Board of Trustees Meeting


Trustee James Mullen, Chair, convened the meeting.

1. Citizen Comment. Citizen Comment is a time regularly set aside to hear from the public on issues of concern. No one had signed up to speak at the meeting.

2. Acceptance of Minutes. The minutes for November 14 and 15, 1999, and December 13, 1999, were APPROVED as presented.

3. Chair’s Remarks and Agenda. Trustee Mullen thanked the Chancellor’s Office staff and the campus personnel who were so actively involved in the Y2K preparedness program. He also reminded those attending the meeting that the items listed under the Consent Agenda had been thoroughly researched and discussed in the respective Committees prior to being presented to the full Board for action.

Trustee Mullen reported that the newly formed Technology Committee, chaired by Trustee Meg Weston, has begun deliberations on the implications of technology and telecommunications for the future of the institution. He said it was a timely, but complex, undertaking which will have far reaching ramifications.

Trustee Mullen also reported on two presentations: one to the Committee of the Whole by Dr. Russ Quaglia on access and aspirations; and the second to the Student Affairs Committee by a panel of UMS financial aid officers on how students pay for higher education. He reported that the Academic Affairs Committee reviewed six new programs recommended to meet the ever changing needs and demands of both students and the market place. At a breakfast meeting of the Trustee Executive Committee and the Faculty and Student Representatives, discussion focused on the subject of transfer.

During the Physical Plant Committee, a 5-Year Capital Plan was discussed to deal with not only future infrastructure needs, but also with the deferred maintenance issues which have been an area of concern for some time. Trustee Mullen said that there was also discussion of a $50 million revenue bond issue to provide funding for research facilities, as well as for additional housing, renovations, and deferred maintenance.

Trustee Mullen reminded the audience that work goes on beyond the two days the Trustees spend at Board meetings. He said that since the last meeting, representatives of the Board of Trustees of the Technical College System and the UMS Board met to initiate a dialogue of cooperation, which contrasts, he said, with the perception of competition between the two systems. Work goes on daily in Augusta with the Governor and legislative representatives to secure funding for important UMS initiatives.

In conclusion, Trustee Mullen said that the Board and the administration works from a forward-looking plan that serves as a template for focusing on primary objectives over the next few years. Objectives
include items such as access, the importance of research and development, the economy, the community college initiative, life, work and citizenship in the 21st century, technology, telecommunications, the entrepreneurial university, and the running of an efficient System. Lastly, the Trustees have been involved in a communications campaign to ensure that the people of the State understand what a tremendous asset they have in the University System. He said the Board recognizes that there are many challenges facing the institution and it will continue to do its best to meet the Systems needs. He thanked everyone for their work and their support.


Chancellor MacTaggart thanked UM President Hoff for his hospitality and that of his staff in hosting the Board meeting. He went on to mention that one of the Trustees had remarked that the meetings were becoming particularly rich in discussion. He said it is the fulfillment of Trustee Wick Skinner who proposed the idea of restructuring the Board’s agenda over a year ago allowing time for more in-depth discussions. Chancellor MacTaggart conveyed his thanks to Judy Ryan and the panel involved in the presentation on student costs and financial aid. He said he would personally thank Dave Wilson and the consultant from KPMG, Roger Hardy, for moving the System forward on the 5-Year Capital Plan. He also mentioned Russ Quaglia’s presentation on aspirations and the factors that connect students to the institution, whether through K-12 or higher education.

Presentation by UM Campus. President Hoff, along with Provost Donald Zillman, Vice President for Student Affairs Richard Chapman, and UM student Tracy Reza led a discussion on how the campus is trying to transform the student experience. President Hoff said that it is a work in progress and will likely remain so.

Provost Zillman reported on what the campus hopes will be a tradition of inviting a speaker to address the newly arrived freshman class. The speaker this year was Gary Thorn who is a graduate of the University of Maine and the University of Maine School of Law. Mr. Thom has been a contributor to the university and to the State and is considered the epitome of an alumnus. Provost Zillman said Mr. Thom’s speech captivated the student body by his memories of his time at Orono and the people and events that touched him as an undergraduate and graduate student. The Provost and Vice President Chapman asked Tracy Reza to recapture her experience as an undergraduate and graduate student at the University of Maine 25 years later. Ms. Reza pointed to a particular professor who encouraged her, a stint with the University Singers where she made many friends, and a visit to the American University in Bulgaria as being pivotal in her academic career.

Provost Zillman and Vice President Chapman provided some insights into how the Campus administration is attempting to improve new student orientation and provide greater opportunities in the classroom and in the campus community. Provost Zillman said it is the hope that the campus will provide “sparks”, such as those mentioned by Mr. Thorn and Ms. Reza, that will allow students a fuller academic experience and act as an impetus to a richer life in general.

5. Committee Matters/action

Academic Affairs. Trustee Wick Skinner, Chair, reported on the presentation by Dr. Russ Quaglia, the work of the Committee on Life, Work, and Citizenship, and how the aforementioned bears on teaching and faculty development.

Student Affairs. Trustee Donald McDowell, Chair, reported on a presentation to the Student Affairs Committee on how students pay for higher education, which was facilitated by USM Vice President Judith Ryan.

Physical Plant. Trustee Greg Cyr, Chair, reported that Roger Hardy, a consultant from KPMG, briefed the Physical Plant Committee on the process for a proposed 5-Year Capital Plan.

6. Consent Agenda. On motion of Trustee Donald McDowell, which was seconded by Trustee DiMatteo,
the Board adopted the following resolutions, as presented:

**B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies, UMA.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Maine at Augusta.

**B.A., Business Economics, UMF.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Business Economics at the University of Maine at Farmington.

**B.A., Art Education, UMPI.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Art Education at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

**B.A., Linguistics, USM.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics at the University of Southern Maine.

**B.A., Media Studies, USM.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies at the University of Southern Maine.

**B.S., Radiation Therapy, USM.** The Board approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy at the University of Southern Maine.

**Request to Issue Revenue Bonds.** The Board authorized the System Treasurer on behalf of the University of Maine System to issue revenue bonds for the capital projects shown in Attachment I and hereby approved the resolution shown in Appendix A.

**Acceptance of Gifts, Grants and Awards.** The Board accepted with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under the date of January 24, 2000.

**Approval of Facilities Items.** The Board authorized:

A) renovations of 94 Main Street, Farmington, at a cost of $300,000;  
B) the leasing of 8,500 sq. ft. of space in the former Petrie Building in Calais;  
C) the leasing of roof area and 200 sq. ft. of room space at Bailey Hall in Gorham to AT&T Wireless Services; and  
D) the leasing of 120 acres of land on Lead Mountain in Township 28, known as the Bear Brook Watershed.

**Appointment, Interim President, UMM.** The Board confirmed the appointment of Dr. James H. Breece as Interim President of the University of Maine at Machias effective January 1, 2000 until an ongoing president assumes the position.

**Authorizing Chancellor to Approve Appointment of Provost/VP for Academic Affairs, UM.** The Board authorized the Chancellor to approve the appointment of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Maine and to report the appointment to the Board.

**Appointment for Trustee Approval.** The Board approves the appointments to positions at or above the level of Dean or equivalent as recommended by the Chancellor, as follows:

Robert Duringer, change of title from Chief Financial Officer to Vice President for Finance and Administration, University of Maine.

The following resolutions were taken out of the consent agenda and voted on separately:

**Honorary Degrees.** On motion of Trustee Cyr, which was seconded Trustee McDowell, and with Trustee Andrucki abstaining, the Board approved the Year 2000 nominations for honorary degrees as presented.

**Collective Bargaining Agreement with Part-time Faculty Unit.** On motion of Trustee
McDowell, seconded by Trustee DiMatteo, and with Trustee Prescott abstaining, the Board authorized the Chancellor to conclude negotiations with the Part-time Faculty Association/AFT Local 4593.

7. **Information Items.** Trustee Mullen listed the following items, which were included in the Board materials for information only:

- Creating Partnerships to Increase Quality, Access, and Affordability
- Academic Year Calendar
- How Students Pay for Higher Education
- Y2K Final Report
- 5-Year Capital Plan - Preliminary Report
- Semi-Annual Construction Status Report
- Semi-Annual Building Maintenance Report
- Board Agenda Calendar
- Summary of Current Statistics

8. **Date of next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on March 12-13, 2000, at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Adjournment.

Sandra F. Johnson for
Mary Ann Haas, Clerk