Board of Trustees Meeting


Trustee Sally Vamvakias, Chair, convened the meeting.

1. **Citizen Comment**  Citizen Comment is a period during the Board meeting regularly set aside to receive comments from the public.

   **Scott Morelli, Melissa Williams, and Jerome Graffan**, students at the University of Maine, spoke against the 5% tuition increase proposed for that campus citing steady increases over a seven-year period and a perceived drop in the quality of the education received. Mr. Graffan, a member of the Off-Campus General Student Senate, also opposed an increase in the comprehensive fee.

   **Christopher McEvoy**, a UM employee and a member of the UMPSA union, asked the Board to consider having a classified employee as a representative to the Board.

   **Representative Bonnie Green, Representative Elizabeth Watson, and Penny Markley** spoke against closing the Highmoor Farm research facility citing the need for its service to the agricultural community, especially apple-growers. Representative Watson read a letter from **Senator John Nutting** who could not be in attendance, who cited the need for the “vitaly important pomological and vegetable research site.”

   **John Warpeha**, a UM student, spoke against increased construction on the Orono campus. He requested that the Board control the growth of the System campuses.

2. **Acceptance of Minutes**: Minutes for May 18-19, 1997; June 10, 1997 were **approved** as written.

3. **Chair's Remarks and Agenda**

   Trustee Vamvakias made the following remarks:

   “We are emerging from an era in Maine--specifically the time period from 1990 to 1996-- when public higher educational priorities were sacrificed for other things. This Board and the System’s leadership team as a whole does not intend to lose ground again because such missteps harm current students, adversely effects morale on our campuses, and diminishes the future of our society and Maine’s place in the nation.

   From the time of it’s inception 30 years ago, the UMS has had a confused image. At times it has been distinct, other times it has been distorted, and still on other occasions it has been uncomfortably accurate. We can no longer allow complacency to govern because the reality is that whether in the future the climate of public opinion is favorable or unfavorable, or worse yet, apathetic, is a matter of choice.
At this time, the groundwork is being laid to support an initiative that will enhance the System’s public profile. This initiative will not only require time, energy, and focus, it will require each of us involved in the System today (students, faculty, staff, alumni, Trustees and others--Board of Visitors) to work diligently and responsibly to ensure that our universities are worthy of public support and trust. As we assess our public posture in a rapidly changing and highly competitive society, it is critical that we come to recognize that the public image we create in the long run is the accumulation of what we do and say in the short run. To be successful, we will need to be ethically sound, academically capable, research minded where appropriate, and committed to building on the distinctive principles of mission and goals that have contributed to the success of the past year.

Examples of items for consideration to enhance the System’s public profile might include:

- What are the System’s strengths and how can they be expanded?
- What are the System’s accomplishments and how can we build on them?
- What are the standards we seek to gain and maintain?
- What is the vision of the UMS over the next year, the remainder of the decade, and into the 21st century?

As the initiative evolves, you can expect that we will become more outspoken on the System’s value as we bring word of our universities’ strengths to a larger public along with the advantages for the State of Maine that accompany a more widely educated populace.

Interestingly, as we become more focused on accentuating the positive aspects of a University experience, I believe that the stakes will become higher. We will most assuredly be held more accountable and the public will expect added achievement on all fronts. I accept this challenge and can’t wait to get started.”

Trustee Committee Appointments. On motion made and seconded, the Board approved the list of Trustee Committee assignments as presented.

Reappointment to MPBC Board. Wickham Skinner was reappointed to the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation Board.

Report of Appointment of President, UM. On motion made and seconded, the Board accepted the report of the appointment of Peter S. Hoff as President of the University of Maine at an annual salary of $136,000, and the standard employment terms for University System presidents, effective August 1, 1997.


Highmoor Farm. Chancellor MacTaggart introduced John Alexander, Interim/Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, UM, and asked him to speak about Highmoor Farm. Dr. Alexander stated that there appeared to be a breakdown in communication about the farm and that the University is currently negotiating to keep it operational.

Tuition Increase. The Chancellor said he appreciated the concern of the students over proposed tuition increases. He reminded everyone that it was the second lowest increase in ten years and next year, in keeping with his pledge to the Legislature, it would remain at the rate of inflation. He assured the students present that he would continue working with them to keep costs down.
Aspirations. The Chancellor reported that the University Presidents have agreed on a joint policy to reduce tuition by 50% in order to make higher education available to high-achieving high school juniors and seniors. Eligibility criteria is being developed by the Presidents’ Council to implement the policy. Not only UMS Presidents, but State Education Commissioner Duke Albanese, along with colleagues at the vocational technical colleges, have taken a leadership role regarding the common policy. The Chancellor said it would send a strong message that access/aspirations to higher education is important and will be rewarded.

Joint Programs. Chancellor MacTaggart noted the joint programs listed under the Academic Affairs agenda especially the UMF/UMA program. He also mentioned the Tri-Campus Consortium. He said campus collaboration will be one of the hallmarks of the System.

UM President. Chancellor MacTaggart welcomed Dr. Peter S. Hoff, who was attending his first meeting as the new President of the University of Maine.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS. Trustee Wickham Skinner, Chair, reported for the Committee.

5. B.S., Mental Health & Human Services, UMA. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Mental Health and Human Services at the University of Maine at Augusta.

6. B.A., Art, UMA/UMF. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the proposal submitted collaboratively by the University of Maine at Augusta and the University of Maine at Farmington for the Bachelor of Arts in Art.

7. B.A., Computer Science, UMF. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science at the University of Maine at Farmington.

8. Appointment of Libra Professor, UMF. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Dr. Betty Beach as Libra Professor for the period September 1, 1997, through May 31, 1998, at the University of Maine at Farmington, with a stipend of $5,000 and an additional $2,500 for research and related travel expense.

9. Appointment of Libra Professor, USM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Dr. Shirley Brice Heath as Libra Visiting Professor of Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern Maine for the period September 1, 1997, through May 31, 1998, with a stipend of $3,000.

10. Appointment of Libra Professor, USM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of James Haddow, M.D., Vice President and Medical Director of the Foundation for Blood Research, as Libra Professor in Applied Immunology in the School of Applied Science at the University of Southern Maine for the period July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998, with a stipend of $12,000 for the period.

11. Appointment of Libra Distinguished Fellow in Entrepreneurship, USM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Mr. George Silverman as Libra Distinguished Fellow in Entrepreneurship with a stipend of $6,000, and the establishment of the Distinguished Libra Dialogue
12. Appointment of Libra Professor, Law School. On motion made and seconded, and with Trustee DiMatteo opposed, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Martin Rogoff, Professor of Law at the University of Maine School of Law, as Libra Professor for the period September 1, 1997, through August 31, 2002, with an annual stipend of $13,000.

13. Establishment of Jean Byers Sampson Center, USM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the establishment of the Jean Byers Sampson Center at the University of Southern Maine.

FINANCE. Trustee John DiMatteo, Chair, reported for the Committee.

14. FY98 E&G Operating Budgets, Tuition Rates, and Mandatory Fees. Trustee DiMatteo reported that the budget process would be reviewed before the budget hearings next year. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That E&G Budgets for FY98 be established at the levels presented.
· That FY98 Tuition rates be established at the levels presented.
· That FY98 annual Mandatory Fees be established at the levels presented.

15. Development Activities & Fund Raising Campaigns Policy. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve revisions to the policy on Development Activities and Fund Raising campaigns as presented.

16. Gifts, Grants and Awards. Trustee DiMatteo highlighted some of the gifts to the System as follows: Francella Corbett donated $200,000 for construction of the University of Maine Sports and Recreation Stadium. The University of Maine has received a bequest of $175,000 from the Estate of Katherine R. Perch. These funds are unrestricted and will be endowed in the Paul ‘24 and Katherine Harris Perch Fund for support of the University. And, the University of Maine College of Business has received almost $2 million worth of computer software from Oracle Inc. The software will be used to develop applications that can be used in an integrated manner throughout the business curriculum.

On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to accept with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under date of July 14, 1997.

PERSONNEL & EMPLOYEE RELATIONS. Trustee Penny Harris, Chair, reported for the Committee.

17. Appointment of Dean, Enrollment Management, UM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Mr. John E. Beacon as Dean of Enrollment Management at the University of Maine for a five-year term, effective August 1, 1997, at a fiscal-year salary of $82,500.

18. Appointment of Assistant Professor of Marketing, UM. On motion made and seconded, it was
VOTED: to approve the appointment of Dr. Harold Z. Daniel, Jr. as Assistant Professor of Marketing in the College of Business Administration at the University of Maine for a one-year term, effective September 1, 1997 at an academic-year salary of $63,000.

19. Appointment of Director of Admissions, UM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Mr. Sherman A. Rosser, Jr. as Director of Admissions at the University of Maine for a five-year term, effective July 1, 1997, at a fiscal-year salary of $60,000.

20. Appointment of Chief Financial Officer, UMM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the appointment of Mr. Thomas L. Potter as Chief Financial Officer at the University of Maine at Machias effective July 7, 1997, at a fiscal salary of $51,500.

21. Appointment of Library Director, USM. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the appointment of Mr. Stephen Bloom as Director of the University of Southern Maine Library effective September 1, 1997, at a fiscal year salary of $80,000.

22. Collective Bargaining - Full-time Faculty. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the Chancellor to conclude the collective bargaining agreement between the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine System and the University of Maine System.

23. Collective Bargaining Agreements. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to authorize the Chancellor to conclude the collective bargaining agreements with Teamsters Local No. 340 and the Associated C.O.L.T. Staff of the University of Maine System upon receipt of notice of ratification from the bargaining agent.

24. Compensation Adjustments/Policy Changes for Non-represented Employees. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the recommendations of the Chancellor for wage and salary adjustments and changes in employment policies for non-represented employees.

25. Personnel Actions for Trustee Approval. On motion made and seconded, it was

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

At the conclusion of the voting, it was reported that the Chancellor and senior System Office staff have chosen not to receive a raise so that the money could be shared with other employees. Trustee Skinner conveyed his appreciation for what he considered an unselfish act.

PHYSICAL PLANT. Trustee James Mullen, Chair, reported for the Committee.

26. Gift of Land, Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to accept with gratitude, the generous donation by the Hirundo Wildlife Trust of a land
parcel in excess of 510 acres for addition to the Hirundo Wildlife Refuge.

27. **Purchase of Property, UMF.** On motion made and seconded, it was
   
   VOTED: to authorize the acquisition of the property at 13 Quebec Street from Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hughes at a cost of $45,000, with acquisition funds coming from the campus. Further, the Board authorizes the demolition of the building when it is no longer needed for campus programs.

28. **Renovation and Addition to Hill Gym, Gorham.** President Pattenaude presented the proposed renovation and addition to Hill Gym on the Gorham Campus. During the development of plans for the ice arena and field house, it became apparent that the gym needed to be expanded to better house the Sports Medicine program. Enrollment projections were for 37 students and 53 have been admitted for the first year. Part of the project will be paid through the Student Recreation Fee, with the balance coming from an internal loan or University Bonds. The debt service would be paid through the Campus E&G Budget. The campus would increase its maintenance base budget by 1.5% of the construction cost to cover building maintenance.

   During discussion, Trustee Katz expressed concern that the cost of the renovation and construction would be dependent on University Bonds. He also pointed out that the System as a whole should decide how bond money would be spent. Trustee Glickman also expressed concern about the use of University Bonds because of interest payments. President Pattenaude assured the Board that the proposed bond funding is not a public bond requiring a public vote and that the repayment monies will come from a old debt service that is to go off-line shortly making no new money necessary. In anticipation of the current debt, repayment fees have already been included in the budget.

   On motion made and seconded, and with Trustee Katz opposed and Trustee Glickman abstaining, it was
   
   VOTED: to authorize a $2,825,000 project to enlarge and renovate the Hill Gymnasium on the Gorham Campus of the University of Southern Maine and to provide necessary services with $325,000 of the funding coming from the Student Recreation Fee and $2.5 million from either an internal loan or University Bonds. Further, that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt the attached Declaration of Official Intent pursuant to Treasury Regulations subsection 1.150-2 as amended.

**GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS.** Trustee Vamvakias noted the following information items: Annual Report on Pluralism, Summary of Current Statistics, and the Board Agenda Calendar.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting of the Board will be held on September 21-22, 1997, at the University of Maine at Farmington.

On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.