Board of Trustees Meeting


Trustee Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Citizen Comment. Citizen Comment is a time regularly set aside for comments from the public. The following people spoke during the citizen comment period:

Ron Mosley (He was not able to stay for the Board meeting because of the weather and a letter was distributed on his behalf.)

Melissa St. Germaine

Acceptance of Minutes. On a motion by Trustee Mullen, which was seconded by Trustee William Johnson, the minutes from the following meetings were unanimously approved as presented:

- October 19, 2005 – Trustee Affairs Committee Meeting
- November 21, 2005 – Audit Committee Meeting
- November 29, 2005 – Investment Committee Meeting
- December 4-5, 2005 – Board Meeting and Committee Meetings
- January 5, 2006 – Strategic Planning Subcommittee Meeting

Chair’s Agenda and Report. Trustee Johnson reported the Strategic Planning Subcommittee met on January 20th in the morning to discuss the UMA mission. The afternoon session included the Chairs of the Implementation Planning Committees and included an update on the Strategic Plan. This was a significant meeting with very productive dialog about all of the Strategic Directions. An Implementation Planning Retreat is scheduled for February 10th at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

Some of the key items on the agenda are the approval of two new programs and confirmation of the Honorary Degrees. The Board also received presentations on Transforming USM, Readiness for Mathematics in College and a THESIS update.

Trustee Johnson thanked President Pattaneaude and the staff at USM for hosting the Board meetings. Trustee Murphy as a Portland resident thanked the USM Board of Visitors for their presentation on Sunday and their contributions. She hopes the Board of Trustees will take the opportunity to meet with all of the Boards of Visitors when the Board of Trustees meet on the campuses.
Chancellor’s Agenda and Reports. Chancellor Westphal introduced Dr. James Breece, Executive Director of Planning and Policy Analysis, to provide highlights of the Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF) Annual Report for 2005. Dr. Breece commented that UMaine and USM attracted $41.9 million in external grants and contracts by leveraging $12.7 million in MEIF funds and a 5-for-1 return on investment for every MEIF dollar it received. A total of $54.6 million was invested in seven MEIF targeted research areas. The MEIF funds and the leveraged external grants and contracts supported 743 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.

Presidents Kennedy and Pattenaude spoke about the activities at UMaine and USM as a result of the MEIF funds. President Kennedy commented that UMaine is the research institution in the State that is doing research in all of the seven targeted areas of strategic importance and potential to Maine. UMaine had 600 proposals submitted by the faculty. UMaine recently received word that they have been granted a $6.9 million NSF award in forest bio-fuels and with the match the total amount will be approximately $9 million for one of the oldest and most traditional industries in the State of Maine.

President Pattenaude explained that USM has a primary focus on two targeted areas which are bio-sciences and precision manufacturing. USM generated $41.4 million in external funding. The total grant and contract expenditures reached $42.2 million in Fiscal Year 2005. USM had 274 proposals submitted and $2.3 million in MEIF funds were leveraged to bring in an additional $1.9 million in external grants.

Dr. Breece provided an overview of the Annual Report on Degrees Conferred for 2004-2005. UMS awarded an all-time high of 5,331 degrees during the 2004-05 academic year which is an increase of 375 over the previous year. Over 70% of the degrees conferred are at the baccalaureate level, 8% at the associate level, 17% at the masters level, and over 2.5% at the doctorial level. The three most popular disciplines are education, health professions, and business and management.

The Chancellor presented the System-level Marketing and Advocacy update. The Strategic Plan outlines that USM will develop a coordinated and collaborative approach to university advancement and advocacy to improve the appeal, reputation, financial resources, identity, and constituent support for Maine’s public universities. The two broad objectives of the initiative are to complement the student recruitment strategies and resources of the individual universities and to increase public and private support for the System and its universities in ways that advance their respective missions. The student recruitment objectives are to augment recruiting efforts of individual universities, to increase awareness and interest among potential students, and to cultivate influencers. The timetable will be the roll-out of System marketing in March which coincides with initial stages of the Fall 2007 recruitment season. The desired outcomes of the Marking and Advocacy Initiative includes more students, increased public and private funding, and broad appreciation and support of the value and contribution of Maine’s public universities.

Committee Reports/Action.

Academic Affairs Committee – Trustee Judith Andrucki reported that the Committee agreed to forward to the consent agenda for approval the UM Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the USM Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and the Honorary Degree Nominations for 2006. The Academic Year Calendars were presented as an information item. The Honorary Degrees for 2007 were tabled until the next Board meeting.
Finance/Facilities Committee – Trustee McCrum reported that the Committee received a presentation on Transforming USM Capital Plan: University Commons. The Committee also had a presentation from the USM Board of Visitors.

Human Resources and Labor Relations Committee – Trustee Murphy reported that the Committee agreed to forward to the consent agenda changes to the Equal Opportunity Policy, the appointment of Elaine L. Clark as Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance at UMaine, and authorized the Chancellor to execute the collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Union Local #340 for the Service and Maintenance Unit upon receipt of notice of ratification by the Union. The Committee discussed and approved proposed changes to the Procedures for Recruitment and Selection of Presidents.

Student Affairs Committee – Trustee William Johnson reported that the Committee received a presentation on Readiness for Mathematics in College and an update on THESIS.

Trustees Affairs Committee – Trustee Paul Mitchell reported that the Committee met on January 5, 2006 to discuss a possible meeting with the governor, suggested meeting with Education Committee, reviewed the role of Committee, and discussed restructuring of Board meetings.

Strategic Planning Subcommittee – Trustee James Mullen reported that the Subcommittee met on January 5th and January 20th to address the Kennebec Valley Task Force recommendation on Strategic Direction #8, the proposed merger of the UMA/USM. The consensus of the Subcommittee is not to recommend that the merger proceed. There are a number of areas of discussion still remaining including the niche for UMA, distance education, financial data and cost analysis, and the University College of Bangor.

Consent Agenda. On a motion by Trustee Weston, which was seconded by Trustee McCrum, the following recommendations were unanimously approved by the Board.

UM Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Maine.

USM Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. The Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Southern Maine.

Honorary Degree Nominations for 2006. The Board of Trustees approved the 2006 nominations for Honorary Degrees as presented.

Transforming USM Capital Plan: University Commons. The Board of Trustees approved the USM University Commons project with a $21.0 million budget, pending resolution of the $2.0 million in matching funds to secure the $4.0 million gift from the Bernard Osher Foundation and the Board of Trustees authorized the issuance of $5.0 million in future University Bonds as a portion of the funding for USM University Commons, with debt service to be funded from current rental costs for the Muskie School. The reimbursement resolution for this project is as follows:

Reimbursement Resolution
Be it resolved that, for purposes of Treasury Regulation § 1.150-2, the University of Maine System reasonably expects (1) to incur debt to reimburse expenditures (including expenditures made within the last 60 days) temporarily advanced from funds currently held in the Plant Fund, such expenditures to be made to pay the cost, or a portion of the cost, of constructing the University Commons at the University of Southern Maine, and (2) that the maximum principal amount of debt to be issues for such construction and related cost of financing, including for reimbursement purposes, is $5,000,000.

Equal Opportunity Policy. The Board of Trustees approved the revised Equal Opportunity Policy as proposed.

Appointment for Trustee Approval. The Board of Trustees approved the appointment to a position at or above the level of Dean or equivalent as recommended by the Chancellor, as follows:

Elaine L. Clark, Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance, UM

Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to execute the collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Union Local #340, Service and Maintenance Unit, upon receipt of notice of ratification from the Union.

Information Items. The following items where included in the agenda for information only:

Academic Year Calendars
Update on Readiness for Mathematics in College
THESIS Update
Maine Economic Improvement Fund Annual Report
Annual Report on Degrees Conferred (2004-05)
Agenda Calendar

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on March 19-20, 2006, at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk