

July 2003

Minutes July 22, 2003

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**MINUTES OF THE TELEPHONE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT**

AGENDA

University of Connecticut
Rome Commons Ballroom
South Campus Complex
Storrs, Connecticut

July 22, 2003

OPEN SESSION

Call to order at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairman John Rowe. Trustees who participated by telephone were: James Abromaitis, Louise Bailey, Michael Cicchetti, Linda Gatling, Lenworth Jacobs, Michael Martinez, Frank Napolitano, Denis Nayden, Michael Nichols, David O'Leary, Thomas Ritter, Richard Treibick, Richard Twilley, and Brenda Sisco, who represents the Governor's Office.

Trustee present was: Philip Barry.

Trustees absent were: William Berkley, Bruce Gresczyk, and Theodore Sergi.

University Staff present were: President Austin, Vice President for Financial Planning and Management Aronson, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Associate Vice President Callahan, Associate Vice Chancellor Fox, Dean of Students Saddlemire, Assistant Attorney General McCarthy, Dr. Schurin, Ms. Locke, and UConn Foundation President John Martin participated by telephone.

Chairman Rowe regretted that his first meeting with the Board was held by telephone, but there were a few matters that required immediate attention. He expressed his enthusiasm in leading the Board through the next phase of the University's transformation and in with working with President Austin. He thanked the Board members for their warm welcome.

Ms. Brenda Sisco joined the meeting at this time.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present.

1. Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Board.

2. Chairman's Report

Chairman Rowe noted that there were two matters to be addressed. He asked President Austin to discuss the proposed By-Law changes.

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After welcoming Dr. Rowe to the Board, President Austin asked for a motion to change the by-laws.

(a) Items requiring Board discussion and approval:

- (1) Approval of Proposed Changes to the
University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws Attachment 1

Mr. Treibick offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Martinez, to approve the substantive changes that apply to Article VIII of the By-Laws, with the title changes appearing throughout the By-Laws.

President Austin reported that he met with members of the Board regarding changes in the organizational structure, which are illustrated in Attachment 1. He noted that the proposed changes are consistent with the recommendations made by the consulting firm, Pappas Consulting Group, Inc., which suggested the consolidation of several academic support service functions under the direction of a chief operating officer. President Austin stressed that the University is undergoing tough economic times and must consider more efficient modes of operation. He noted that this administrative model has been adopted by many significant public, land-grant institutions in the country and will serve to improve the University's operations, particularly in the areas of information technology, human resources, etc.

Dr. Jacobs joined the meeting at this time.

Chairman Rowe asked the Board if there were any questions or comments.

THE BOARD APPROVED the substantive changes that apply to Article VIII of the By-Laws, with the title changes appearing throughout the By-Laws.

President Austin introduced the materials related to fee student adjustments in Attachment 2. He asked Vice President Aronson to discuss the fee proposals.

Vice President Aronson noted that under normal circumstances the administration brings fee adjustments to the Board along with the budget, which is in keeping with the process that was developed several years ago. Because there is no budget, it is critical that the administration work hard to ensure that students are informed in advance of the school year about fees that will be applied during that time. At this time, the Board needs to approve the Waterbury Student Parking Fee, which will need to go into effect with the start of the upcoming school year and the move to the new facility. Vice President Aronson asked Trustees if they had any questions.

Trustee Napolitano noted that both fees are described as adjustments, but the Waterbury Student Parking Fee is a new fee. He suggested that the document be corrected, and Vice President Aronson said this will be done.

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Trustee Twilley asked if every student will have a guaranteed parking spot in the Waterbury Campus garage. Vice President Aronson responded that there will be more than adequate parking available.

Trustee Twilley asked for a status report on construction of the parking garage and the campus building. Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss responded that both buildings will be ready to accept students at the start of the academic year.

Trustee Nichols asked if the faculty will also pay a fee to park in the garage. He noted that he was a member of the Student Fee Advisory Committee and was concerned about creating a fee for students if the faculty were not also asked to contribute. Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss responded that the Board acts on student fees not on fees that apply to faculty and staff. Vice President Aronson believed faculty will pay a fee, but noted that the administration will need to look at this issue more closely, because the way provisions of state law work the University is required to provide to employees access to free parking. At the Storrs campus, free parking is available in the more remote parking lots. For Waterbury, the administration will need to determine where free parking space is appropriate before a final answer can be made.

Trustee Abromaitis asked for information on projections for enrollment potential at the start of the academic year. Vice President Aronson responded that she did not have that information available, but would provide that information as soon as possible.

Trustee Twilley asked for confirmation that the Waterbury parking garage money came from a separate fund, not from UCONN 2000 monies, but from the Department of Economic & Community Development. He asked Trustee Abromaitis if that was correct. Trustee Abromaitis responded that the Department did provide some funds for this project, but he did not have specific details at hand. Trustee Twilley echoed Trustee Nichols' comments about ensuring that both the faculty and staff contribute.

Trustee Twilley asked Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss to provide the dimensions of the Waterbury parking garage. Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss responded that the garage will hold approximately 600 vehicles. He noted that he would confirm that figure at the next meeting.

Chairman Rowe noted that at the next Board meeting, the administration will provide additional information in response to questions that have been asked about the Waterbury Campus.

Trustee Gatling asked the administration if there would be a budget before August 21st. She also asked if there was no State budget, how would this affect the University.

Vice President Aronson responded that the administration would continue current operating practices. She noted that the University is operating on the FY 03 budget, with some adjustments accounting for early retirements. In these cases, dollars will be removed from departmental budgets, but there will still be a great need for class

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coverage. To offset the retirements, many faculty members who retired will be brought back for 120 days to teach classes.

Chairman Rowe said that although there is great interest in the status of the budget, he asked the Board to complete its discussion of the Waterbury Student Parking Fee. Chairman Rowe asked for a motion to approve the student fees.

- (2) Fiscal Year 2003-04 Fee Adjustments:
Waterbury Student Parking Fee
Stamford Student Government Fee Attachment 2

On a motion by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mrs. Gatling, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the Waterbury Student Parking Fee effective for the Fall 2003 semester and the Stamford Student Government Fee effective for the Spring 2004 semester.

Chairman Rowe reminded the Board that the Capital Budget Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, August 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the Merlin D. Bishop Center at Storrs.

Chairman Rowe noted that summer is traditionally the time for Board members to consider new or changes in committee assignments. He asked that this process be delayed until the fall semester, so that he has had the opportunity to become more familiar with the issues. Chairman Rowe noted that this time will give Board members an opportunity to consider the current committees, which may generate discussion about what committees should be in place and whether the right committees exist. Chairman Rowe also noted that he will be sending out a survey to all Board member asking for feedback about how they feel about Board governance, structure, committees, schedule, venue of the meetings, participation of staff, relationship to various constituencies, etc. He also asked Board members to offer suggestions that they feel would be germane to include in such a survey.

Chairman Rowe asked if there were any questions or comments.

3. Adjournment

Trustee Ritter noted that he was very pleased to be a member and looked forward to working with the Board. Chairman Rowe responded that the Board and the University is grateful for his deep commitment and support for the University.

There being no further business, the Board meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary