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 input from the public. No one had signed to speak.

2. Acceptance of Minutes. Trustee Vamvakias noted that Professor Ann Blanke, UMA Faculty Representative to the Board, had been inadvertently omitted from the attendance list for the July Board Meeting. The minutes for July 13, 1998 were then accepted.

3. Chair's Remarks and Agenda. Trustee Vamvakias thanked the Fort Kent Campus for the hospitality shown during its stay and for the gift baskets filled with local products which were found in each Trustee’s hotel room.

   - Appointment of New Trustees to Standing Committees. Trustee Vamvakias brought attention to the appointment of the new Trustees to the standing committees of the Board. She then introduced Charles “Wick” Johnson, Sandra Prescott, and Margaret “Meg” Weston who were attending their first meeting. She also announced that Trustee Judith Andrucki has accepted appointment as representative to the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation replacing Bennett Katz. Faculty and Student Representatives to the Board have submitted to the Chair their assignments to the standing committees and these will appear on future committee lists for 1998-99.

   - Chair’s Remarks. Trustee Vamvakias reported that the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) has released a draft version of A Statement on Institutional Governance and asked many members of the higher education community to review and make comments. It also asked boards, such as the University of Maine System, to examine the clarity, coherence, and appropriateness of their institution’s governance structure, especially as it relates to decision making. She forwarded her comments as requested and stated that there was little in the document that was not pursued by the UMS Board’s Ad hoc Committee on Board Processes. Trustee Vamvakias said it was reassuring to know that the UMS Board is ahead of the curve in updating policy to more realistically reflect Board responsibility, especially as it relates to decision making.

Trustee Vamvakias announced that the proposed revisions to Human Resources policies has been tabled and referred back to committee for refinements. She said the revisions are in direct response to Board governance issues.

Trustee Vamvakias also announced that the name of the Personnel and Employee Relations Committee would be changed to the Human Resources and Labor Relations Committee to more
clearly reflect the Committee’s responsibilities.

As a member of the AGB Council of Board Chairs, Trustee Vamvakias will be attending a meeting in October to address governance issues and she said it would be interesting to learn just where the University System stands with regard to the governance process as compared to other institutions.

Trustee Vamvakias reiterated the three priorities inherent in the Biennium Plan, which are Maine’s economic development and the importance of the R&D Bond passage; access for Maine students; and high quality programs and the learning environment. She said that universities by their very nature provide a breadth and diversity of programs and students have available to them a splendid and sometimes bewildering array of courses from which to select. She said she hoped everyone had taken the time to look at the courses listed in the Academic Program Inventory.

Trustee Vamvakias reported on a recent University of Maine at Farmington visit. She said she was interested in a student’s comment about the library having “cushy” new couches, but not enough books or periodicals. President Kalikow’s response was that students didn’t realize the library lacked books and periodicals until after it was renovated and they discovered the cushy new couches. Trustee Vamvakias said updating libraries is an important piece in the biennium plan. Faculty remarked that classrooms were not as technologically accessible as they would like. She responded that upgrading technology is also part of the biennium plan. Trustee Vamvakias concluded her remarks by saying that she looks forward to visiting the other campuses of the System.

4. Chancellor's Report and Agenda. Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart also conveyed his appreciation to President Lyons and the rest of the UMFK community for setting the stage for a productive and enjoyable visit. He then invited the university Presidents to present preliminary reports on Fall Enrollments.

**UMFK** President Lyons reported that UMFK has the highest enrollment in its 121-year history. Over the last 20 years, the average credit-hour generation per semester has been about 6,300. The previous record set three years ago was 8,100 and this year it is close to 9,000. He said even more impressive than the overall 18% increase is the 14% increase in freshmen enrollment. He credited John Martin, Director of Enrollment Management, his staff, and the entire faculty, staff, and student body who all had a roll in what he termed “this terrific showing”.

**UMA** President Cargol reported that UMA is up 5.4% in credit hours. He said that after add/drop and non-payment of tuition and fees it is still expected that the enrollment will be up. After three years of declining enrollment, the Campus is pleased that enrollment is going up.

**UM** President Hoff reported that, overall, credit-hour generation is up 3%. He said the gain is very strong and was spearheaded in a 23% growth in the size of the entering freshmen class. The number of Maine residents entering in that class is at 26%. President Hoff said that those numbers bode well for future growth.

**USM** President Pattenaude reported that for the fourth year in a row there has been increased enrollment. Student credit hours are up between 1% and 2%. Two noteworthy areas are out-of-state applications, which are up 15% this year, and the freshmen class increased by 3%.

**UMM** President Nordstrom reported a 25% increase in freshmen students. It is the second largest class in the history of the institution. It is balanced, however, by a record graduating class last spring so the campus is hoping for level enrollment this year. Eight international countries are
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represented in the freshmen class and 14 international countries are represented on the campus overall. Residents halls are full and the mood on campus is very positive. SAT scores for full-time first-year students is 1019 on the average.

UMPI    President Easton reported an increase of 2.6% in headcount enrollment. FTE is about the same as last year, which was an excellent year. In-state enrollment is up 7%, out-of-state is up 11%, full-time enrollment is up 1%, and part-time enrollment is up 29%. Overall headcount enrollment increase is 2%.

UMF    Mr. Roger Spear, Vice President for Administration, reported for President Kalikow. Chancellor MacTaggart pointed out that UMF has an enrollment cap of 2,000. Mr. Spear said that the campus has managed that enrollment cap of 2,000. The cap has been exceeded slightly this Fall by a 16% increase in out-of-state students. He said that at this time last year the Campus had received 3,000 inquiries from interested students. This year the Campus has received 6,000 inquiries for next Fall. Of that 6,000, 2,000 inquiries are coming from out-of-state.

Chancellor MacTaggart made two final comments stating that 1) the Presidents and their staffs should be congratulated on taking meager resources, putting them in the right places, and achieving such commendable growth figures; and 2) the increases have to do with aspirations in the State of Maine. More Maine students are choosing to go on to college, to stay in the State, and to attend universities within the University of Maine System.

5. Consent Agenda. On motion of Trustee James Mullen, which was seconded, the following resolutions were adopted as presented:

- **Gifts, Grants, and Awards.** The Board accepted with gratitude all gifts, grants, and awards listed under the date of September 28, 1998.

- **Naming of Room 100, Donald P. Corbett Hall, Orono.** The Board named Room 100 in Donald P. Corbett Hall the *W. Stanley Devino Auditorium* in honor of Dr. Devino’s long time contributions to the College of Business Administration and the University of Maine.

- **Naming of Bio-Resource Engineering Building, Orono.** The Board named the Bio-Resource Engineering Building at the University of Maine *Norman Smith Hall* in honor of Dr. Norman Smith’s long time service to the College of Engineering and the University of Maine.

- **Purchase of 2 & 4 Maguire Street, Farmington.** The Board authorized the purchase of property at 2 Maguire Street, Farmington, from the Estate of Leone W. Perkins for $75,000, and the purchase of property at 4 Maguire Street, Farmington, from Richard and Ramona Russell for $83,000, with funds for both purchases coming from campus operating funds and/or an internal loan. Further, the Board authorized the possible lease of the properties to the Western Maine Community Action Council for a period of time and lease rate to be determined, and further authorized the eventual demolition of the buildings on both properties in preparation for expansion of campus parking lots in accordance with the campus Master Plan, all subject to review and approval by University Counsel.

- **Gift and Sale of 31 Barton Street, Presque Isle.** The Board recognized that the University of Maine at Presque Isle, as its agent, accepted the gift of the property at 31 Barton Street, Presque Isle, Maine, together with its contents, on June 26, 1997, and ratified and approved the actions of its agent and accepted the gift. The Board
authorized the sale of the property at 31 Barton Street, Presque Isle, for a price of $55,501, the net proceeds of such sale to be deposited in the Dr. Clifford O. T. Wieden and Marguerite Hill Wieden Scholarship Fund at the UMPI Foundation.

- **Change of Name of Personnel & Employee Relations Committee.** The Board approved a change in the Bylaws, Section 3.1 and Section 3.5, to rename the Personnel and Employee Relations Committee to be the Human Resources and Labor Relations Committee. All references to this committee in Board of Trustees Bylaws and policies shall be changed in accordance with this action.

- **Proposed Revisions to Human Resources Policies.** The Board tabled action on this item until the November meeting.

- **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:

  - Thomas Abbott as Dean of Extended Campus Programs, UMA
  - Richard Campbell as Chief Financial Officer, UMA
  - Virginia Gibson as Interim Vice President for University Development, UM
  - Chester Rock as Interim Dean of the College of Engineering, UM

**Academic Affairs.** Trustee Wickham Skinner reported for the Committee.

6. **Establishment of Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, UM.** President Hoff presented the recommendation of the establishment of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center. He said that the Campus is in the process of erecting a laboratory that will be capable of testing many of the products outlined in the proposal and developing commercial applications. He said the Center is the quintessential example of research and development that takes Maine products, natural resources of the State, and weds them with advanced substances and technologies to produce value-added products that can stimulate the Maine economy. He went on to say that it is a tremendous example of a chain of events that leads through education, through research, through applied research, to new product development, to new technologies, to industries, and to jobs. It is a way to illustrate to the people of the State the importance of research and development to a sustainable economy. He said it is important that the people of the State understand that whole chain of connection. President Hoff reported that Dr. Habib Dagher, the Director of the Center, made a presentation to the Committee showing how low grades of timber that have very little commercial application, but through advanced technologies and the application of space-age polymers, for example, can be made into materials that produce very strong products. These products can be used in bridges, piers, home construction, commercial construction projects, and in places where one would not expect to see wood, such as in automobiles and trucks. He said the Committee was able to see first hand some of the products coming out of the lab and to understand how it fits in with the overall R&D strategy to boost the State’s economy.

Trustee Skinner said the Committee endorsed the recommendation with great enthusiasm and was impressed with the necessity and realization of the integration across many disciplines and departments in the University to make it possible. On motion of Trustee Skinner, which was seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve establishment of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center at the University of Maine as described in the document “A Proposal to Form the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center at the University of Maine.”

**Student Affairs.** Trustee Donald McDowell, Chair, reported for the Committee. He said the Student Affairs Committee is in the process of rearranging its agenda for the next several meetings. The emerging agenda will provide more visibility for student life programs for the Board. Two of the Student Affairs
Committee members met with Campus Student Affairs Officers the previous week to discuss, as a major theme for the year, the creation of a challenging, nurturing, academic community both inside and outside the classroom. A schedule was determined for the next three months. In November, there will be profiles of students in terms of demographic data as well as personal information. Also to be discussed will be how students are introduced to the UMS campus communities and college life. In January, Student Affairs will join with Academic Affairs in a joint discussion of retention, both from an academic and student life point of view. In March, Student Affairs will again join with Academic Affairs to discuss the Diversity Reports. He said the Committee looks forward to helping the Board expand its knowledge of what happens on the campus and outside the classroom to build a model community of mutual respect.

**Finance.** Trustee John DiMatteo, Chair, reported for the Committee.

7. **Investing in Maine’s Universities--Biennium Plan.** Trustee DiMatteo reported that the Finance Committee was prepared to recommend for approval the Biennium Plan for the two years beginning July 1, 1999 and ending June 20, 2001. He said the current Biennium Plan and the one proposed is a departure from previous plans in that the process began with a study and reconsideration of the method of allocation of State appropriated resources to the universities. A new plan was adopted, which gave more control of the allocation to the Board of Trustees and a better opportunity to realign resources with the goals of the UMS System. He said the plan has incentives for increased campus enrollment and has an opportunity for review after three years. The Board also established priorities (and strategies for achieving those priorities), which are consistent with the present biennium plan. He said the Chair made reference to those priorities--access, economic development for the State of Maine, and high quality educational programs and learning environment. The Committee had its third consideration of the Biennium Plan at its meeting that morning and agreed to forward it for approval. Trustee DiMatteo highlighted the contents of the plan: affordable access by holding tuition increases to 2.5% in each of the two fiscal years; a continuing expectation of State support through increased appropriations at 3.4% in each of the next two years; seek State support for educational access through technology; continuing and enhancing research and development activities by University and State funding--there is $4 million in the current budget and it is hoped to increase that by $6 million to the $10 million level for research and development that was recommended by the Legislative Committee on Research and Development; it includes increased University fund-raising efforts in support of libraries, faculty chairs and professorships and endowed scholarships; and improvements to student marketing and retention programs along with increased funding for computer science programs and student access to computers. He said the plan is in place and all that remains to be done is to identify those benchmarks that will help to track progress toward achievement of the goals listed. On motion of Trustee DiMatteo, which was seconded, it was VOTED: to approve the Fiscal Year 2000 and 2001 Biennium Plan and the Appropriations Request as presented.

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

- Academic Degree Program Inventory
- FY98 Pooled Endowment Fund Performance
- Year 2000 Progress Report
- Year-end Report on Maintenance Expenditures
- Construction Status Report
- UMS Serving Maine Agriculture
- Trustee, Faculty and Student Biographical Sketches
- Summary of Current Statistics
- Board Agenda Calendar

9. **Date of Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Board will be held on November 15-16, 1998, at the
On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Sandra F. Johnson for
Mary Ann Haas, Clerk