

11-15-1987

## Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee November 15, 1987

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees

University of Maine at Machias  
November 15, 1987

Student Affairs Committee

PRESENT: Geneva Kirk, Chair; Teresa Moore, Stewart Smith, George Wood, Ralph Jans, Walter LeBlanc, and Steven Moore. Staff: Mary Ann Haas.

Chairman Geneva Kirk convened the meeting and introduced the Committee members to the students assembled. Mr. Jack Frost, President of the Machias Student Senate, introduced himself to the Committee and outlined the presentation, which was to be given on Student Life and Student Activities on campus.

Residential Life. Mary Pooler, Senior in Business Education, gave a brief description of dorm life on campus. She said that there is a Dormitory Council which is composed of students who are given guidance by the administration. The Council is there to provide a comfortable atmosphere for the residents. There is a Dormitory Olympics and various other formal and informal events planned by and for dormitory students. Ms. Pooler added that there are four areas in which the students would like to see improvements made: 1) cable t.v. and private phones in each room; 2) networking personal computers in the dorm to the campus mainframe; 3) better means of communication between resident assistants and campus security; and 4) longer switchboard hours at night and on weekends. In answer to questions from the Trustees, Ms. Pooler said that there is a mechanism for the R.A.'s to handle disruptions in the dorms; counselling is provided by the R.A.s and staff psychologist for students who are under stress; and that the dorm students as a whole function well.

Parks and Recreation. Colleen Weaver, Senior in Recreation Management, briefed the committee on "Mr. Pass", an education/recreation organization which sponsors activities such as the haunted forest and Down East Special Olympics. Proceeds from such events have been donated to the Machias area playground. There are 40 to 50 students involved.

Intramural Sports. Bruce Frost, Junior in Recreation Management, briefed the committee on the intramural sports program offered on campus. He said that the activity relieves study stress, promotes social contact and benefits physical fitness. He said that although the club owns its own equipment and membership has been on the rise, equipment and budget costs are also rising. To add to the dilemma, there is only one athletic field on campus and it is being utilized by four other sports groups. Walter LeBlanc, Student Representative, UMPI suggested that an alternative for more recreational space might be an agreement with the local high school. Mr. Frost said that the idea had been tried but that campus and high school schedules conflicted. The answer lies in building a new field and in renovating the old one.

There was a brief discussion of raising the student activity fee in order to give the various student clubs and boards more operating capital.

Non-traditional Students. Annette Goddard, Sophomore in Business Education, briefed the committee on the non-traditional student. She said that as an older student coming to campus she was apprehensive about 1) child care and 2) the age difference between herself and the average student. She discovered that there is a children's center called Dublin Hill which is adjacent to the University. It is funded primarily by the University and staffed with work/study students. The fees are relatively low and a 20% discount is offered to full-time students. Three days prior to starting classes, an orientation session is given for new students. At the orientation, Ms. Goddard said that the people assembled were divided into groups where she met people her own age with similar problems and by the time school started she felt much more at home in her new environment.

Support Programs. Sharon Kilton, Sophomore in Business Administration, spoke about support programs offered on the campus. It is a pilot project being offered this year. The program offers peer advisors to Freshman. The advisors are guided by eight faculty members. It starts during orientation and continues throughout the Freshman year. The peer advisors are student volunteers. The faculty receive a small stipend for entertaining the students in their homes. Ms. Kilton recommended that the program continue because she said that it made a big difference as a Freshman to have a friend on campus.

Student Education Association. Kathy Nealand, Junior in Elementary Education spoke about the Student Education Association which is made up of Elementary and Business Education students. One of the opportunities the association offers is a "Week in the Woods" at Greenland Point where students meet with first year teachers to share experiences.

Student Center. Brian Theriault talked about the student center on campus. He is the manager of the facility, which sponsors dances, has a game room and television, and offers a coffee house atmosphere complete with finger foods. He said that he is managing the operation as part of a co-op program whereby he receives credits towards his major. He said that the center is run by students for students.

Information Management Center. Ronda French, Business Education major, said that the purpose of the Information Management Center was to introduce Business Education and Secretarial Science majors to a realistic office setting. The facility processes documents and publications for the campus community. The students manage, supervise and edit the information that passes through the facility, which gives them hands-on experience. Ms. French said that it was the only facility like it in the State of Maine. The students work nine hours per week and attend two staff meetings per semester for which they receive academic credit.

Greenland Point Center. One of the students assembled spoke about the Greenland Point Center, which is a 64 acre facility boasting an abundance of bird and wild-life species in their natural setting, overnight cabins, and a lodge for students and guests. The area offers boating, swimming and multiple sports as well as trails for hiking. It gives the students an opportunity to live and study in the natural environment.

Newman Club. Wendy Fernald, Freshman, spoke briefly about the Catholic-based club which welcomes students from all denominations to a weekly folk Mass and other social activities such as visiting nursing homes, caroling, an overnight retreat at the Greenland Point Center, participation in the annual Homecoming Parade and more.

Computer Center. Tracy Weber, Junior, Marketing Management, spoke about the installation of a new network integration computer system. It is free of charge to the students. Commuter students have access to portable computers, which are provided in the library. She said that computers are an integral part of student life and the new integration program has enhanced student usage.

Learning Center. Mark Kane, a peer tutor, spoke about the Learning Center. He said that the Center provides one-on-one tutoring; supplemental instruction; preparatory classes which provide group work sessions to cover difficult course work; computerized education; workshops on such topics as test taking, study skills, etc.; learning skills and placement testing.

Jack Frost concluded the presentation with a video showing various campus activities.

Dr. Mary Ann Haas, Associate Vice Chancellor, thanked the campus for the comprehensive presentation which was given on short notice.

Adjournment.

Sandra F. Johnson for  
JoAnne R. Magill, Clerk