for action.

Procedures for establishing student fees. In response to a question from Mr. Flanagan, the Chancellor reported that the proposal essentially allows the Presidents more authority to deal with incidental fees. No change was proposed in the fees that traditionally have required Board approval. After discussion, it was determined that the substance of the proposal was acceptable and the staff was asked to render the descriptive summary as a policy statement and it was referred to the Board with a recommendation for approval, and with a request for an annual report to the Board on these fees.

Adjournment.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk