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Board of Trustees November 14, 1988

University Of Maine System

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees

University of Maine at Farmington
November 14, 1988

Board of Trustees Meeting

PRESENT: Harrison Richardson, Chair; James Caron, Patricia Collins, Thomas Dukes, David Flanagan, Robert Foster, Joseph Hakanson, Bennett Katz, Geneva Kirk, Richard Marshall, Thomas Monaghan, Stewart Smith, James Storer and George Wood. Absent: Eve Bither, Robert Dunfey. Staff: Chancellor Robert Woodbury, Richard Bowers, William Sullivan, Mary Ann Haas, George Connick, Michael Orenduff, Barbara Leondar, Dale Lick, Frederic Reynolds, James Roach, Patricia Plante, Samuel D'Amico, Richard Hayden, Richard Eustis, Russell Smith. Press and Public.

Harrison L. Richardson, Chair, convened the meeting.

1. Citizen Input. Three people had signed up to address the Board during this period which is regularly reserved to receive comments from the public on University issues. Mr. John Caramihalis, Maine Amateur Wrestling Alliance, Inc., Mrs. Eleanor Carrier, representing parents in booster organizations, and Mr. Wally LaFountain, wrestling coach, spoke in opposition to a decision to discontinue wrestling as a varsity sport and offer it as a club sport instead. In particular they were upset that the program had been dropped without what they thought was adequate notice. They requested that wrestling be reinstated as a varsity sport, with a corresponding commitment to scholarships and aid to support the program. Following their presentation, Mr. Monaghan asked what response the University should make and with the concurrence of the other members of the Board, the Chair referred the matter to the sub-committee on Intercollegiate Athletics.
2. Approval of Minutes. On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the meetings held on September 25 and 26, 1988, were approved as circulated.
3. Chairman's Remarks.
 - . At the request of the Chair, and on motion made and seconded, the Trustees ratified appointment of three students to the collective bargaining process, in accordance with Maine statutes:

Cheryl Tobias, UMA
John Day, UMF
Brian Lajoie, USM
 - . Mr. Richardson expressed appreciation for the support for the University's bond issue which was authorized by the voters in the November elections. Having achieved that short-term goal, he said it would be important over the long term to maintain and improve ongoing relations with the Legislature. He also took note of the intention of the Board to focus on community values, and especially on student Life, which will be significant items on the Board's agenda in the coming months. Mr. Katz commended Mr. Richardson and Chancellor Woodbury for outstanding efforts on behalf of the bond issue campaign.

- . Honorary Degrees. On motion of Mr. Flanagan, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the 1989 nominations, as presented.

4. Chancellor's Remarks.

- . Concerning a recent incident which occurred at the Orono Campus where an employee was discharged after financial irregularities were discovered, the Chancellor identified follow-up measures which have been taken:

- reviewed with all financial managers procedures for control of all funds, especially petty cash. These funds are audited regularly both by internal and external auditors;
- wide redistribution of administrative instructions, and training where necessary, reviewing procedures at all levels for handling money;
- Task Force of individuals from the System Office and the external auditors will visit every Campus to discuss how to heighten awareness and to review precautions;

Any information about existing problems or areas that need attention will be welcomed;

Unannounced audits will continue and cooperation will be appreciated.

The Chancellor noted that the University has an excellent reputation for handling financial procedures and the staff will do everything possible to insure that the institution's finances are handled properly.

- . Chancellor Woodbury took note of a special report that was circulated to Trustees of the program sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. to showcase the University System and the University of Virginia. The Chancellor and all of the Presidents were in attendance along with Governor John McKernan, who gave a speech, and State Representative John Martin, Speaker of the House. The Chancellor expressed appreciation for the national publicity and for the honors bestowed by AASCU. The program will be repeated soon in Baltimore for representatives from all fifty states in the Union.
- . The third undergraduate education conference was held recently. The conference was a two-day session that brought together 150 staff, faculty and some students, representing every Campus in the System for discussion of issues in undergraduate education. The unifying theme for this session was assessment, particularly assessment of quality. Trustees Wood and Dukes were among the attendees.
- . The report on enrollment for Fall 1988 was included in the Board materials. The Chancellor pointed out that both headcount and full-time equivalents are the highest in the history of the University System.

He indicated that this is the second of a projected two-year upswing in the number of 18-year-olds in Maine, a group which is expected to decline markedly through 1994. He noted that the number of out-of-state students had increased significantly for the second year and that the number of international students in the System had tripled in three years although the University still ranks very low in this regard, nationally. Mr. Katz called attention to the extraordinary percentage of women in the student body and President Leonard reported that that trend is reflected in schools and colleges nationwide at every level except the PhD, where numbers of women enrolled are rising, and in the professional schools where the level of women's enrollments is mixed.

5. Report - What Constitutes Quality in the System: A Conversation with the Chancellor and Presidents. Given the increasing interest in, concern for, and emphasis on quality, from the public, within the Board, and through the demands educators place on themselves, Chancellor Woodbury indicated that the issue was on the agenda for discussion with himself and the Presidents, as a preliminary to consideration of other academic issues on the Board's agenda in the months ahead. Some of the observations from the interchange are summarized below.

- . Chancellor Woodbury identified some of the questions he had about quality, which he described as a very complex issue with no easy answers. Among his questions: What is quality teaching and learning? Is the University doing better? How can the Board know that quality is being attended to? What are the impediments to quality?
- . President Orenduff. What is quality? One approach is inputs, i.e., numbers of faculty, books, etc. Another way to think about quality is to consider outcomes; that is, what happens to the people who have been on the campus for four years? A few Farmington programs are currently developing methods for testing outcomes which if these are successful, will serve as indicators for the future. Further, licensing programs give some measure of quality.
- . Mr. Flanagan. Everyone will have different ideas about quality. The administration must come forward with specific proposals for Trustee consideration, so the Board can determine how the University is going to test the product it offers its consumers.
- . Dr. Wood attended the conference on undergraduate education where assessment of quality was discussed at some length. He concurred that it is a very complex issue and one that each would measure in a different way. He expressed his conviction that if assessment is to affect the teaching/learning process, the thrust must be generated at the faculty level to be effective.
- . President Lick. It is not an easy task to assess quality. One approach is to collect as many variables as possible and make the judgement on the basis of outcome, to the extent possible. Some other partial but positive measures for the University of Maine:

- national standards, such as accreditation.
 - comparative studies
 - quality of the faculty
 - reputation of graduate and research programs
 - attainment of national centers
 - participation in national programs
- . President Roach cited Derek Bok's contention that people expect more of a University than knowledge and skills, that one must teach students to live ethical, reflective, fulfilling lives. Dr. Roach suggested that standards and aspirations all lean in the right direction but it is necessary to go beyond the tests and measures to the purpose of an institution, that is teaching students to lead ethical, fulfilling lives, an outcome admittedly difficult to measure.
- . President Plante. Traditional standards should not be dismissed. The kind of faculty, how well the faculty is trained, what the faculty contribute to their disciplines; what kind of library, how many books, opportunities for students to become not just tolerant but respectful of other cultures from a chance to experience these on campus - these standards and values still count.
- . Dr. James Storer. It is good that the Trustees are talking about this issue and it will be important to hold a broad range of thoughts about quality. If the Trustees take the initiative to establish some quantitative measures, the Board can avoid having these imposed on the University by others.

Chancellor Woodbury said the kind of questions raised in this preliminary discussion could be revisited at the January meeting when the Board will receive its annual report on academic affairs.

Finance. Mr. David Flanagan, Chair of the Finance Committee presented the financial items.

6. Financial Report, FY 1988. Mr. Flanagan reported that the financial statements were reviewed in a joint meeting of the Finance and Audit Committees on October 28, 1988, and he called attention to the notice of acceptable practice from the external auditors, Coopers and Lybrand, dated September 8, 1988. Accordingly, on motion of Mr. Flanagan, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to accept the University of Maine System financial statements for FY 1988.

7. Gifts, Grants and Awards. Mr. Flanagan called attention to the grants from individuals and corporations which he said constituted part of the growing strength of the University System. In addition he said he wanted to recognize contributions which did not appear on the Systems' ledgers, that is those which reflected the generosity of hundreds of Maine citizens and corporations who contributed the funds that were necessary to operate the campaign for the bond issue. He mentioned some of the major corporate contributions and announced that he would send a complete list of all donors to every Trustee. He commended the leadership of the campaign: Mr. Weston Bonney, President, Peoples Heritage Bank; Mr. Malcolm Jones, President, Bangor Savings Bank; Ms. Jean Deighan, Vice President, Winslow Asset Management; Ms. JoAnne D'Arcangelo, D'Arcangelo Unlimited, who served as campaign manager; Chancellor Robert Woodbury and the Trustee Steering Committee: Harrison Richardson, Patricia Collins, Joseph Hakanson, Bennett Katz and Robert Dunfey; and he took note of countless others who contributed their time, energy and expertise. He acknowledged that the final tally of votes cast, with the disappointing totals for Penobscot and Washington Counties indicated that the University still has work to do and that building a constituency the Legislature can see and respond to will continue to be high on the agenda. Nevertheless he said the System could go to the Legislature in January, confident that it has the support of the people. He introduced Ms. D'Arcangelo who was present, and thanked her for her extraordinary efforts, on behalf of the Board. Returning to the agenda, he moved acceptance of the gifts and the motion was seconded, and it was

VOTED: to accept with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under the date of November 14, 1988.

Educational Policy. Dr. Stewart Smith presented the recommendations.

8. Update on Engineering/Technology Education Panel Report. Dr. Smith, Chair of the Educational Policy Committee, reported that one issue from the Panel Report remained outstanding, i.e., the choice of one advisory body to review the evaluation of USM's BSEE program. Some members preferred that the Panel itself review the evaluation; other members thought that the review was not a proper role for the Panel. Dr. Smith indicated that after consideration, the Educational Policy Committee suggested that the Board establish an advisory Committee on engineering/technology education, in general, and not specifically to review the evaluation of the BSEE. The Advisory Committee would have as its nucleus the existing Panel membership, with the addition of a member from the Vocational Technical Institutes and a member from the Maine Maritime Academy. The Advisory Committee should be directed to provide general advice on System issues and strategies concerning engineering and technology education in the State. It was expected that the Committee's role would include a review of the evaluation of the BSEE, with the understanding that the evaluation itself would be undertaken in the conventional evaluation format. The Educational Policy Committee further suggested that the Chancellor be directed to develop the language of a charge to the Advisory Committee and report back at the next meeting. With the concurrence of the other Trustees, Mr. Richardson announced that the Chancellor was so charged.

9. Transferability of Credit. Dr. Smith reported that the Educational Policy Committee had received an update on the experience with transfer of credit between the Campuses in the System. He said the Committee recognized that there were policies in place that had been helpful in addressing the problems but some deficiencies remain in that there are still some unnecessary barriers to transfer that could be eliminated, and there is no effective mechanism for communicating to students at the proper time the information they need to facilitate transfer. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Chancellor was asked to address these issues and report back at the January meeting. Dr. Smith noted that the possibility of designating an individual on each Campus who would serve as advocate for transfer students should also be pursued.

Personnel. Mrs. Patricia Collins, Chair of the Personnel and Employee Relations Committee, presented the recommendations.

10. Appointment, Director of Center for Engineering Studies, UM. On motion of Mrs. Collins, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the appointment of Dr. John H. Wuorinen as Director of the Center for Engineering Studies and Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Maine, effective December 1, 1988, with an academic-year salary of \$55,000.

11. Faculty/Administrator Salary Adjustments. On motion of Mrs. Collins, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the list of salary adjustments as presented.

12. Appointment to Positions between \$40,000 and \$50,000. Mrs. Collins called attention to this information item which is included routinely with materials for the meeting.

Physical Plant. Mr. Richard Marshall, Chair of the Physical Plant Committee, presented the recommendations.

13. Authorization for Bond Issue Facilities. On motion of Mr. Marshall, which was seconded, the Trustees formally

VOTED: to authorize construction of the capital projects approved in the November referendum, totalling \$36,800,000. The list of individual projects is appended to the file of these minutes.

14. Design of Food Service, Portland Hall, USM. On motion of Mr. Marshall, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the design work for a food service operation in Portland Hall and further to authorize the transfer of \$50,000 from the USM Residence and Dining Reserve to an appropriate plant fund account to cover the costs of design services.

15. Naming of Physical Facility, UM. On motion of Mr. Marshall, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the naming of the conference room assigned to the Department of History in Stevens Hall at the University of Maine, the "Alice R. Stewart Conference Room."

Report of Committees.

16. Student Affairs. Miss Geneva Kirk, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, had left the meeting early and, on behalf of the Committee, Mr. Richardson reported that a summary highlighting the presentation to the Committee on the previous day by students and student affairs personnel, would be forwarded to Trustees by mail.
17. Audit Committee. Mr. Joseph Hakanson, Chair, reported that the Committee had met with the Director of Internal Audit, Lawrence Stanchfield, and were satisfied with his present methods of operation, and the Committee will plan to meet with the Director on a quarterly basis.
18. Ad hoc Committee on Retiree Benefits. In the absence of Miss Geneva Kirk, Chair, Mr. Richardson reported that the Committee will receive a report in January on a survey of System retirees to determine their satisfaction with their retirement plan.
19. Ad hoc Committee on Development. Mrs. Collins, Chair, noted that some of the projects in the recently approved bond issue depended on a mix of public and private funds. Therefore, organization of the development effort must go forward without delay. Further details of the planning for a fundraising campaign will be discussed at the December meeting.
20. Ad hoc Committee on Centers and Institutes. Mr. Robert Foster, Chair, reported that the Committee had held its first meeting and had discussed the need 1) to develop definitions; 2) to decide at what point Board approval should be required; 3) to develop appropriate criteria for approval and 4) to consider recommendations for Board policy revisions.
21. Voting Degrees. On motion of Mr. Flanagan, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the awarding of degrees in course for the Fall Commencement 1988 and the Spring and Summer Commencements 1989 to those students fully recommended by the appropriate faculties and the Presidents of the respective institutions and/or divisions of the University of Maine System.

Mr. Richardson announced that the next session of the Board would be interim committee meetings which would be held in Bangor on December 11-12, 1988.

Mr. Richardson thanked President Michael Orenduff and the Farmington Campus for their hospitality. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk