

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine System

March 16, 2009

Meeting with Faculty Representatives

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

Absent: Susan Gendron, Krisandra Horn, Charles Johnson, Paul Mitchell, and Victoria Murphy.

Trustee Wishcamper welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Trustee Wishcamper asked for the faculty's input on the New Challenges, New Directions Task Force meetings across the state.

Bob Rice, Faculty Representative from UM & Task Force Member

- There is a great deal of passion from those who have spoken at the meetings
- It is evident the importance the campuses are to their communities
- There are a number of collaborative efforts currently underway among the campuses
- The Task Force will be reviewing other system models
- Distance Education is being reviewed
- Reshape the System in the context of the missions of the campuses to make them viable without breaking the campuses and the System

Ron Mosley, AFUM President, Professor at UMM & Task Force Member

- He has attended all public hearings and the meetings have a different focus on each campus
- Currently there is a lot of collaboration and the smaller campuses are looking for stronger leadership at the System level
- There is more work to be accomplished in the way the larger campuses relate to the System Office

Chancellor Pattenaude

- One of the benefits of the Task Force is that the System is getting a great deal of attention about rethinking of its work which has created a greater capacity and attention for change
- The Legislature is prepared to listen to the proposed changes for the UMS

Trustee Lyndel Wishcamper

- Recessions can have a silver lining which is creating the necessity for change
- Revenue growth has to be a major focus
- There have been significant benefit coming from of mutual learning that is taking place during this process
- The stimulus funding should be used to investment in the future

Terry Colby, Faculty Representative from UMA

- Faculty are waiting to hear the result of the Task Force's work including what programs will be adjusted or eliminated

- There is energy on campus for how and what programs or ventures can grow to assist the UMS in being sustainable
- New moneys need to be well spent

Shallee Page, Faculty Representative from UMM

- One concern is information in the media can significantly impact the student recruitment efforts – positively or negatively

Trustee Tamara Grieshaber

- Be very careful with the accuracy and precision of the words that are used so that the correct message is being portrayed.
- The message should not be about cutting but be that the UMS is transforming higher education in the State

Trustee William Johnson

- Quality of education has to be a focus

Trustee Jean Flahive

- UMM can be a model with its initiative for a new direction with its rebranding and revisions to their mission

Allyson Handley, President at UMA

- Conversations need to focus around the needs of Maine students

Selma Botman, President at USM

- The Board of Trustees will play a very import role in helping the campuses accomplish what is needed to put the students at the center of their work.
- The relationships among campuses and the System is a partnership and the Presidents and the Board need to work together

Don Zillman, President at UMPI

- Feb 2009 issue of “Critical Insights” listed many issues negatively. However, education was one of the few issues that was very highly rated as a plus.

Cindy Huggins, President at UMM

- Two rules of thumb need to be followed when reviewing reduction issues: does it improve things for the students and second does it target the mission

Trustee Marge Medd

- The transformational change that has occurred in higher education over the past several years has been significant with the students and faculty are now more engaged, more academically focused, more outcomes orientated, and more student focused.

Trustee Lyndel Wishcamper

- Real change takes place at the grass roots level
- As trustees we have to find ways to drive the change without dictating it

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk