UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
at the University of Maine System  
September 13, 2010

Meeting with Student Representatives


Absent: Tamera Grieshaber, Kevin McCarthy, and Lyndel Wishcamper.

Trustee Fournier called the meeting to order and welcomed the Student Representatives.

Summer Meredith, Student Representative from UMM

- Suggested some wording changes to the Advancing Maine document:
  - Wondered whether the economic benefit of attracting out-of-state students should be added.
  - Liked the focus on accessibility over affordability.
- Tuition
  - Wondered if there was a way to demonstrate to students that they’re getting their money’s worth when tuition rates go up.
  - Suggested creating campus forums or some other way to communicate financial information to students.
    - Trustee Baker asked whether the issue was one of predictability of rate increases and not affordability.
    - Ms. Meredith said if students knew what tuition rates were likely to be in the future, it would help students plan for college and keeping tuition increases lower may have a positive effect on the retention rates.

Evan Scott Pollock, Graduate Student Representative from UM

- Asked how they could motivate students to participate in the discussion of finances and tuition hikes.
  - Rebecca Wyke, Vice Chancellor and Treasurer, said the goal is to bring tuition down, but the State subsidy is not keeping pace with costs.
  - Trustee Johnson asked whether there were ways to allow students to lock in the tuition based on their first year rate.
    - Chancellor Pattenaude said the Staff has looked at models like that, but numbers don’t work yet because the costs are unpredictable.
- Asked for an update on the UM Presidential Search process.
  - Trustee Baker said the Search Committee is now gathering feedback from UM constituencies, and consultant Terrence MacTaggart is putting together a leadership statement to guide the process. The next meeting of the Committee is October 1, and the position will be advertised October 8.
Bernice Michaud, Student Representative from UMFK

- Said she has heard some students are concerned with food allergies or other food issues, and wondered how students could be offered different choices to promote good health and avoid allergens
  - Chancellor Pattenaude said each university has a Food Committee and he will encourage them to meet with Aramark to talk about emerging food issues.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk