

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine at Fort Kent  
May 24, 2010

### Meeting with Faculty Representatives

**Present:** Norman Fournier, Vice Chair; Eleanor Baker, Samuel Collins, James Dowe, Benjamin Goodman, Michelle Hood, Marjorie Medd, Paul Mitchell, Charles O’Leary, and Lyndel Wishcamper. **Chancellor:** Richard Pattenaude. **Faculty Representatives:** Raymond Albert, Terry Colby, Harold Jones, Robert Rice and Joanne Williams. **Presidents:** Selma Botman, Richard Cost, Cynthia Huggins, Allyson Handley, Robert Kennedy, and Donald Zillman. **System Staff:** Tracy Bigney, Rosa Redonnett, Kelley Wiltbank, and Rebecca Wyke.

**Absent:** Angela Faherty, Tamera Grieshaber, William Johnson, Kevin McCarthy, Victoria Murphy, and Wayne Newell.

Trustee Fournier welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

#### Robert Rice, UM

- Expressed thanks to UMFK for hosting the Board meeting.
- He raised several questions regarding the Distance Education Initiative – *Online Maine*
  - What is the return of investment for this initiative?
  - What makes the UMS distance education different from other institutions that offer the same service?
  - What is the strategic plan for *Online Maine*?
  - Campuses have had numerous program cuts and faculty positions not being filled. There appears to be no clarity and a great deal of confusion on the goals and objectives of Distance Education. There are also intellectual property rights to be considered.

Chancellor Pattenaude responded by stating the following key factors:

- There will be no additional cost for *Online Maine*.
- If UMS doesn’t offer online classes the System will be left behind.
- The online focus will be programs not just courses.
- Traditionally students take online classes from institutions they trust.
- The students’ prospective is that they require an integrated and coordinated access point for all online classes.
- There is an expectation that there will be increased revenue but it has not been counted towards the budget at this point.
- In the New Challenges, New Direction Work Plan at page 22 the Distance Education recommendation is outlined.

President Allyson Handley, UMA, raised the following issues:

- The Teaching Through Technology Task Force (T4) focused on faculty welfare related to the impact of technology in the classroom and creating a vision for the future.
- The UMS needs to look at the choices the students are making as well as what they require for online education.
- Prospective students are going from the laptop initiative in the high schools to classes on the UMS campuses that are not based on technology and UMS needs to correct that and keep up-to-date with the technology needs.

- The UMS is in the business of meeting students' needs and the System needs to look at how technology can meet those needs.
- *Online Maine* is not just a System initiative. It is also a campus based initiative.

**Joanne Williams, USM**

- She commented that she was pleased to see the work with *Online Maine*.

**Ray Albert, UMFK**

- Raised concerns about the continued investments in PeopleSoft in particular with the implementation of the Portal project
  - He encouraged the UMS to have a return of investment analysis for the Portal project

Trustee Wishcamper requested a comprehensive presentation at the July or September Board meeting on the distance education issues in order to lay the ground work for *Online Maine* and the investment required for the Portal project. More information is needed in order to have further discussions.

President Selma Botman, USM shared the following comments:

- Student learning is very diverse and they want different learning environments
- Many of the UMS faculty already are teaching online

**Robert Rice, UM**

- He had a suggestion for more inclusion in the evaluation process for the Chancellor, Presidents, Board Chair, Board of Trustees and Senior Administrators
  - The suggestion was to include a broader range of participation for evaluations of Senior Administrators to include an environmental, electronic survey from constituents to rate the effectiveness of the individual. This would include administrators, faculty and staff at all campuses.

Trustee Fournier commented that every third year there would be a comprehensive review for the Chancellor that includes a broad range of participants. Trustee Wishcamper suggested looking at the best practices from other Systems. Trustee Hood cautioned everyone that an evaluation of the performance of an individual is very different from an environmental assessment and there is usually clear separation between the two processes. An environmental assessment is used to form a strategy plan or to assess a particular area.

**Terry Colby, UMA**

- She suggested that the faculty develop a paper in the fall that outlines suggestions and recommendations on how the faculty can have more participation in the evaluation process.

Trustee Wishcamper commented that the Board has reviewed what is included in a comprehensive review and they want the best information available. The reason for updating the policy and practices is to institutionalize the process.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for  
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk