Trustee Mullen, Chair convened the meeting.

Citizen Comment. Phyllis vonHerrlich spoke about the results of a survey that was distributed to the University of Maine System employees in the Clerical, Office, Laboratory and Technical Unit (COLT). Ms. vonHerrlich shared with the Trustees some of the highlights from the data compiled from the survey.

Acceptance of Minutes. On motion of Trustee Cyr, which was seconded by Trustee C. Johnson, the minutes for the September 22-23, 2002, Board of Trustees meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

Chair’s Remarks. Trustee Mullen welcomed everyone and wished everyone a happy holiday season. This meeting is a special meeting due to the November 17-18, 2002, Board of Trustees meeting being cancelled due to inclement weather. Trustee Mullen thanked Ellen Doughty and Kelley Wiltbank for their work in canceling and rescheduling the meetings and setting up a standardized contingency plan for future changes (delays, postponement, cancellation, etc.) in the Board meetings due to inclement weather. He also thanked the Presidents’ and their staff for their work in rescheduling this meeting. The Student Trustee, Matthew Rodrigue, was formally welcomed as the newest member of the Board. Trustee Mullen clarified that the University of Maine System has no interest in taking over the Technical College System or Maine Maritime Academy, but its interest is in making sure that the establishment of a Community College System is done properly, thoughtfully and effectively. He feels the University of Maine System has operated as the de facto community college in Maine for over 20 years. In a state with
scarce resources we can not afford redundancy and we must ensure a seamless system of higher education. This can only be accomplished by communication and cooperation. Trustee Mullen also clarified that the System is not proposing capital improvements to one campus at the expense of another, specifically Bailey Hall at USM versus the Fogler Library at UM. The Fogler Library is the key library resource for the System and the state. The magnitude of that project will be handled separately and appropriately. Our focus has to be on priority projects that can be completed. For too long we have patched things up due to insufficient funds. A 14% increase in our legislative appropriations was proposed so we can freeze tuition and tackle other perennial challenges. It is not because the UMS is oblivious to state’s current economic status. Rather, it is to focus on what the Board thinks the state’s priority should be. Meanwhile the System is developing a strategy that will precisely do everything within our power to address our own priorities. This will necessitate change and tough decisions with clarity and purpose. The System’s obligation is not only to provide education but quality education.

Chancellor’s Remarks. Chancellor Westphal opened his remarks by stating that this is likely the worst year for the state budget since WW II and it is hard to predict the economic future over the next year. We are all faced with a huge challenge of doing more with less. Our budget submission to the current Governor stressed the four cornerstones for the University of Maine System’s future, which are to maintain the quality of our system, the importance of access, the development of partnerships, and the improvements to our own business practices. We are all committed to improving the quality of live for our staff and our institution. The Chancellor stated he is encouraged by the Governor elect John E. Baldacci’s strong commitment to higher education.

Consent Agenda. On motion of Trustee McCrum, which was seconded by Trustee Prescott, the following recommendations were unanimously approved by the Board:

Awarding of Academic Degrees. The Board of Trustees authorized the awarding of degrees for the Fall Commencement 2002 and the Spring and Summer Commencements 2003 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.

Response to the Board of Trustees for the University of Maine at Augusta’s Proposed Bachelor of Arts in Architecture Degree. The Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture at the University of Maine at Augusta.


1993 Bond Refinancing. The Board of Trustees approved the refinancing of 1993 bonds callable on March 1, 2003, which will result in a decrease in the interest rates and savings of approximately $1 million or $85K per year over the remaining life of the bonds, which is 20 years. In addition the Board of Trustees approved the borrowing of up to $5 million at tax-exempt rates for two campus projects with budget increases over and above the original bond financing (USM and UMM) and the elimination of about $3 million of debt.
service reserve on the 1993 bonds by paying down the 1993 bonds with the proceeds from these reserve funds.

New Community Education Facility - USM. The Board of Trustees approved the naming of the Community Education Center at University of Southern Maine the Joel and Linda Abromson Community Education Center in recognition of their commitment to community education, the greater Portland community, and economic development in Southern Maine. The Board of Trustees approved the naming of the Community Education Center Lecture Hall the Hannaford Lecture Hall in recognition of the support for education provided by the Hannaford Brothers Charitable Foundation. The Board of Trustees also authorized an increase in the scope of the Community Education Facility and Parking Garage to a funding level of $25 million, with additional costs to be paid from the Muskie Institute funding, fund-raising, and debt service on future Revenue Bonds from existing student fees.


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

Deirdre Mageean, Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, UM
Lavon Bartel, Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, UM

Appointment of Clerk. The Board of Trustees approved the appointment of J. Kelley Wiltbank as Clerk of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees effective November 1, 2002.

Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreements. The Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to execute the collective bargaining agreements with the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine System, MEA/NEA; with Teamsters Union Local #340 Service and Maintenance unit; and with the Maine Part-time Faculty Association, AFT Local #5493, AFT-Maine, AFL-CIO upon receipt of notice that the agreements have been ratified by the appropriate union. The Chancellor is also authorized to conclude and execute other collective bargaining agreements if tentative agreements are reached by November 25, 2002.

Compensation Adjustment Authorization. The Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to determine individual salary adjustments for Presidents for FY03.

Date of the Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be January 12-13, 2003, at the University of Maine.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk