

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

hosted by and held at the University of Maine at Farmington
November 17-18, 2019

Board of Trustees Meeting

Present: James Erwin, Chair; Kelly Martin, Vice Chair; Samuel Collins, Timothy Doak, Patricia Riley, Gregory Johnson, Pender Makin, James Donnelly (by phone), Trevor Hustus, David MacMahon, Sven Bartholomew (Sunday only), Michael Michaud, Mark Gardner and Betsey Timm. **Chancellor:** Dannel Malloy. **Faculty Representatives:** Heather Ball, Timothy Surette, Clyde Mitchell, Lisa Leduc, and Kennedy Rubert-Nason. **Student Representatives:** Nathan Carlow, Teresa Plummer, Abby Despres, Dawn Johnson, Evan Zarkadas, Maggie Pomerleau, Abby Roche, and Hunter Chesley. **University Presidents:** Glenn Cummings, Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Ray Rice, Tex Boggs, Edward Serna, and Rebecca Wyke. **System Staff:** Robert Placido, Dan Demeritt, David Demers, Ellen Doughty, Chip Gavin, Ryan Low, Kim Jenkins, Kay Kimball, Tracy Elliott, Rosa Redonnett, James Thelen, Sam Warren and Chris Lindstrom.

Absent: Lisa Eames.

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Trustee Erwin, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the Executive Session to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Hustus, which was seconded by Trustee Riley, and approved by all members present, the Board of Trustees meeting went into Executive Session under the following provisions:

- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-A to discuss the evaluation of personnel and the consideration and discussion of appointments, employment and duties.
- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-C to discuss or consider economic development only if premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the System.

On a motion by Trustee Doak, which was seconded by Trustee Hustus, and approved by all members present, the Board of Trustees concluded the Executive Session.

Trustee Erwin, Chair, called the Public meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He thanked UMF President Edward Serna for hosting the Board of Trustees meeting. He then welcomed UMF Board of Visitors Chair, Mr. David Levesque to the Board table. Chair Erwin talked briefly about the USM job fair in which he recently participated. He stated that the job fair was a success and that it was a great example of the type of workforce engagement opportunities that all UMS campuses should be striving to develop.

Meeting with the UMF Board of Visitors.

Members of the UMF Boards of Visitors (BOV) met with the Board of Trustees for a discussion of campus BOV strategic goals and concerns. UMF President Serna welcomed the UMF BOV members, thanked them for all of the help they have been as he has transitioned into his UMF presidency role and for putting together the agenda for the BOV meeting with the Board of Trustees. He introduced UMF

BOV Chair, Mr. David Levesque, who introduced the other UMF BOV members present and provided a brief overview of the agenda for the BOV meeting with the Trustees. Mr. Levesque introduced the first presenter Mr. Philip Francis. Mr. Francis provided information on “The Good Life Course” which is a fusion program that UMF and the Seguinland Institute have developed to provide a valuable experiential learning in a retreat type setting during a student’s first year in college. This three or four credit course that promotes retention and student success, is offered to students during their first year Summer break. Mr. Stephen Grandchamp provided an overview of the New Commons Project and its connection to UMF. The New Commons Project is a public humanities initiative that creates a connection between the general public and public universities and provides awareness of arts and literature as a common good. Ms. Sarah Hinman provided information on the UMF Financial Literacy Peer Education Program. The program was developed to increase the financial literacy of UMS students by providing them with student led informational programming regarding personal finance, student loan borrowing, default prevention, and financial aid. Ms. Mckayla Marois provided information about the struggles and triumphs of attaining her undergraduate teaching degree as a first generation college student at UMF. She explained that although she was not able to attain her original degree, UMF’s Design Your Own Major Program made it possible for her to excel and pursue a degree in Inclusive Educational Policy with a concentration in leadership and the creative arts.

Monday, November 18, 2019

Trustee Erwin, Chair, reconvened the meeting and welcomed everyone and stated that Trustee James Donnelly would be participating by phone.

CITIZEN COMMENT

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

- Nathan Carlow – USM Name Change
- Jim McClymer – Unified Accreditation
- Jeffrey Jordan – USM Name Change
- Ainsley Wallace – USM Name Change

CHAIR’S REPORT. Trustee James Erwin thanked UMF President Serna and the UMF Staff for their hospitality while hosting the Board of Trustees meeting at UMF. He welcomed former UMS Trustee and UMFK BOV member, Ms. Marge Medd to the Board table. Chair Erwin expressed congratulations to former Trustee Michelle Hood as she recently accepted a new position as the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the American Hospital Association.

UMFK Presidential Search Update

Chair of the UMFK Presidential Search Committee, Trustee Kelly Martin provided a brief update on the status of the UMFK Presidential search process. The position profile has been developed through small group and campus open forum discussions at UMFK. This profile lists some of the key opportunities and challenges facing the next UMFK President and captures the experiences and qualities the Committee seeks in an ideal candidate. Trustee Martin stated that the search is attracting a strong, diverse group of candidates. The UMFK Presidential Search Committee’s next meeting is November 20, 2019 to continue the search process.

UMS Board Retreat

Chair Erwin provided a brief overview of the annual UMS Board of Trustees Retreat which occurred in October 2019. The key focus of the retreat was to discuss what a sustainable University of Maine System would look like

in 2025. Although there was progress and great discussion, a definitive answer was not discovered at the retreat; however, Chair Erwin assured that the Board will continue to work on this important strategic issue. Additionally, he thanked all of the Trustees for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend the retreat.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT. Chancellor Dannel Malloy provided a brief overview of his recent events and initiatives. He stated that he recently attended the Lumina Foundation Conference. The Lumina Foundation funds a number of programs in Maine and in other states and their primary focus is attainment and retention. The conference was attended by many including representatives from the Maine Governor's Office, the Maine Community College System, and key UMS Staff.

Student Retention

Chancellor Malloy stated that the UMS Enrollment Report would be presented later in the meeting. He explained that UMS is spending approximately \$12 million a year in recruiting new students and that it does not make sense that UMS student retention is at such a low level. Chancellor Malloy explained that UMS needs to change its trajectory on retention or it will fail to meet the challenges of the future, including the continued shrinking population in the State. He stated that every UMS faculty and staff member on every UMS campus is responsible for supporting students and helping to increase student retention.

UMS Infrastructure

Chancellor Malloy stated that UMS Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, Mr. Ryan Low and UMS Director of Community and Government Relations, Ms. Samantha Warren have been leading the Infrastructure Task Force that was set up by the legislature. The task force is working on developing a report that will help set the stage for the State to gain understanding of its continuing role in helping UMS and other Maine post-secondary education facilities to mitigate their infrastructure challenges. UMS is also looking into a number of energy projects and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) opportunities to mitigate some of the infrastructure funding issues. Chancellor Malloy explained that while the UMS is actively working on space reduction to phase out unusable space on campuses, they are also working to identify needed space for future initiatives, especially in the research and development program.

ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion by Trustee Hustus, which was seconded by Trustee Michaud, the minutes from the following meetings were unanimously approved as presented:

September 15-16, 2019 – Board of Trustees Meeting

October 28, 2019 – Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting

October 28, 2019 – Human Resources & Labor Relations Committee Meeting

October 30, 2019 – Finance, Facilities, Technology Committee Meeting

October 30, 2019 – Audit & Finance, Facilities, Technology Joint Session

October 30, 2019 – Special Board Meeting

Confirmation of Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees.

On a motion by Trustee Doak, which was seconded by Trustee Timm, the Board of Trustees approved the following Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees:

Faculty Representative:

Kennedy Rubert-Nason, UMFK – appointed for a 2 year term – November 2019 to November 2021

Honorary Degree Nomination for 2020, USM

On a motion by Trustee Timm, which was seconded by Trustee Riley, the Board of Trustees approved the 2020 nomination for Honorary Degree at USM as presented.

Report on a Summary of Process Considerations & Framework for Pursing Unified Accreditation

Chancellor Malloy explained that since the September 16, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting, he and his leadership team have been part of an extensive travel plan that has culminated, to date, in 33 public meetings at all of the UMS campuses. He also provided a brief overview of the history of UMS seeking accreditation starting with first conversations in the late 1960s at the formation of the System to approval by the Board in 1986 to seek single accreditation at an appropriate time, through to the current unified accreditation recommendation and progress. Chancellor Malloy is recommending that UMS seek unified accreditation according to a set of Guiding Principles developed, and under which each UMS campus would operate largely as it does now, including with their current individual organizational structure, but with closer collaboration and shared governance that better meets the purposes of the System's formation. He stated that his team would include information on ongoing discussions with the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) staff as they have started to develop a unified accreditation plan. NECHE has indicated that if UMS is to grow in the direction we are currently headed, we will not be able to continue under the current accreditation model. The Chancellor is seeking Board approval to continue the process of developing a plan to achieve unified accreditation and to seek Board approval concerning unified accreditation at the January 26-27, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting. If the Board approves the Chancellor's recommendation to move to a unified accreditation model at the January 2020 Board meeting, the accreditation transition will occur over approximately two years.

UMS Chief of Staff (COS) and General Counsel, Mr. James Thelen provided an overview of the timeline in which the unified accreditation process has evolved since the September 2019 Board of Trustees meeting. COS Thelen explained that over the last 8 weeks the Chancellor and the UMS Leadership team have traveled more than 1950 miles to 33 campus engagement meetings between all 7 UMS campuses to have robust unified accreditation conversations with each campus community, including students, faculty, faculty leadership, administrators, and BOV members. The campus engagement meetings provided an opportunity for the unified accreditation team and the campus communities to exchange ideas and learn from each other. The information gathered was then used to develop the Summary of Process Considerations and Framework for Pursing Unified Accreditation Report that was presented to the Board of Trustees for this meeting. If the Board accepts the summary report and directs the Chancellor to continue the unified accreditation process, the next step would be to seek Board approval to pursue unified accreditation at the January 26-27, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting. COS Thelen explained that it is imperative that the unified accreditation work going forward will need to be driven primarily by UMS campuses who currently have their own accreditation in order to properly unify accreditation between all UMS campuses.

UMS Director of Organizational Effectiveness, Dr. Kim Jenkins provided an overview of the findings of the unified accreditation campus engagement survey which was open for feedback from September 30, 2019 to November 8, 2019. The survey had 67 respondents, of which 31 were faculty, 33 were staff members, and 9 identified as other. Respondents indicated that some aspects of unified accreditation that they liked were the improved student experience, opportunity for streamlined and efficient processes, adaptability to the changing labor market and increased flexibility and choices for UMS students. Survey respondents also raised some concerns and possible challenges with moving forward with unified accreditation. Some of the challenges mentioned were loss of individuality and control for campuses, loss of jobs due to redundancy of positions, faculty time and compensation for curriculum revisions, and concern that students will not actually benefit from moving in this direction. Results of the survey will

inform the unified accreditation plan moving forward. Full survey results and a survey summary have been posted to the UMS Unified Accreditation website.

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (VCAA) Dr. Robert Placido provided an overview of financial aid and general academic observations pertaining to unified accreditation. 11,636 in-state UMS students received some form of federal financial aid and 73% of those students had family incomes of less than \$60 thousand. Many UMS students would not be able to continue attending college without this financial aid. One of the UMS Unified Accreditation Guiding Principles states that individual UMS campuses will be able to maintain their own separate Office of Postsecondary Education Identification (OPEID) number in order to preserve existing financial aid operations. Dr. Placido and other key System staff members met with NECHE and United States Department of Education representatives to develop a solution for UMS campuses to maintain their OPEID number and also to activate an OPEID number for the University of Maine System, so it could be recognized as an institution. Dr. Placido discussed how moving towards unified accreditation will add opportunities by leveraging resources, enhancing program quality and collaboration, and removing barriers to student success.

USM Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Jeannine Uzzi provided an overview of regional level and program level accreditation. NECHE is the regional accreditation body for the UMS; however, the System has over 50 program level accreditations and certifications which are held in partnership with third party validators. UMS Guiding Principle Number 8 states that UMS campuses will retain their current program level accreditations through a transition to unified accreditation. In order to realize this goal there is much work that will need to happen and Dr. Uzzi along with other academic officers at USM and UM have begun to work with program level accreditors to develop solutions to maintain program level accreditation if UMS adopts a regional unified accreditation model. Dr. Uzzi is optimistic that many of the UMS program level accreditors will work with the UMS to continue program level accreditation after adoption of unified accreditation.

COS Thelen provided information about the next steps in the unified accreditation process. Going forward the UMS will have to submit a substantive change application to NECHE to continue on the path to unified accreditation. In order to prepare the application, COS Thelen is recommending that a substantive change steering committee be formed. Additionally, an academic governance steering committee will need to be formed to address System-wide academic governance, as required by NECHE for this process. Approximately six months after the substantive change application has been filed NECHE will send a team to UMS to perform an initial review. Approximately two years after initial approval of unified accreditation, NECHE will perform an evaluation to verify that UMS is complying with the nine NECHE standards under a unified accreditation model. COS Thelen explained that the United States Department of Education indicating that they could provide UMS with an OPEID while maintaining individual campus OPEIDs is a crucial and promising step in the right direction for continuing towards unified accreditation.

UM Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Dr. Jeffrey St. John provided an overview of the initial theories about NECHE standards in conjunction with unified accreditation. NECHE evaluates institutions against nine standards and institutions are responsible for providing full details pertaining to how they are meeting those standards. Dr. St. John provided a few examples of NECHE standards and explained what information that institutions would be responsible for providing to NECHE in order to show that they are meeting the requirements. He stated that in order for UMS to meet NECHE standards under a unified accreditation model, there would need to be a lot of integrated and coordinated work from academic staff throughout all UMS campuses.

On a motion by Trustee Johnston, which was seconded by Trustee Hustus, the Board of Trustees approved the following resolution:

1. Receives and accepts the Chancellor's Report on a Summary of Process Considerations and Framework for Pursuing Unified Accreditation and directs that it be transmitted to appropriate officials at NECHE and the U.S. Department of Education to enable further discussions to prepare for a potential transition to unified accreditation.
2. Authorizes and directs the Chancellor to continue to visit and engage with all UMS campuses to obtain appropriate input from all UMS stakeholders, and to engage with NECHE and the U.S. Department of Education as necessary and appropriate, in further developing implementation plans that would be necessary for a successful transition to unified accreditation.
3. Directs the Chancellor to prepare appropriate materials to bring to the Board for action at its January 2020 meeting the question of whether to initiate proceedings with NECHE, and as further appropriate with the U.S. Department of Education, to begin a transition to a unified institutional accreditation for the University of Maine System pursuant to the Guiding Principles already established.
4. Authorizes and directs the Chancellor and UMS Presidents to take such preliminary actions as may be necessary before Board action in January 2020 to ensure that a proper unified accreditation substantive change application can be prepared if the Board authorizes such action at that meeting.

USM Name Change

USM President Glenn Cummings and USM Chief Business Officer, Alec Porteous presented information on the USM request to change its name to the University of Maine at Portland. President Cummings has shared the market research data at over 25 forums with faculty, staff, students and alumni. He has also shared the data with several organizations that subsequently went on to endorse a name change. Endorsers of a name change include the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Portland Press Herald, USM's Board of Visitors, USM's Alumni Board, the USM Foundation Board, and 16 major Maine CEO and Business leaders who view a name-change as a means for addressing its workforce challenges. USM's Finance Office, which has been carefully analyzing the costs of a name change in consultation with the Leadership Team, projects the 2-year cost for the name change to be \$1.2 million. This includes one-time changes focused only on the name change. President Cummings has committed all of the funds in his Fund 10 account for the name change and is working to secure additional funding. He has pledged that there will not be a financial impact on the students at USM related to this change. The two major concerns voice about the USM name change concern the cost of the name change in light of USM's financial struggles and worry that the Lewiston and Gorham campuses will suffer due to the name change.

At the September 16, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting President Cummings presented the marketing research data and the Board voted to authorize the Chancellor and President Cummings to take actions to preserve the ability to seek legislative approval of the name change in the January 2020 legislative session. Since that vote, Senator Nate Libby sponsored a bill for the name change and it has been moved to the January 2020 session. President Cummings is now seeking the support of the Board of Trustees for the name change.

On a motion by Trustee Hustus, which was seconded by Trustee Gardner, the Board of Trustees voted to support changing the name of the University of Southern Maine to the University of Maine at Portland. The vote was not unanimous. Trustee Riley and Trustee Makin opposed the resolution.

Exception to Board Policy on Tenure.

On a motion by Trustee Riley, which was seconded by Trustee Doak, the Board of Trustees authorized a one-time exception to the Tenure policy to allow two faculty members at UMF four years of tenure probation credit.

VICE CHANCELLOR FOR FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND TREASURER'S REPORT.

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration & Treasurer Mr. Ryan Low provided the following financial update. The Managed Investment Pool has a current market value of \$345 million. It experienced a gain of 0.8% for the month of September, with a fiscal year to date loss of 0.4%. The Pension Plan has a current market value of \$27 million. It experienced a return of 0.2% for the month of September, with a fiscal year to date return of 1.2%. The Operating Fund has a current market value of \$298 million. It experienced a return of 0.1% for the month of September, with a fiscal year to date return of 0.6%. Preliminary October results indicate a return of 0.5%, yielding net investment revenue for the fiscal year of \$3 million. With an FY2020 investment income budget of \$3.4 million, the System has already realized its annual budget.

FY2021 Budget Update

Vice Chancellor Low reminded the Trustees that building the UMS budget is approximately a 10 month process that starts in July each year. Beginning in October Vice Chancellor Low will turn over all the documents and information that will be essential for the campuses to build their budgets such as shared service rates, health insurance rates, and depreciation and debt service funding levels. With this information, the UMS campuses have begun working with their campus community to build their proposed FY2021 budgets. With the unknown status of State appropriations the UMS campuses are having a more difficult time to forecast their annual budgets. Smaller campuses receive the largest percentage of the state appropriations in accordance to the new appropriation allocation model. State appropriations are a significant percentage of the smaller campus annual budgets and the amount they will receive for FY2021 is unknown at this time, which is making it difficult to plan the FY2021 budgets. Conversely, larger campuses receive a smaller percentage of the State appropriations and they are having difficulty trying to figure a way to cover FY2021 bargaining unit wage increases with flat funded State appropriations for FY2021. Vice Chancellor Low explained that the UMS has submitted a budget proposal to request that the FY2021 State appropriation align with what was originally in the Governor's budget. It is anticipated that the UMS will have an answer to the additional State appropriation request at the end of December or early January.

FY2020 Budget Forecast

Vice Chancellor Low provided a brief overview of the FY2020 Budget Forecast. He reminded the Trustees of the new process which allows UMS campuses an opportunity to fine tune their budgets and make adjustments midyear, to more accurately reflect actual numbers and provide relief for the campuses. He explained that while this is a great addition to the budget process, it is important that UMS find ways to improve the ability to forecast credit hours on the front end of the process. Vice Chancellor Low provided details on the FY2020 Budget Forecast document provided in the meeting materials and explained that it is a point-in-time document as of October 31, 2019 that shows only revenues and expenses. Excluding unrestricted investment income, the Universities, Governance, and University Services including the Employee Benefit Pool are projecting an operating loss of \$10.6 million or \$5.9

million greater than budgeted. Overall Fall total credit hours were 1.7% below budget. Enrollments were above budget at UMaine, UMPI, and the Law School. Although total enrollments were below budget at UMA, nonresident enrollments were 60% more than budget.

UMaine's total Fall credit hours were slightly above budget and out-of-state credit hours were 1.3% below budget, resulting in projected revenues of \$2.4 million below budget. Additionally, contractual compensation increases and one-time personnel commitments are approximately \$1.2 million more than budget. UMA's revenue is projected to be \$0.7 million below budget, but expenses are projected to be \$1.2 million below budget resulting in a projected loss of -\$1.6 million, which is a \$0.5 million improvement as compared to budget. USM's fall credit hours were 4% below budget. This reduction in credit hours combined with increased merit scholarship and waivers results in projected revenues of \$4.4 million below budget. Expenses are projected to be \$2 million below budget resulting in a projected loss of -\$2.4 million. Both USM and UMaine would have sufficient reserves to offset their losses if realized.

FY2019 Budget to Actual

Vice Chancellor Low provided a brief overview of the FY2019 Budget to Actual Report. For FY2019, the University of Maine System experienced an increase from E&G and Auxiliary operations of \$5.6 million; the equivalent of 1.0% of the annual operating revenue budget. Unrestricted investment income was budgeted at \$4.4 million; the return on unrestricted investments was \$10.6 million, resulting in an increase of \$6.2 million above budget. UMaine's enrollment was slightly below budget and revenues exceeded budget by \$1.0 million due primarily to increased indirect cost recovery. UMaine's operating expenditures were approximately \$1.8 million below budget resulting in positive operating results of \$2.8 million. UMA budgeted a loss of \$3.0 million, but the actual loss was \$0.8 million, which is an improvement of \$2.2 million. UMA's conservative spending and vacancy savings resulted in a \$2.4 million reduction in spending compared to budget. UMF's total credit hours were 7.8% below budget contributing to a total revenue variance to -\$2.4 million. UMF's total expenses were \$1.2 million above budget. There were some offsets, but UMF ultimately ended with a gap of approximately \$2.6 million. The Law School had originally budgeted a loss of \$1.2 million against which the Trustees had approved a Budget Stabilization transfer, if needed. Expenses were \$0.2 million below budget for a loss of \$0.9 million. At year end, the System transferred \$0.2 million in Budget Stabilization funds and USM transferred \$0.7 million from reserves to offset the Law School loss.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Fall 2019 Enrollment Report

UMS Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Robert Placido and UMS Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Success and Credential Attainment, Ms. Rosa Redonnett provided a brief overview of the Fall 2019 Enrollment and Return Rate Report. Dr. Placido stated that preliminary results show that UMS had approximately 30.3% of college bound high school market share for 2018. He also explained that UMS is pivoting its attention to developing initiatives to target the other 70% of the market, with the exception of the Maine Community College Systems 23% market share. As of October 27, 2019 UMS enrollment applications for 2020 are up by 491 and 2020 admitted students are up slightly by 6.

Total undergraduate credit hours from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 indicate that UM decreased -0.3%, UMA increased 3.8%, UMF decreased 3.2%, UMFK decreased 11.8%, UMM decreased 4.9%, UMPI decreased 7.8%, and USM increased 1.7%. Total graduate credit hours from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 indicate that UM increased 4.9%, UMF decreased 11.1%, and USM decreased 3.5%. Overall, the UMS is down approximately 0.6% in undergraduate total credit hours and up 0.2% in graduate total credit hours from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019. UMS total Early College credit hours have steadily increased since 2015 and are at a 14% increase from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019. UMS in-state credit hours are down -0.9% and out-of-

state credit hours are down -2.7% from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019. Dr. Placido noted that UMFK's decreased credit hours are mainly attributed to lower Early College enrollment and an administrative shift in the UMFK/UMA collaborative nursing program. Additionally, declines in Early College credit hours have less effect on the budget than graduate or undergraduate credit hours do.

Ms. Redonnett explained that most of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) information is based on first time, full-time students. UMS is in the process of developing alternative measurements that would provide a more accurate analysis and reflection of the range of the UMS student population. Ms. Redonnett provided an overview of the Undergraduate Return Rate by Credit Hour Report, which was provided in the meeting materials. The report indicates percentages of graduate and undergraduate students that enroll in a Fall semester and then return the next Fall semester. The data is divided between full time and part time students and analysis shows that at all UMS campuses part time students have a much lower return rate than full time students. Ms. Redonnett stated that if the UMS is going to succeed it must focus its attention on student retention. A UMS student success summit is planned for Summer 2020, which will focus on local and national initiatives and best practices for student success and retention.

Vice Chancellor Low explained that UMS is working on building better enrollment projections as part of the budget building process. He stated that tools such as the Undergraduate Return Rate by Credit Hour Report is a step in the right direction to fine tuning enrollment projections to assist in providing a more accurate UMS forecasted budget each fiscal year.

VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS' UPDATE. Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (VCAA) Dr. Robert Placido provided an update on several Academic Affairs items.

Geographic Information System (GIS).

UMF Professor of Geography and Environmental Planning, Mr. Matt McCourt provided information on the background of the Maine Geospatial Institute (MGI) and its work of building a professional geospatial community across Maine, as well as coordinating geospatial teaching and learning across the UMS campuses. Simon Murphy, a fourth year Environmental Policy and Planning student at UMF demonstrated an ongoing mobile GIS based collaboration between UMF undergrads and Foster Tech high school students.

Early College Computer Science Course.

UMFK Dean of Community Education, Mr. Scott Voisine presented information on a new innovative partnership with the staff of Project Login. Starting this spring, an early college course titled "Computers, Coding, and Careers" will be available via Rural U to all Maine high school students. The course is an elective course that introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore computing using problem-solving and real-work applications. There will also be a career-focused component to the course, and computer-based employers will, at times be part of the instruction.

Early College Plus.

UMS Executive Director for Early College, Dr. Amy Hubbard provided an introduction to the Early College Plus program, which is where university faculty work in partnership with high school teachers to provide a high quality online learning experience for high school students. The UMS Early College enrollment increased approximately 22% from last year and is expected to grow by 20% next year. The UMS Early College Plus program blends accessibility with high school support and can be adapted to fit the needs of the high school, campus, and course content. Early College Plus programs are being used at

other institutions nationally and UMS has started pilot programs at UM, UMA, UMFK, and USM. Dr. Hubbard also provided statistics on matriculation rates, academic performance, and graduation rates for students who participated in Early College and subsequently enrolled at a UMS campus.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Trustee Martin, which was seconded by Trustee Hustus, the items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees as follows:

The Board of Trustees reviewed the following agenda items as forwarded by the Academic & Student Affairs Committee to the Consent Agenda from its meeting on October 28, 2019:

Awarding of Academic Degrees.

The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and authorized the awarding of degrees during Commencement ceremonies for the 2019-2020 academic year to those students fully recommended by the appropriate faculties and the presidents of the respective institutions of the University of Maine System.

Academic Program Proposal: M.S. in Athletic Training, USM.

The Board of Trustees authorized the creation of a collaborative Master of Science in Athletic Training for the University of Southern Maine and University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Academic Program Proposal: M.A. in Organizational Leadership, UMPL.

The Board of Trustees authorized the creation of the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership for the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the following agenda items as forwarded by the Finance, Facilities, & Technology Committee to the Consent Agenda from its meeting on October 30, 2019:

Lease Authorization Request, UM.

The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee and authorized the University of Maine System acting through the University of Maine to enter a ground lease for the land at 109 College Avenue, Orono for the term of as long as fifty years with all final terms and conditions subject to review and approval of the University of Maine System Treasurer and General Counsel.

UMS Energy Financing Addendum & Funding USM ESCO Project.

The Board of Trustees authorized the University of Maine System to add an Energy Addendum to its Master Equipment Lease/Purchase Agreement with Banc of America Public Capital Corp for the financing of energy improvements including those related to Energy Services Company (ESCO) projects. Further, the Board of Trustees authorized the University of Southern Maine to fund an ESCO project on its Gorham campus, for Bailey and Anderson Hall energy improvements, using this financing arrangement, for up to \$1,900,000.

Erskine Hall Lease Extension, UMA.

The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee and authorized the University of Maine System acting through the University of Maine at Augusta to enter into a lease amendment with Mastway Development, LLC or its successor organization to extend the existing lease from five years to seven years duration at a total cost over

the seven year period of \$2,709,110 subject to review of the final terms and conditions by the University General Counsel and Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Hustus, which was seconded by Trustee Michaud, and approved by all members present, the Board of Trustees meeting went into Executive Session under the following provisions:

- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-C to discuss or consider economic development only if premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the System.

On a motion by Trustee Michaud, which was seconded by Trustee Martin, and approved by all members present, the Board of Trustees concluded the Executive Session.

Additional information about the meeting can be found on the Board of Trustees website:

<http://staticweb.maine.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/MtgMat-BOT-November-2019-revised-111919.pdf?0fa197>

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on January 26-27, 2020, hosted by the University of Maine.

Adjournment

Heather A. Massey for
Ellen N. Doughty, Clerk