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Minutes, February 13, 1998

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT  

Held at the University of Connecticut at Storrs  
Bishop Center, Storrs, Connecticut  
February 13, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Roger A. Gelfenbien. Trustees present were: Mmes. Berry, Ferris, and Smith; Messrs. Abromaitis, Bellafiore, Cicchetti, Collins, Downey, Heist, Jacobs, Napolitano, and Treibick. Trustee Saslow participated by telephone.

Trustees Bailey, Berkley, Leonardi, and Sergi, were absent from the meeting.

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, Attorneys Shapiro and Ment, and Drs. Schurin and McFadden.

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.

On a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to go into Executive Session at 10:30 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.

1. 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, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement Callahan, Dean of the Graduate School Smith, Attorneys Shapiro and Ment, and Drs. Schurin and McFadden were present for this discussion.
Executive Session ended at 12 noon. The Board recessed for lunch, and returned to Open Session at 1:04 p.m.

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

Keith Kenyon	 Husky Express Funding
Salvatore Iritano	 Malpractice at the Health Center

Trustee Bellafiore requested and the Board concurred that the Husky Express issue be referred to the Student Life Committee for further study and discussion.

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

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

Chairman Gelfenbien called upon Chancellor Emmert to introduce Professor Lawrence E. Hightower, Professor of Molecular & Cell Biology, who was recognized for his outstanding contributions. Chancellor Emmert offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology Lawrence E. Hightower of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has been elected to the rank of Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science [AAAS], and

WHEREAS, such election comes only for meritorious contributions proceeding from efforts on behalf of science and its applications which are scientifically or socially distinguished, and

WHEREAS, Professor Hightower was honored for his research which began with observations noted some twenty years ago when he was a young assistant professor which led to his proposing a general mechanism by which all cells, from bacteria to human cells, may protect themselves from potentially lethal damage, a phenomenon known historically as thermotolerance and more recently as cytoprotection, and

WHEREAS, this hypothesis, much of it conceived in the great reading room of the Wilbur Cross Library and initially supported by seed funds from the University of Connecticut Research Foundation, received strong experimental support from investigators in a variety of biological disciplines and, over the years, has become a cornerstone in our understanding of how organisms defend themselves against environmental stress, and

WHEREAS, Professor Hightower's collaborative research, with colleagues in Molecular and Cell Biology's sister departments, on the cellular defense of fish against environmental pollutants helped establish a National Institutes of Health [NIH]-sponsored national research center at Storrs which brought more than a million dollars of funding to the University:
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees, in recognizing his receipt of this most prestigious award and his contributions to science, to research, and to the University, hereby congratulates and thanks him.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy be sent to Professor Hightower.

Professor Hightower was presented with a framed resolution and a recognition plaque to commemorate the occasion, and thanked the Board.

Chairman Gelfenbien then called upon Lew Perkins, Director of Athletics, who introduced the soccer team and read the resolution recognizing the Women's Soccer Team as follows:

WHEREAS, the University of Connecticut women's soccer team has displayed great character and perseverance and has demonstrated the merits of performing to the limits of one's ability, and

WHEREAS, the University of Connecticut Division of Athletics and the soccer coaching staff have reflected the University's commitment to excellence in academics and athletics and have worked unstintingly to bolster our sense of pride in the University, and

WHEREAS, the University of Connecticut women's soccer team has brought great credit and recognition to the University and to the State once again this past season;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees hereby recognizes these outstanding achievements and expresses its gratitude for these positive and outstanding contributions to the University and the State of Connecticut.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy sent to the women's soccer team.

Director of Athletics Perkins then read the following resolution recognizing the Women's Soccer Team Coach, Len Tsantiris:

WHEREAS, Head Coach Len Tsantiris has been selected as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Division I Women's Soccer National Coach of the Year while leading his team to the 1997 NCAA Division I Women's Championship Game, and

WHEREAS, he has directed his teams to 16 consecutive NCAA tournament berths, and the University of Connecticut is one of only two institutions to participate in all 16 NCAA tournaments, and
WHEREAS, the women's soccer program has advanced to the NCAA Finals on three occasions, while also participating in three NCAA Final Fours, and six NCAA Final Eight appearances, and

WHEREAS, in addition to this year's National Coach of the Year honors, he has also been named the NSCAA/Umbro Regional Coach of the Year four times and selected as The Big East Conference Coach of the Year in 1995, and

WHEREAS, Coach Tsantiris has developed seventeen All-Americans including the 1997 NSCAA National Collegiate Player of the Year, and has seen nine of his students-athletes selected to play on the United States National Team, and

WHEREAS, his teams have demonstrated their commitment to academic success by posting a team grade point average of better than 3.0 during each of the last three years, and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Coach Tsantiris has contributed not only to the success of the University of Connecticut athletic program, but to the reputation and stature of the University as a whole,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees, in recognizing his commitment to the academic and athletic successes of the women's soccer student-athletes, hereby congratulates and thanks him.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy be presented to Coach Tsantiris.

Chairman Gelfenbien presented the team and the coach with framed resolutions. Coach Tsantiris was also presented with a plaque in recognition of his accomplishments. He thanked the Board, and asked members of the team to introduce themselves.

Chairman Gelfenbien then called upon Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler to introduce Dr. David Papermaster. Dr Papermaster is the John and Florence Mattern Solomon Professor of Vision Research and Eye Diseases Program in Neuroscience, Department of Pharmacology. The Chair he holds was the first endowed chair established at the Health Center. Dr. Papermaster's presentation was on "Macular Degeneration: The Most Common Neurologic Disease of Humans." An executive summary of his presentation is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Other routine items listed under the Chairman's Report were as follows:

1. Chairman Gelfenbien announced the 1998 Commencement Schedule as follows:

   Two Undergraduate Commencements will be held on Saturday, May 16, 1998. The first one will begin at 9 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 a.m. at the Law School in Hartford. Also on Sunday in Storrs, the Graduate Commencement exercises will begin at 3 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.

2. Chairman Gelfenbien noted that additional items needed to be added to the Consent Agenda listed as Attachment 1. Those items added include: Additional Medical Staff Appointments not included with the mailed agenda to be added under Attachment 2. Four additional items from the Health Affairs Committee were also added as follows: (1) Authorization to Enter into a Management Service Agreement with Women’s Health USA, Inc., or a wholly owned subsidiary thereof, on behalf of itself and as an agenda for Physicians for Women’s Health, LLC and the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation on behalf of the UConn Health System; (2) Authorization to Enter into a Lease Between Women’s Health Connecticut, LLC, and the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation on behalf of the UConn Health System; (3) Authorization to Enter into Various Service Agreements and a Lease Between Dialysis Clinic, Inc. and the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation on behalf of the UConn Health System; and (4) Authorization to Lease Space for Health Center Administrative and Financial Services. Background information on each of these items is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

On a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Berry, THE BOARD VOTED to amend the Consent Agenda with the addition of those items listed above.

3. Dr. Jacobs noted that he wished to abstain his vote on Attachment 16, but voted on all other consent agenda items. On a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Ferris, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following items (Attachments 1 through 16) listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:

(1) Contracts and Agreements (Attachment 1)
(2) Medical Staff Appointments/Reappointments (Attachment 2)
(3) State Ornithologist (Attachment 3)
(4) Sale of Property Located at North River Road and Route 44, Coventry, CT (Attachment 4)
(5) Revised Policy and Procedure for Review Of Alleged Misconduct in Research at the University of Connecticut Health Center (Attachment 5)
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(6) Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources Ph.D. (Attachment 6)
(7) Graduate Certificate in Toxicologic Risk Assessment (Attachment 7)
(8) Graduate Certificate in Culture, Health, and Human Development (Attachment 8)
(9) Naming Recommendation for the Charles and Maude Wheeler Classroom (Attachment 9)
(10) New School of Pharmacy Building Naming Recommendation (Attachment 10)
(11) Naming Recommendation for the Reading Room of The University of Connecticut’s Stamford Campus Library (Attachment 11)
(12) Naming Recommendation for an Auditorium Facility at the University of Connecticut’s Stamford Campus (Attachment 12)
(13) Law Library Reading Lounge Naming Recommendation (Attachment 13)
(14) Naming Recommendation for the Marine Sciences & Technology Center’s New Research Vessel (Attachment 14)
(15) Transfer of Funds to the UCHC Finance Corporation to Perform Functions for University Physicians for the Period July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998 (Attachment 15)
(16) Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with Hartford Hospital for Emergency Department Physician Services and VNA Healthcare for Continuing Care Services (Attachment 16)

4. On a motion by Chairman Gelfenbien, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the formal lists of the awards of tenure, promotions, sabbatic leaves, changes in salary and moving expenses as recommended by the President and as listed on the personnel list. Chairman Gelfenbien asked that the moving expense policy be revised so that Board consent is not required on future moving expense requests. Background information listed as agenda Attachment 17 is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

5. Alumni Trustees Berry and Napolitano reported that a Norman Tebo Benefit Day will be held at the Centennial Alumni House on Thursday, February 19, 1998 with lunch being served from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and dinner served from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for $6.00 per person. Norman and Kathy Tebo both work at the University of Connecticut, Norman in Facilities and Kathy at the Alumni Office. Norman suffered a massive stroke a
few weeks ago and is facing many months of rehabilitation. All were urged to attend the benefit to show their support.

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

1. February is Black History Month at UConn and many events have been scheduled to celebrate black history. One major event is the annual Day of Pride, an event designed to increase the number of minority students enrolling at UConn. President Austin remarked that it is an enormously impressive effort, and that all of the 15 scholars selected to receive the scholarships will be in attendance at the dinner. The President urged Trustees to attend any of the events that their schedules might allow.

2. President Austin reminded the Board that they had requested that administration present financial and budgetary information in a more timely, understandable, and more efficient way that would lend itself to a more informed set of policy decisions. The Chairman, the President and Vice President Jones have met to develop an understanding of what form that information might take. As a result of their meetings, Vice President Jones has led an effort of the senior administrators and others at the university in an attempt to design a new format both with respect to scheduling of the board’s consideration of issues and internal decisionmaking. The President reminded the Board that this continues to be a work in progress since many of the changes about to be made have been in place for a few decades. President Austin then called upon Vice President Jones for a financial status report and to elicit reactions to the proposed changes.

Vice President Jones commented on the Financial Status Report that had been mailed to Trustees. The report summarizes the results of operation and year-end financial status for fiscal year 1997, the results of operation for the first half of 1998, and the status of UConn 2000 bond financing. Audited financial statements were distributed to Trustees, and a correction to Attachment 1 of the Summary Report on Financial Status was noted.

He made several general comments about the financial status of the university.

- The audited financial statements have been completed immediately preceding the bond issue which has facilitated making the Securities and Exchange Commission report. Vice President Jones credited the staff of the Controller’s Office that compile and control accounts with the efficient way in which this work was completed.

- The audited financial statements show that the University is on target with the approved budget balancing plan that was approved by the Board three years ago. For all practical purposes there are no variances except favorable
ones on the side of expenditures. We are in a very good position to conclude that in the upcoming fiscal year we will have a balanced budget.

- We are also on target with no significant variances from the annual budget of last year. Vice President Jones did however note one minor variance and explained its correction. He reported that it was remarkable, given the number of people who manage the University's budgets and programs, that we are able to come within 1% both on the expenditure and the revenue sides of a $430M dollar budget.

- Next he commented on the six-month operating report which the University is required to submit to the Department of Higher Education pursuant to State statutes. He noted that the format will be adjusted to present this information in a more straightforward way and move away from the fund accounting concept.

- The Student Revenue Bond issued last month was a milestone for the University because it was the first time that the University had, in its own right and in its own name, issued bonds for which it is totally responsible for the debt service thereof. The University now has an indentured structure that hopefully will build a track record and a structure that will allow us to go forward in the future and be in control of our own destiny as to the need for bond financing. The bond issuance was highly successful due in part to the skill of our new professional lead and other staff who assisted with the process.

- The Finance Department is responding to the Board's express needs as well as some obvious needs to revise the budgeting process to make it more efficient, more responsive to needs and to make it a better basis for planning and carrying out the University's operations. The budget that is brought to the Board this spring will be a biannual budget request; that is, following next year's budget, the administration will bring tuition and fee proposals to the Board concurrently, and will be requesting final, not tentative, approval. A management by exception rule will be instituted about reconsidering those fees. Fees will be brought back for Board approval only if there are circumstances that would indicate that we should. Those determinations will be made in a comprehensive way and will allow the Board to look at the total cost of matriculating at the University as opposed to part of the matriculation cost. An opportunity for community input will be provided prior to bringing those recommendations to the Board in the spring.

Separately constructed expenditure and revenue budgets will be brought to the Board. The expenditure budget will be presented in a segmented way to allow for analysis of specific sections of the budget in as much detail as
needed. An optimal budgeting process will take time, and the beginning of a biennial budget request is the ideal time to begin.

- The Budget Workshop will be held on April 30, 1998. Time and location to be announced.

C. There were no reports from the Strategic Planning, Student Life, or Institutional Advancement Committees. Trustee Treibick, Chair of the Institutional Advancement Committee, noted that the committee will meet next on February 21.

D. Chairwoman Smith's Report for the Health Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. On a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Jacobs, THE BOARD VOTED to receive and lay on the table until the next meeting (April) the amendment to Article XV.Q.,R. (The University Staff) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised, 1995. This amendment relates to changing the grievance procedures for the faculty and other professional staff at the Health Center. Background information on this agenda item is listed as Attachment 18 and is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

2. On a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Jacobs, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the Creation of the Department of Neuroscience in the School of Medicine at the University of Connecticut Health Center as per Article VII.3. of the University Laws and By-Laws. Background information on this agenda item is listed as Attachment 19 and is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. Andrea Martin and her staff of the John Dempsey Hospital were congratulated for their outstanding level of achievement relative to the JCAHO (Joint Commission on Accreditation) score. The high score they received is a result of the quality of care at the John Dempsey Hospital.

4. An update on student recruitment efforts showed that to date, 129 people have been accepted, 32 of whom are underrepresented minorities (24 Afro-Americans). There have been 7 withdrawals so far, none of which have been from the underrepresented minorities acceptances.

5. The Travelers Center on Aging has a new name as of December 1, 1997. It is now called the University of Connecticut Center on Aging. The name change is intended to clarify the Center's affiliation and identity for other institutions that might have an interest in associating with us in the future.
6. It was reported that although the John Dempsey Hospital had a loss for the quarter ended December 31, 1997, the results are $900,000 ahead of the breakeven budget for fiscal 1998. Patient activity continues to increase and management expects hospital results to be profitable for January 1998.

E. Chairwoman Berry's Report for the Academic Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Cicchetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the role and scope statements for the Avery Point and Stamford Campuses. Background information listed as agenda Attachment 20 is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

2. On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to receive and lay on the table until the next meeting (April) the amendment to Article XIV, A (Membership) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised, 1995. This notification relates to changing the by-law regarding University-wide tenure. Background information listed as agenda Attachment 21 is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Ms. Smith, THE BOARD VOTED to receive and lay on the table until the next meeting (April) an amendment to Article VIII, E (Vice President for Student Affairs) of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws, Twelfth Edition Revised, 1995. This notification relates to changing the title of the University's chief student affairs officer to Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs from Vice President for Student Affairs. Background information listed as agenda Attachment 22 is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

4. Chairwoman Berry noted that Attachment 23, listed as the Pilot Continuing Education Expansion, had been removed from the agenda for further study.

5. On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to receive and lay on the table until the next meeting (April) an 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. This notification relates to removing the requirement that fee adjustments lie on the table until the second subsequent meeting, and replaces it with a system that requires that interested parties be given ample opportunity to comment upon proposed revisions of both tuition and fees before the Board acts. Background information on this agenda that did not have an attachment at the time of mailing is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
F. The Financial Affairs Report was given by Trustee John Downey and included the following items:

1. The Revision of UConn 2000 Year 2 Project List-Waterbury Regional Campus listed as Attachment 24 of the Board agenda was revised in the Committee's morning meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mrs. Berry, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the amended committee resolution to approve a reallocation of UConn 2000 Year 2 project budgets to fund the “Waterbury Property Acquisition Project” in the amount of $200,000 and reduce the project “Deferred Maintenance and Renovation Lump Sum” by $200,000.

Background information listed as agenda Attachment 24 and the amended resolution which the Board approved is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

G. Under new business, Trustee Napolitano moved, and Mr. Bellafiore seconded a motion that the Board of Trustees direct the President of the University to explore the feasibility of establishing a University of Connecticut Sports Hall of Fame to recognize the achievements of our student athletes since the founding of the university. The motion passed without dissent. It was agreed that Director of Athletics Perkins would examine the feasibility of establishing a Sports Hall of Fame, report his conclusions, and develop a detailed proposal including funding requirements, start-up and annual costs to the President by the end of the current academic year.

It was noted that the next meeting of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees has been changed from Friday, April 10, 1998 to Friday, April 3, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. at Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Connecticut, 370 Bassett Road, North Haven, Connecticut.

No further business appearing, the Board meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[signature]

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary