Meeting with Faculty Representatives


Trustee Collins welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Professor Valerie Hart, USM, read the following statement on behalf of the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Trustees.

Statement of the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Trustees
January 28, 2013

The Faculty Representatives of the seven campuses of the University of Maine System will not participate in our normal dialogue with the System and Board of Trustees today.

We have chosen not to participate in view of the refusal of the System's negotiating team to move forward with a fair and equitable contract for faculty members who have been working without a contract for nearly two years and agreed to no raise in the prior contract.

We have chosen not to participate because the efforts of our faculty members are not recognized through a fair and equitable contract.

We have chosen not to participate because of the Board's compliance with the stonewalling tactics of the System's negotiating team.

We have chosen not to participate because regardless of the independent fact-finding report's statement that the System continues to build its reserves and has doubled unrestricted net assets rather than offer a fair contract to faculty.

We have chosen not to participate because the System has spent millions of dollars for consultants during the past decade and then complain that funds do not exist for equitable employee compensation.

We have chosen not to participate because the System does not recognize that the primary function of the Universities comprising the System is to educate the students who attend our campuses.

We will continue to perform our primary mission that is to educate, mentor and advise the students who attend our campuses.

We will continue to perform service, where needed, to the State of Maine and its citizens.
We will continue to perform research and development activities that support the State's infrastructure and its people.

In lieu of our regular meeting time we hope you take this opportunity to discuss how we can reach a mutual accord that is in the best interest of the students and citizens of Maine that the faculty serve.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Witbank, Clerk