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 signed up to speak at the meeting.

2. Acceptance of Minutes The minutes for March 13, 2000, were accepted as presented.

3. Chair’s Remarks and Agenda.

Election of Board Officers On motion of Trustee Gregory Cyr, Chair of the Nominating Committee, which was seconded by Trustee Albert Glickman, the Board elected Trustee James Mullen as Chair and Trustee Donald McDowell as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees for 2000-20001.

Trustee Mullen thanked his fellow Board members for their support to both he and Trustee McDowell.

Trustee Mullen commented that of the many responsibilities Trustees have, few have as much impact as setting tuition rates. Two years ago the Board set in place a plan of partnership with the Legislature that included the System’s pledge to hold tuition increases at 2.5% if the Legislature would approve a 3.4% increase in the System’s appropriation. Both parties have held to these terms. Any tuition increase is difficult. Trustees know that. The Board also knows it has a responsibility to run the University System in a manner that appropriately balances fiscal responsibility with quality and a long term approach to accomplishing goals the Board believes to be in the best interest of the students, faculty, the staff, and the people of Maine. So, as the important issues are addressed such as access, keeping up with technology, investment in facilities, research and development, community college initiative, strengthening Maine’s economy, and providing top quality educational opportunities for Maine’s citizens, the Board faces the economic reality of paying for the aforementioned priorities. The University community can be proud of the fact that it has held up its end of the bargain with the Legislature, but the size of the tuition increases have been cut in half in the last five years and are at or below the consumer price index. The System is at or below the rates of the New England Land Grant Universities and the campuses compare favorably with their peers throughout New England. Trustee Mullen said the Board has done a good job managing this issue and should not lose sight of these accomplishments as it considers the increase for next year.

He went on to comment on the Commencement exercises that had recently taken place on all of the Campuses, and the fact that Board members had witnessed the joy and excitement of the recent graduates both young and old and shared with them the travails of their educational journeys. He said that this is what it is all about—educating Maine people and providing them with access to opportunities that they may not have enjoyed without an education.

Finally, with the approach of Memorial Day, he urged remembrance of the members of the University
family who passed away during the last year--students, faculty and staff, and extend, again, sympathy
and condolences to their families and friends.


Chancellor MacTaggart asked each of the University Presidents to provide a succinct statement of the
achievements they were proudest of at their institutions over the past year.

President Charles Lyons, UMFK. Dr. Lyons reported that UMFK had another good year with a 44% growth in credit-hour generation over four years; there was a 60 point gain in combined SAT scores of entering first-year students; and from an average annual credit hour generation from 1980-1995 of 12,600, there is a present credit hour generation of 21,400. He said the growth has occurred with little or no change in UMFK’s physical or human infrastructure. On the down side, the situation means the campus is stretched to its capacity and outgrowing itself. Morale, however, is excellent, public attention has been outstanding, and summer enrollment is up 22% over last summer. Dr. Lyons read a quotation from the recently completed report by the League of Women Voters with regard to a study they did of the University of Maine System in which they described UMFK as “one of the most pleasant surprises of the Study Group’s journey through the University System...It is totally responsive to the needs of the surrounding population, offering courses and degrees such as nursing and bi-lingual business which meet the needs of adult students whose responsibilities would make it impossible for them to travel to other campuses.” Dr. Lyons thanked the Board for its support.

President Nancy Hensel, UMPI. Dr. Hensel reported that her campus’s achievement has been to
survive a new president, an interim vice president, and two new deans. She said that one of the accomplishments she wanted to emphasize was a strategic plan formulated by the faculty and staff before she arrived as President. One of the points of the plan was to review all academic programs on campus for reorganization, transformation, consolidation, and elimination. The review was completed on November 20, 1999, and implementation work has been taking place since that time. When she asked the staff what things have come out of the year in general, the response was that there had been an intellectual renaissance--a faculty member had done professional development in experiential learning and had half of the faculty involved in workshops all year. The Campus has joined the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Program. The campus experienced a successful visit from the National Student Exchange and UMPI will become a member. UMPI has become a member of the Council of Undergraduate Research and has seen some increase in undergraduate efforts in terms of publishing. The Honors Program has increased from 10 students three years ago to 50 presently, two of whom placed first and second in the Maine Scholar Essay Competition. There was a 4% increase in enrollment from Fall to Spring and there is an integrated marketing plan in the works which should show interesting changes in admissions material next year. Also, over the last year, there have been new hires with a Vice President for Academic Affairs, a new Library Director, a new Development Officer, and a new Athletic Director. Finally, Dr. Hensel said she appreciated the efforts of people to acquire the funds for renovation a building and the funds to complete. She said it would increase the space in the Houlton Center by about 3 times, which is needed because enrollment in that area has increased by 50% in the last two to three years.

President Peter Hoff, UM. Dr. Hoff reported that the University of Maine had another great year in enrollment with new freshman enrollment up 20%, giving the University 42% over two years, with 44% in actual FTE credit hour enrollment. Retention remains strong and is competitive with any New England flagship campus able to retain 80% of its freshman class through the sophomore year. Dr. Hoff said that 150, high caliber new hires have been recruited. The new, active, vibrant young faculty have joined the campus community to fill in for the strong and experienced faculty who retired. The turnover has been a good balance. Dr. Hoff said that an outstanding job was done by Dr. Donald Zillman, from the UM School of Law, who has been Interim Provost for a year. He said the Chancellor has already spoken about the success of the Legislative appropriation and the Campus is grateful for Dr. MacTaggart’s work. For the University of Maine, it has meant $4 million toward badly needed employee raises so that the campus can retain and attract experienced staff. The money for Aubert Hall was critically needed and it is planned to combine those monies with R&D money and
privately raised funds so that within two or three years it is hoped to have a completely renovated
chemistry building. The Aubert Hall project will be part of work that is being done to create a
Science and Engineering Complex. A $12 million addition is also planned for an addition to the
Memorial Union, which has been started with a lead gift of $2 million from MBNA plus students fees,
which means that the addition is being built without tax payer dollars. Colvin Hall is being renovated
as an Honors Center, which is part of the strategy to attract and retain some of the best students in the
State. The University is also moving into a new stage of strategic planning trying to take the Bear
Works Plan out 5 years to meet student and State needs and to try to address the concerns of many
which is to provide a world class education for the citizens of Maine and an economic and social
climate where people who possess that education can put it to work in the types of careers they really
want. Dr. Hoff says he sees the University of Maine as right at the heart of that effort, not only
providing the education, but through research and engagement, creating the kind of State where those
careers could be put to work. He concluded by saying that UM had a good year, but will not rest on its
laurels. In order to be the type of university that is wanted for the System, Dr. Hoff said that there is
major work ahead in trying to attract top students through scholarships, through an honors college,
through better facilities, and through building a world-class faculty.

President Theodora Kalikow, UMF. Dr. Kalikow reported that the System’s public liberal arts
college has had another good year. Admissions has been strong and, as result, strong selectivity. For
the entering class last Fall the selectivity rate was 65%, down from 75%, which means UMF took
fewer applicants. The students were measurably better and the faculty and staff who had contact with
them could see the difference. The coming Fall looks like another very solid year to maintain those
gains. With the success of admissions comes some interesting problems, such as parking complaints,
and interest in staying in the residence halls. The upshot is that the Campus is looking at housing
options and a possible addition to one of the residence halls. It also means more programming in the
halls, more programming in the student center, and adjusting library hours. Dr. Kalikow said the
administration likes it. This year was the start of a new general education program and new foundation
courses for first year students, which is going well. The year also brought the usual round table
conversations with faculty, staff and students. As a result of those conversations, the campus is
moving forward to develop a better capacity of attaining grants. There was also some very enthusiastic
response from faculty and staff about what can be done with faculty and staff development so that
every student who leaves UMF will be very competent in all the new technology and access to
information. The University had a very successful Symposium Day where students present the results
of their independent research, work, and service learning. As a result of a Year Up Grant, the only one
in Maine, UMF is working with the Dixfield Middle School to increase the aspirations of students to
come to college. It was the first time many of the middle school students had been on a college
campus and seen the results of student work and research. Dr. Kalikow said it was a thrill to have
them and will continue the program for several more years. She spent time at the Dixfield Middle
School and met people who were excited with the idea that their children might go to college. Dr.
Kalikow reported that it was a good year for faculty and staff recruiting. She said there are problems
with salary compression. In order to get good people, competitive salaries have to be paid, and that
means other salaries are under pressure. The Campus conducted a very successful search for a Vice
President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Kalikow thanked Brangwyn Foote, who stepped in at the
President’s invitation to be the Interim Provost for a year. She said Dr. Foote has done an excellent job
and they were very happy to have her. Dr. Kalikow said it exemplified the spirit of those at UMF who
pitch in to get the job done and she appreciates everyone’s efforts.

President Richard Pattenaude, USM. Dr. Pattenaude reported that USM has had a good year and
thanked everyone for contributing and helping that experience. In the area of enrollment, USM
finished in September with a record in applications, there was a record enrollment in the Fall, and it is
running solidly ahead for the coming year. USM also set a record for grants and contracts. Dr.
Pattenaude thanked everyone for the success in the Legislature, such as the $3.5 million for the
Lewiston/Auburn College expansion. USM will serve as the hub of a State-wide network of senior
colleges. Also mentioned was the Patten Center that will go into the Law School. In Gorham, site
work has begun for a new, 225 bed residence hall paid for by student fees. And, at the same time,
groundbreaking has begun for a 250 car parking lot. This year USM launched its capital campaignand
it is moving along smoothly. The Information Science Research Institute to be voted on later and the Bio-Research Institute already approved are being implemented as part of R&D monies. The Center for the Study and Prevention of Hate and Violence, is a new, self supporting addition on campus. Capital projects underway: R&D building, expansion of the Muskie Building, and completion of the Glickman Library. The Women’s Basketball Team placed second in the nation and the Men’s Baseball Team is planning to go to the Division C World Series. A new master’s degree in accounting, a master’s degree in biology, and an MFA in Writing have been added to the curriculum. The Campus is adding concentrations in Information Science and an MIS in Computer Engineering. Dr. Pattenaude said that the writing requirements for all undergraduates has been doubled and the English Department stepped forward and said that one of the upper division technical writing courses will serve as a requirement for all students. The requirement will be backed up with writing courses in other departments. He said the academic core of the institution is being strengthened throughout the year.

Interim President James Breece, UMM. President Breece reported that it has been an emotional year on campus with the retirement of the president and having an interim president, but the University is looking forward to receiving the new president. A student, Nathan Turk from Australia, a first-year student who played on the basketball team, was killed by a hit and run driver in St. Stephens, New Brunswick. A tragedy for everyone concerned. On the activity front, the University of Maine at Machias is the educational and cultural center of Washington County, something the University takes very seriously. In December, the Lifelong Learning Center was opened with an aquatics center, and a fitness center. Since it’s opening, over 460 community memberships have been sold which means a successful partnership with a community that has embraced the facility. In addition, over 200 day passes have been issued. The Libra Foundation has generously funded a Learn to Swim Program that has educated over 300 children in three months. The local high school is interested in starting a competitive swim program and the local hospital wants to use the fitness center for rehabilitation. Dr. Breece said the Center has unified the campus and the community and is a wonderful asset. Funding for the bookstore just ended and will be opening on July 29 which he invited everyone to attend. A third party vendor will be operating it for the University, and there will be an internet cafe. With the help of Trustee Sandra Prescott, the University is moving forward with a childcare center. Dr. Breece pointed out that with increasing numbers of adult learners coming to campus, the childcare center will be an important part of future enrollment strategy. In conjunction with the Town of Machias, the University was awarded a $200,000 grant from the State and is heading up a major fund raising effort for $250,000 to build the childcare center. The University is trying to establish a Lifelong Learning area which includes the aquatics and fitness centers, the bookstore, the childcare center and a conference center. Dr. Breece thanked the Chancellor for helping with the funding for the Unobskey Center in Calais, an appreciated addition to the UMM and Machias community. Dr. Brian Beal, a faculty member, will be going to Ireland on a Fulbright Scholarship. The University has been the venue for public hearings on the salmon debate which is very important to Washington County. The Women’s Volleyball coach was named Coach of the Year when the team won the MAC Conference. Two Articulation Agreements were signed with the Washington County Technical College to better serve students. The foundation has been laid to increase the annual fund and an outside consultant has been hired to help in that effort. And finally, Dr. Breece reported that a lot of energy has gone into enrollment management issues, which is two-pronged: attracting new students and retaining students already enrolled. A revised freshman advising program, an early warning detection system, and a new student orientation program are planned.

Chancellor MacTaggart thanked Dr. Breece for taking time away from his family in Orono to help with the transition to a new presidency at the Machias Campus.

President Owen Cargol, UMA. President Cargol said the Presidents would like to echo the Chancellor’s thanks to Interim President Breece for his work over the past year. President Cargol reported that UMA just graduated its largest class in the history of the University—630 students, one third of which were baccalaureate students. The number of graduating students is up 160 over last year which suggests that the baccalaureate programs and the retention of students are having an impact. He reported that he is equally proud of the fact that the University will be balancing its budget
for the third straight year due in part to six straight semesters of increased enrollment. The highest FTE enrollment in the history of the University occurred last Fall. An international agreement has been completed and student exchanges will begin with the Hochschule Harz University of Applied Studies and Research, Wernigerode, Germany. The master plans for the Augusta and Bangor Campus have been completed. The bronze moose crafted by Forest Hart was a class gift which was dedicated this past year. He invited everyone to Jewett Hall to view it. Smaller versions for Bangor and Lewiston/Auburn are planned. A Women’s Softball team was added to the athletic program this year and they were undefeated. The newly completed Faculty Senate Constitution was submitted to the System Office. The Foundation began its first annual campaign and raised more external money this year than in the previous five years. The University completed its 5-year NEASC report and saw significant improvements to the physical facilities on the Bangor Campus. Timeliness and the size of the financial aid awards were improved and over 30 articulation agreements were established with the technical colleges in Maine. Six new baccalaureate degrees were fully implemented. A new alumni association was created. Grant writing has expanded significantly. The University appreciates the renovation funds that were provided to USM for Lewiston/Auburn College as well as to University College-Bangor. UMA completed its “responsible admissions standards”, an attempt in controlling who gets into the University and who can be helped through the admissions standard. The expectations at UMA have been raised significantly both internally and externally. Dr. Cargol said that in many ways the Campus remains a fragile institution, but he was pleased to report that UMA is a stable institution at this time.

Chancellor MacTaggart thanked all the Presidents not only for their comments, but for exemplary leadership during the course of the year. Trustee Mullen, as well, thanked the Presidents for their reports by reminding the Board what actually does takes place on the campuses over and above what Trustees see at meetings.

Trustee Mullen formally thanked President Kalikow for her hospitality and that of the UMF campus.

5. Committee Matters/Action.

Academic Affairs. Trustee Judith Andrucki reported for Wickham Skinner, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.

- Faculty Development. Trustee Andrucki commented on the presentation of four faculty members, Professor Scott Brickman, UMFK, Professor Susan Hunter, UM, Professor Peter Aicher, USM, and Professor Betty Beach, UMF, who comprised a panel discussion on faculty development. Trustee Andrucki said that as a Trustee she took pride in the talent and diversity demonstrated by the group. Each member discussed his or her work and the role of institutional faculty development in support of that work. Also discussed was the need and usefulness of seed money, faculty mentoring programs, participation of faculty in community projects, and the use and benefits of traditional faculty development, such as sabbaticals and grants. She said it was an informative panel and helped the Trustees understand the role of faculty development.

- UMS Initiative on Life, Work, and Citizenship/Humanities Prize. Trustee Mullen reported that the Board would vote formally on acceptance of the Humanities Prize given by Trustee Wick Skinner. The item had been discussed at the Academic Affairs Committee. Trustee Skinner contributed the funding to provide three separate awards for the 2000-2001 academic year in the amount of $5,000, $3,000, and $2,000 and Trustee Mullen thanked him for his generosity. On motion of Trustee Cyr, which was seconded by Trustee Andrucki, it was

VOTED: To approve the establishment of The Humanities Prize for the 2000-2001 academic year to be awarded in accordance with the guidelines outlined on the attached sheet.

Student Affairs. Trustee Donald McDowell, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee heard a presentation on Community Standards with regard to campus discipline and behavior. The panel was comprised of Judith Ryan, Steve Wessler, and Kelley Wiltbank and they
covered the legal and human side of the subject. Mr. Wessler spoke to the work being done at the new Center for Study and Prevention of Hate Violence at USM, as well as work he has done previously. Mr. Wessler’s work has been ‘exported’ to other schools and campuses in the state. Trustee McDowell said that the presentation was preparatory to acceptance of the System Conduct Code, which will be on the Consent Agenda.

Finance. Trustee Meg Weston reported for the Committee in the absence of Trustee John DiMatteo, who was unable to attend the meeting.

- Tuition and Mandatory Fees. On motion of Trustee Weston, which was seconded by Trustee Glickman, the following recommendation was put on the table:

- That FY2001 tuition rates be established at the levels shown on Attachment I.
- That FY 2001 Annual Mandatory Fees be established at the levels shown on Attachment II.

During discussion, Trustee Sandra Prescott expressed her concern with the cost of higher education and in particular the cost of tuition, fees, and room and board. She said she recognized the importance of tuition and its role in the University budget which is 18% of the budget. She said it is her hope to freeze tuition or even lower it. She said that students have an average debt of $18,000 upon graduation. Personal budgets comprise more than tuition and it often takes more than four years to graduate. Income is available to students and the Trustees have seen presentations showing how much can be provided to those who are eligible for loans and scholarships and, she said, she applauds that; however, the federal government does not pay enough and there is a financial gap. She noted that when students graduate with debt, their credit rating is sometimes impaired and the bad credit stays with them for many years. The Trustees recently raised room and board by 2.4% and even though the Board has held down costs, Trustee Prescott said she wants to hold them down to a lower level. The 2.4% increase translates to an average $118 in room and board, but it is different from one campus to another. She pointed out that at UMPI there may be a $92 increase, but at UMM it is a $160 increase. Trustee Prescott said she would be a reminder and a conscience when there are tuition and fee increases. She said she would remind everyone that the median income in the State of Maine is $32,800, but nationally it is $35,000. The poverty rate in Maine is 12%, but in Washington County it is 20.7%. Continuing with Washington County as an example, she said that it continues to be the only county with a double digit unemployment rate. The State rate is just under 4% and the national rate is just over 3%. She reiterated that she would like to see the Board hold down the cost of tuition despite the fact that the Chancellor and the administration have done, in her opinion, a good job. She said the technical colleges have frozen their tuition for two years in a row. She said she is advocating for a freeze and that she would oppose the motion to increase tuition.

Trustee Mullen noted that the budget is formulated on a two-year operating plan. He said it is a difficult issue and that Trustee Prescott’s concerns can be examined, but it should be recognized that something has to be eliminated in order to bring about a freeze. Trustee Cyr conceded that Trustee Prescott raised some important issues and he asked the Chancellor if the Legislature would look favorably on tuition freezes that would not impact negatively on other aspects of the budget. Chancellor MacTaggart responded that if monies are not received from the Legislature, then tuition has to go up. If more money is received from the Legislature, then tuition expenses could be held down or frozen. He said that as the Board considers its request in the next biennium it should take a serious look at the possibility of holding tuition steady and getting the money needed for compensation and other aspects from the Legislature.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved, with Trustee Prescott opposed.

6. Consent Agenda. Trustee Donald McDowell, Vice Chair of the Board, moved adoption of the following resolutions, as presented:

- UMS Initiative on Life, Work, and Citizenship/Humanities Prize. The Board approved the
establishment of The Humanities Prize for the 2000-2001 academic year to be awarded in accordance with the guidelines outlined.

Tuition and Mandatory Fees. The Board established FY2001 tuition rates at the levels presented; and established the FY2001 Annual Mandatory Fees at the levels presented.

Appointment of President, UMM. The Board approved the appointment of Dr. John Joseph as President of the University of Maine at Machias effective July 1, 2000 at a fiscal-year salary of $95,000.

Irving Chair for Forest Ecosystem Management. The Board approved the establishment of The Irving Chair for Forest Ecosystem Management at the University of Maine congruent with the established criteria and procedures for endowed chairs.

University of Maine at Presque Isle Reorganization. The Board approved the academic reorganization proposed by the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Southern Maine Information Science Research Institute, USM. The Board approved establishment of the proposed Southern Maine Information Science Research Institute at the University of Southern Maine as detailed.

Revised Student Conduct Code. The Board approved the proposed revisions to the University of Maine System Student Conduct Code.

Administration of State of Maine Endowment Incentive Fund. The Board approved the endowment matching criteria proposed by each university President as presented.

Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, and Awards. The Board accepted with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under the date of May 22, 2000.

Appointment of President, UMM. The Board approved the appointment of Dr. John Joseph as President of the University of Maine at Machias effective July 1, 2000 at a fiscal-year salary of $95,000.

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

- Richard Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, UMA
- Kathleen Dexter, Dean of Students, UMA
- Richard Kimball, Vice President for Academic Affairs, UMPI
- Joseph S. Wood, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, USM

Should Dr. Wood leave the position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, he could assume a faculty position as Professor of Geology, with tenure effective on the date he assumes the faculty position.

Authorizing Chancellor to Approve Appointment of Dean, USM. The Board authorized the Chancellor to approve the appointment of the Dean of the School of Applied Science, USM and to report the appointment to the Board.

7. Information Items. Trustee Mullen listed the following items that had been included in the Board materials for information only:
   - Review Criteria for Capital Projects
   - Appointments for Trustee Information Only
   - Collective Bargaining Update
   - Board Agenda Calendar
   - Summary of Current Statistics
8. **Date of Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Board will be held on August 7, 2000, at the University of Maine System Offices, Bangor.

On motion of Trustee Mullen, which was seconded by Trustee Weston, the meeting was adjourned.

Sandra F. Johnson for
Mary Ann Haas, Clerk