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 September 12/14, 1999, and October 21, 1999, were APPROVED as presented.

3. Chair’s Remarks and Agenda  Trustee Mullen thanked UMA President Owen Cargol and the UMA community for hosting the Board of Trustees Meeting. He also announced that this would be the last Board meeting for UMM President Paul Nordstrom, who will be retiring at the end of December, and on behalf of the Board wished him well. Trustee Sandra Prescott thanked President Nordstrom for his commitment to UMM and to the Machias community.

As is his custom, Trustee Mullen reminded those people in the audience that the agenda items are thoroughly researched and discussed during committee meetings and that the speed with which they are dispatched during the full Board meeting has nothing to do with the rating of the importance of the items.

Trustee Mullen reported that the Trustees’ meeting with the Universities Board of Visitors the evening before provided excellent input and guidance for both memberships. He announced that Trustee Margaret Weston is the Chair of the Ad hoc Committee on Technology and Telecommunications with Trustees Gregory Cyr, Charles “Wick” Johnson, Barry McCrum, and Wickham Skinner rounding out the Committee. Trustee Mullen noted that he looks forward to addressing the challenges facing the System as the planning process takes shape over the next several years.

4. Chancellor’s Remarks and Agenda  Chancellor MacTaggart thanked President Cargol for his hospitality. He also commended President Nordstrom for his straight forward, hard-working and candid approach to his presidency and wished him well in his retirement.

The Chancellor noted that the good news in the enrollment picture this year is the increase in traditional-age students, something the System administration is striving to improve. The administration has been working on increasing the higher education aspirations of high school students.

The Chancellor pointed out that the reorganization of Board processes has allowed time for more in-depth discussion of substantive issues such as invited speaker Dr. Mary Beth Susman’s talk on technology in education heard at the Academic Affairs Committee meeting earlier that day. The Student Affairs Committee agenda will include How Students Pay for Higher Education in January,
Community Standards and Campus Climate in March, and The Community as a Laboratory for Student Learning in May. The Administration will be presenting topics on healthcare, human resources, and capital assets. He suggested that the meetings ahead will be punctuated by conflict and debate and be a source of information for all.

5. Committee Matters and Action. Trustee Esther Rauch reported for the Academic Affairs Committee on a presentation to that Committee by Dr. Mary Beth Susman entitled Technology and Telecommunications in Education. Trustee Rauch also reported on the continuing endeavors of the Aspirations Project, which was begun by the Board in an attempt to ascertain why Maine high school students did not go on to college. She, along with Donna Thornton of Community Health and Counseling, Andy Hamilton of Eaton Peabody, and Judy Horan of WLBZ, have continued their efforts to help students who would not otherwise pursue higher education. As she reported at the last meeting, mentors are being paired with students at Brewer High School. Thanks to the efforts of an organization called PEP for Life, students are taken to visit two colleges, their application fees are paid for by the program, and volunteers work with the families to fill out financial aid forms, etc. The program will minister to other high schools in the Fall term.

Trustee Mullen thanked Trustee Rauch for taking the lead on the initiative.

Trustee John DiMatteo reported for the Audit Committee. He said the Committee had received the FY 99 Financial Report audited by KPMG. John Moriarty, Partner, made three points to the Committee: 1) the financial strength of the System; 2) the Auditor’s Certificate takes no exceptions and makes no amendments to the report; and 3) in the annual letter outlining the internal controls, there are no major concerns. Trustee DiMatteo closed by stating that the University has had a good year thanks to the efforts of the UMS staff.

Trustee Donald McDowell reported for the Student Affairs Committee which discussed its future agenda topics and heard a presentation on ADA issues. He commended the people who made the presentation and who are actively involved on the campuses.

6. Consent Agenda. On motion of Trustee McDowell, which was seconded, the Board adopted the following resolutions:

**Awarding of Academic Degrees.** The Board authorized the awarding of degrees in course for the Fall Commencement 1999 and the Spring and Summer Commencements 2000 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.

**Supplemental Appropriation Request for FY 2001.** The Board approved the supplemental appropriation request for fiscal year 2001 as presented.

**Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, and Awards.** The Board accepted with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under the date of November 15, 1999.

**Darling Marine Center Expansion Project.** The Board approved the hiring of the architect and proceeding with establishing final estimates and building plans for the construction of the Darling Marine Center expansion with the total project cost not to exceed $2.2 million.

**USDA Lease Amendment, UM.** The Board authorized an amendment of the lease between the University of Maine System and the United States Department of Agriculture, dated July 1, 1968, as amended July 1, 1993, to add approximately 0.8 acres of land at Aroostook Farm in Presque Isle, and to further amend the lease to grant an additional 25-year renewal option at the
end of the current lease period in 2018, subject to review by University Counsel.

**Naming of Bookstore, UMM.** The Board approved the naming of the University of Maine at Machias campus bookstore the George Simpson Murdock Bookstore, in honor of Mr. Murdock’s service and commitment to the capital campaign for the Lifelong Learning Center.

**Purchase of 124 School Street, Gorham.** The Board authorized the purchase of property at 124 School Street, Gorham, from Michael B. Smith for $135,000, subject to review by University counsel, with funds for the purchase coming from current operating and reserves in the Residence Hall area.

**Appointment of UMPI President.** The Board confirmed the appointment of Dr. Nancy Hensel as President of the University of Maine at Presque Isle, effective October 15, 1999.

**Appointments for Trustee Approval.** The Board approved the appointment of Dr. Heather Jacobson as Assistant Vice President for Research, University of Maine.

Trustee Mullen congratulated Dr. Hensel on her appointment as President of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

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

   ▶ Liability and Property Insurance Program Overview
   ▶ Labor Relations Update
   ▶ Faculty and Student Representatives Bios
   ▶ Board Agenda Calendar
   ▶ Summary of Current Statistics

8. **Next Meeting of the Board.** The next meeting of the Board will be held at the University of Maine on January 23-24, 2000.

On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Sandra F. Johnson for
Mary Ann Haas, Clerk