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Minutes, 1998 April 3

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Held at Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
370 Bassett Road, North Haven, Connecticut

April 3, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Roger A. Gelfenbien. Trustees present were: Mmes. Bailey, Berry, Leonardi; Messrs. Abromaitis, Bellafiore, Collins, Downey, Napolitano and Saslow.

Trustees Ferris, Heist, Jacobs, and Sergi were absent from the meeting. Trustees Berkley, Cicchetti, Smith and Treibick were not present or able to participate by phone due to technical difficulties with the telephone system.

University staff present were: President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert; Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler; Vice Presidents Allenby and Jones. Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Services Vance, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Attorney Shapiro and Dr. Schurin.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, except as otherwise noted. All members of the Board noted above were present at this time.

Chairman Gelfenbien began the meeting by expressing his appreciation to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield for their hospitality in hosting this meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, THE BOARD VOTED to go into Executive Session at 11:01 a.m. to discuss matters that would result in the disclosure of public records described in section 1-19 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Chairman noted that on the advice of counsel only the staff members whose presence was necessary to provide their opinion would be permitted to attend Executive Session.

All members of the Board noted above were present at this time.

Discussion of matters that would result in the disclosure of public records described in section 1-19 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes were discussed. President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Vice Presidents Allenby and Jones. Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Services Vance, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Attorney Shapiro and Dr. Schurin were present for this discussion.
Executive Session ended at 12:15 p.m. The Board recessed for lunch, and returned to Open Session at 1:10 p.m.

The following members of the public addressed the Board on the topics noted:

Francis Grady: Tri-Campus Role & Scope Statement
Muff Maskovsky: Tri-Campus Role & Scope Statement
Kenneth Lesser: Tri-Campus Role & Scope Statement
John Hutchinson: Tri-Campus Role & Scope Statement

When provided, copies of individual public statements are attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Chairman Gelfenbien called upon Chancellor Emmert to introduce Susan Steele, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Instruction, who presented an update on enrollment management. Background information relating to her presentation is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

A. The Report of the Chairman included the following items:

1. On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mrs. Berry, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 13, 1998.

2. Chairman Gelfenbien announced the 1998 Commencement Schedule and requested that the detailed schedule of events be sent to each Trustee.

Two Undergraduate Commencements will be held on Saturday, May 16, 1998. The first one will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the second at 1:30 p.m. in the Gampel Pavilion. At that time, former President George Bush will be the undergraduate speaker, and will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

On Sunday, May 17, 1998, the Law School will hold its exercises at 11:00 a.m. at the Law School in Hartford. Also on Sunday in Storrs, the Graduate Commencement exercises will begin at 3:00 p.m. in the Gampel Pavilion.

On Thursday, May 21, 1998, the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine will hold its Commencement exercises beginning at 5:15 p.m. at the Health Center in Farmington.

3. On a motion by Mr. Bellafiore, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the list of Candidates for Commencement. This agenda item was listed as item 2a of the Chairman’s report and was a handout. A copy of the list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
Chairman Gelfenbien noted that consent agenda items listed as "Handouts" for items 2, 10, 11, 12, 16 and 18 had been distributed to Trustees at their places. The following items were REMOVED from the consent agenda for further discussion, except for Item #18, which was removed from the consent agenda to be placed under the Health Affairs Committee Report and retitled. Background information on each of these items is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

(3) Approval of Amendment to Article XIV, A (Membership) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised 1995 (Attachment 2)

(13) Tri-Campus Role & Scope Statement (HANDOUT)

(18) Medical Staff Approval Protocol (Retitled) (HANDOUT)

On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mrs. Berry, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:

(1) Contracts and Agreements (Attachment 1)

(2) Medical Staff Appointments/Reappointments (HANDOUT)

(4) Approval of Amendment to Article VIII, E. (Vice President for Student Affairs) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised 1995 (Attachment 3)

(5) Approval of Amendment to Article III, 3. (Rules of Procedure and Order of Business) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised 1995 (Attachment 4)

(6) Amended Notification of Amendment to Article XV.Q., R. (The University Staff) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised 1995 (Attachment 5)

(7) Summer School Agreement with the AAUP (Attachment 6)

(8) Contract Signing Authority - Revised (Attachment 7)

(9) Agreements with Pfizer, Inc. (Attachment 8)

(10) Revision to Supplemental Bond Resolutions (HANDOUT)

(11) 1998-99 Rental Rates for Residential Properties (HANDOUT)

(12) Pilot Continuing Education Expansion (HANDOUT)

(14) Executive Compensation/Foundation (Attachment 9)
5. Chairman Gelfenbien noted that the date of the Health Center personnel items should be changed from April 10 to April 3, 1998. He also requested that the name of Professor Robin Barnes be struck from the sabbatic leave request list. Trustees received the lists of promotions, awards of tenure for both Storrs and the Health Center, and reappointments.

On a motion by Chairman Gelfenbien, seconded by Mr. Downey, **THE BOARD VOTED to approve the formal lists of the awards of tenure, promotions, reappointments, sabbatic leaves, changes in salary and moving expenses as recommended by the President and as listed on the personnel list. Copies of the personnel and Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointment (PTR) lists are attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.**

B. The Report of the President included the following items:

1. The President expressed his concern at the number of agenda items that were being carried into the meeting for Trustee approval. He explained the reasons for the unusual number of items, and noted that in the future, all attempts will be made to minimize this practice. Only items of extreme and timely importance will be carried into a Board meeting.

2. The President reminded the Board that some months ago the Department of Higher Education had organized a council to study higher education in the State of Connecticut. The study group’s final recommendations were submitted to the Board of Governors and are not unlike recommendations made ten years ago. The one issue of greatest importance relates to the status of our regional campuses. The President stated that he could not visualize a circumstance under which he would come to the Board with a recommendation that the University divest itself of any regional campus. President Austin further noted that he did not feel such a recommendation would ever pass the legislature. The resolution of the Department of Higher Education study
council was that the Board of Governors should resolve this issue when the mission statements for Connecticut’s public universities are revised.

3. Legislative issues of importance at present include a proposal to freeze tuition. Both legislative houses are in agreement with a tuition freeze. As a result of that legislation, there will be a mechanism put in place to hold the University harmless for what might have been the equivalent of a 3% increase that would be used to enhance programs that will ultimately benefit the students.

4. The Stamford Campus Opening is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15. The facility is spectacularly efficient and manifests an unqualified commitment to the provision of high quality research and instructional programs for the Fairfield County area. The opening is also not unrelated to the initiation of a capital campaign in that area.

5. A program that has attracted the interest of several Trustees is the Women’s Health Update scheduled for May 6. Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter will be the keynote speaker, and all Trustees are invited to attend.

C. Chairwoman Berry’s Report for the Academic Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. Trustee Berry noted that the Regional Campus Role and Scope Statement and the by-law change relating to tenure had been removed from the agenda for further consideration by the committee and would be presented again at either the May or July meeting. She stressed that the intent was not to indicate any lack of support for these issues, but to allow more time for the committee to review the tri-campus plan materials and to clear any questions.

2. The committee heard a presentation about the new public-private partnership with Pfizer, and a copy of the of the agreement was distributed to Trustees. Mrs. Berry indicated that any questions related to this agreement should be directed to Chancellor Emmert.

3. The committee also heard a presentation about the status of the Computer Center and its beginnings in the late 1980s, its direction, and its present status.

D. Chairwoman Leonardi’s report for the Financial Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. Trustee Leonardi noted that the Committee strongly recommends that the administration seek outside counsel in preparing the Pfizer, Inc. agreement since it is a very crucial and complex partnership.

2. The Committee requested that financial information as well as a strategic plan related to University rental properties be distributed at an upcoming meeting.
Trustee Leonardi concluded that supplemental data will enable the Board to make an informed decision/assessment about the University’s priorities for the future.

3. Trustee Leonardi noted that the Revision to the Supplemental Bond Resolutions was approved, but a request was made to the administration to present additional information regarding cash flow and the utilization of funds at the Budget Workshop meeting.

4. The Committee deferred the Capital Projects Status Report until this meeting. Trustee Leonardi called upon Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss for a report. He reported that the projects are on schedule and presented a brief status report on the highly visible projects. There was much discussion and explanation of the various projects and their timelines for completion. Chairman Gelfenbien requested that each report note a revision date to facilitate understanding of the status of each project.

E. Chairwoman Bailey’s report for the Student Life Committee included the following items:

1. The Committee met on March 26, 1998 and discussed University Weekend and Husky Express. The Committee heard an update on the process and recommendations related to University Weekend, which is scheduled for April 23, 24 and 25. The major events are the Campus Picnic, programming in residential areas that are non-alcohol events, and the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) sponsored block party and concert in Memorial Stadium. A permit has been obtained to allow the University to sell beer to “of age” students in a secured area. The Committee agreed that these plans would help to resolve some of last year’s problems. Chairman Gelfenbien and Chairwoman Bailey met with some student leaders on April 1 to discuss the plans for University Weekend, and were pleased with the plans and the progress being made. No non-University students will be admitted to these campus events.

2. An Undergraduate Student Government (USG) request for funds to provide bus transportation for students to and from local bars was refused by Chancellor Emmert. Since the invited representative from USG was not present at the committee meeting to discuss this issue, the committee reviewed past events related to the Husky Express. Michael Kurland, Director of Health Services, reviewed the procedures currently in place to promote alcohol education and awareness among the students.
F. Chairman Treibick's Report for the Institutional Advancement Committee was presented by Trustee Abromaitis and included the following items.

1. The Committee met on February 21. Vice President Allenby and Scott Brohinsky, Director of University Relations, reviewed the progress on the implementation of the University's communications functions. The new oak leaf logo for the University was made public on March 3rd in connection with the display of the University's new master plan.

The new graphic identity and standards for the University are already being phased in, and the phase in will be complete in January 1999.

The University's communications organization was restructured earlier this year, and the new organization, University Communications, has been designed to assure consistent marketing of key messages and themes to our internal and external audiences.

2. Copies of the fundraising reports through February were distributed to Trustees. Vice Presidents Allenby and Ashworth reviewed the fundraising progress through January. Overall fundraising is off approximately 17% as compared to the same period last year, and there are two reasons for these results:

1) Although the University has received more gifts in excess of $25,000 than last year, the total raised from those gifts is approximately $2.5 million less.

2) New business activity has slowed because of several key staff vacancies in all areas. Two vacancies were filled last month and searches are near completion or underway for all other key positions. It is expected that new business activity will begin to show improvement with the start of the new fiscal year in July.

The Committee will receive a report on the activities of the UConn Alumni Association at its next meeting.

G. Chairwoman Smith's Report for the Health Affairs Committee was presented by Trustee Leonardi and included the following items:

1. A process has been implemented to update the strategic plan at the Health Center, and that plan will be in place by February 1999. An Environmental Assessment Committee has been formed and will begin the first phase of the process. It is expected that their issues will be ready for discussion by April 10. To aid in our understanding, a summary of the accomplishments of the Health Center's first strategic plan is being prepared and will be provided to the Board. The Board will also be kept informed about the on-going efforts of this initiative.
2. The Committee received the John Dempsey Hospital Internal Financial Statements for the period ending February 28, 1998. Discussion then centered on breaking even by September 30 and making up the deficit of $1.2 million.

It was noted that Item 18 listed on the consent agenda as a handout and titled "Medical Staff Approval Protocol" had been removed from the consent agenda to be placed under the Health Affairs Committee Report. This item was retitled as "Approval of Medical Staff" and was redistributed. Both versions of this item are attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Bellafiore, THE BOARD VOTED to delegate to the Health Affairs Committee authority to approve Medical Staff appointments, reappointments, and clinical privileges approved by the Medical Board of the John Dempsey Hospital. Attorney Shapiro was asked to review this issue.

3. At the request of and on a motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Mr. Saslow, THE BOARD VOTED to remove Attachment 13, "Authorization to enter into contracts with outside consulting firms and the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation on behalf of the UConn Health System for enhancements to the revenue/receivable management process" from the agenda for further study. Background information on this agenda item is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

4. On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mrs. Berry, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the authorization to enter into a contract with Hartford Anesthesiology Associates and the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation on behalf of the UConn Health Center System. Background information on this agenda item is listed as Attachment 14 and is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

There was no report from the Strategic Planning Committee.

It was noted that the next meeting of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees would be held on Friday, July 10, 1998 at a location to be announced.

No further business appearing, the Board meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary