UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine at Augusta
March 14, 2011

Meeting with the Presidents


Absent: Stephen Bowen, Victoria Murphy, Wayne Newell and Charles O’Leary.

Trustee Wishcamper called the meeting to order.

**President Robert Kennedy, UM**
- There are changes in higher education which leave the future uncertain.
- The faculty and teacher tenure situation in Wisconsin raises concerns among faculty.
- Economics continue to be challenging.

**President Donald Zilman, UMPI**
- UMS cannot depend on any more funding from the Legislature.
- Need to keep tuition down and continue to pursue various initiatives to seek revenues.
- The new programs in Associate Degrees are helping to develop jobs in Aroostook County.

**President Wilson Hess, UMFK**
- Explained the new Fort Kent high school initiative which is Advanced Placement (AP) credits prior to graduation from high school that are applied to a university degree. This will save students money.
- He suggested a change in the agenda for these meetings.
  - Read short materials before the meeting then discuss then with the Board.
  - The Presidents will come up with something for the May meeting.

**President Selma Botman, USM**
- USM starting STEM Honors program with high achieving students (approximately 8 students) – it is a public-private partnership.
- She spoke of the NEHBE dinner the previous weekend where Terrence MacTaggart and the Oshers were honored.
- NEASC accreditation team coming in April.

**President Cynthia Huggins, UMM**
- UMM focused on advancing their Environmental Liberal Arts which has included involvement with local entities.
Dr. James Breece, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

- He will participate in the UMaine Grant Conference In This Economy.

- China Initiatives
  - Pleased to say there is an agreement with UMF and UM and has 50 students already in the pipeline studying two years in China and then two years at UMS.
  - USM has its own program but his office is helping in the undergraduate area.
  - UMFK and UMA have filed all of the paperwork for their initiative.
  - UMM and UMPI will be filing their paperwork soon.
  - There was a discussion about sending students and faculty to China.
    - Dr. Breece wanted to open opportunities for universities while maintaining quality.
  - On May 15 there will be a System-wide Workshop for 120 people to gear up on cultural sensitivity.

Adjournment,

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk