

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine
September 14, 2008

**Meeting with Faculty Representatives,
Trustees, Chancellor and Presidents**

Present: Lyndel Wishcamper, Chair; Jean Flahive, Norman Fournier, Tamera Grieshaber, Charles Johnson, William Johnson, Barry McCrum, Marjorie Medd, Victoria Murphy, Wayne Newell, and Charles O'Leary
Chancellor: Richard Pattenau. **Faculty Representatives:** Raymond Albert, Terry Colby, Bertram Jacobs, Harold Jones, Shallee Page, and Robert Rice. **Presidents:** Selma Botman, Richard Cost, Cynthia Huggins, Allyson Hughes-Handley, Theodora Kalikow, Robert Kennedy, and Donald Zillman. **System Staff:** Tracy Bigney, James Breece, and Kelley Wiltbank.

Absent: James Dowe, Susan Gendron, Krisandra Horn, Paul Mitchell, and Margaret Weston.

Trustee Barry McCrum called meeting to order. UM Faculty Representative Robert Rice introduced the President and Vice President of UM's Faculty Senate: Dianne Hoff and Judy Kuhns-Hastings.

Dr. Rice asked whether UMPI Faculty Representative Harold Jones would be allowed to sit on the Technology Committee. Dr. Rice also asked the Trustees to consider a recommendation to encourage the Presidents to teach a course and said across the nation there are presidents who do teach classes and when they do they have a renewed understanding of the problems that exist in the classrooms.

Dr. Rice distributed a copy of the brochure on the Dialogues in the Disciplines conference and outlined the agenda for that meeting, scheduled for September 25 at UM.

UMFK Faculty Representative Raymond Albert spoke about various aspects of instructional technologies and said that if there is one area of the System that represents a significant amount of money is in academic/instructional technology. He said the UMS lacks a systemic view of ways in which this resource might be improved in terms of efficiency and effectiveness. Dr. Albert said an example is that at present, smart classrooms are not alike and standardization could lead to significant savings if the System group-purchased technology such as DVD players.

Dr. Rice raised the issue of program eliminations across the System and asked the Board what should be the criteria for cutting programs and what is considered when those decisions are made. Trustee William Johnson said that question was being explored

under academic efficiencies and was part of the ongoing review process already in place. He said in response to financial challenges, the Trustees are exploring a series of screens that examine course offerings and that is as far as they have gotten.

He asked what screens would faculty suggest? Dr. Rice said unless you're talking about lab programs, the marginal cost of a program is small and just cutting programs does not necessarily save money in the short or the long term. Dr. Jones said simple criteria are not the answer because there are cyclical patterns and there are certain programs that will never have large enrollment, but are necessary.

Dr. Shallee Page, UMM's Faculty Representative, said it would be important to have a discussion of what triggers program reviews and how often do campuses need to go through the process. He said tight budgets are a good time to look at getting rid of things that should have gone awhile ago, or never have been created. He asked that faculty input be sought in this process and if programs are going to be cut, there should be a substantial reason for doing so.

UMF Faculty Representative Bertram Jacobs raised questions about the proposed Campus Violence Policy draft. He asked that more consideration be given to better defining terms used since the Policy states that any member of the university community who violates this Policy can receive disciplinary action up to and including termination. Dr. Jacobs said that was a bit troubling considering the looseness of the language. Ms. Tracy Bigney, UMS Chief Human Resources Officer, agreed to meet with the faculty representatives to discuss the language and the document. She said the document has gone through multiple drafts but the language should be examined to make sure it is clear. Ms. Bigney volunteered to work with Dr. Jacobs on language clarification. Chancellor Richard Pattenaude said it was important to make sure we clearly step forward to protect people and acknowledged it is a tricky situation and at the end of the day each campus will promulgate their own procedures.

Adjournment.

Peter Cook for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk of the Board