

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Southern Maine – Gorham Campus
January 12, 2009

Presidents' Meeting with the Board and Chancellor

Present: Lyndel Wishcamper, Chair; Jean Flahive, Norman Fournier, Tamera Grieshaber, Krisandra Horn, William Johnson, Marjorie Medd, and Victoria Murphy.
Chancellor: Richard Pattenaude. **University Presidents:** Selma Botman, Richard Cost, Allyson Handley, Cynthia Huggins, Theodora Kalikow, Robert Kennedy, and Donald Zillman. **System Staff:** James Breece, John Diamond, and Kelley Wiltbank.

Absent: James Dowe, Susan Gendron, Charles Johnson, Barry McCrum, Paul Mitchell, Wayne Newell, and Charlie O'Leary.

There was a lengthy discussion on Veterans Affairs. President Handley commented that the facility in Portland is a great resource for counseling for veterans and she stressed that the campuses need to be sure they don't take on more than the campus can handle with counseling the veterans. Trustee Wishcamper suggested developing a grant proposal for funding to assist veterans with tuition. Trustee Flahive commented that the UMS needs to have sensitivity awareness for the veterans needs. Trustee Horn raised the issue of cultural awareness for veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome. Trustee Wishcamper pointed out that the returning veterans are a new segment of future markets and the UMS needs to take advantage of this opportunity to attract them to higher education and the University of Maine System. President Handley explained that UMS is working on offering on-line classes to military personnel stationed in Iraq. President Kennedy suggested a systematic approach to contacting key people for funding for the veterans.

Chancellor Pattenaude asked the Presidents to reflect on how they see the New Challenges, New Directions are going to impact their campuses and what is the current situation at each of the campuses.

President Donald Zillman, UMPI

- Wind power project is moving forward
- Enrollment is a challenge

President Allyson Handley, UMA

- Enrollments are looking like they will meet or exceed target
- A great deal of anxiety on campus due to the financial crisis

President Theodora Kalikow, UMF

- UMF has starting a training process for faculty and staff on the financial challenges facing the campus
- Watching enrollments which are currently close to target for the spring

President Robert Kennedy, UM

- Contemplating a Student Innovations minor for all students

President Cynthia Huggins, UMM

- Three phase approach – reducing staff and operational budget; layoffs, and consolidation; and cleaning up academic programs.
- Rebuilding core to support Environmental Liberal Arts
- Promise of three year degree by taking winter and summer classes on-line

President Selma Botman, USM

- Balance the good news (commencement speaker will be Ellen Goodman) with the bad news of the budget
- Deeper planning structures

President Richard Cost, UMFK

- Asking directors who would you cut and why
- Faculty opposed to any kind of cuts
- Student Affairs area is looking hard at policy areas with emphasis on wellness, diversity, veterans affairs, and athletics.
- Support divisions will have to rehire if things pick up

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk