

7-21-1999

## Minutes, July 21, 1999

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### Recommended Citation

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

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT**

University of Connecticut  
 South Campus Commons  
 Ballroom, Lewis B. Rome Hall  
 Storrs, Connecticut

July 21, 1999

**OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chairman Roger Gelfenbien. In addition to Chairman Gelfenbien, Trustees who participated by telephone were: Trustee James Abromaitis, Alyssa Benedict, James Donich, John Downey, Shirley Ferris, Linda Gatling, Lenworth Jacobs, Claire Leonardi, Michael Martinez, Frank Napolitano, and Irving Saslow.

Trustees Bailey, Berkley, Berry, Cicchetti, Sergi, Treibick and Peter Ellef, who represents the Governor's Office, were absent from the meeting.

University Staff present were: President Austin, Interim Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Maryanski, Vice President Jones, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Triponey, Assistant Attorney General Shapiro, Dr. Schurin, and Ms. Locke. Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler participated by telephone.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, except as otherwise noted.

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

1. On a motion by Mr. Abromaitis, seconded by Mr. Downey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 14, 1999.
2. On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:
  - (a) On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve Contracts and Agreements for Storrs. (Attachment 1)
  - (b) On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the revised purchasing policies by which the University will administer the purchase of goods and services. (Attachment 2)
  - (c) On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, **THE BOARD VOTED** to rescind its resolution of February 9, 1999, authorizing the sale of property located at 98 Main Street in Noank-Groton, Connecticut, and authorize the intra-agency transfer to the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture. (Attachment 3)

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- (d) On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Jacobs,  
**THE BOARD VOTED** to authorize naming Room 18A  
 in the Institute of Materials Science x-ray suite the "Leonid  
 V. Azaroff X-Ray Crystallographic Laboratory." (Attachment 4)

Trustee Leonardi raised concerns about receiving compensation for the transfer of the Noank property to the Department of Agriculture. In response to Chairman Gelfenbien's concerns as well, Trustee Ferris explained that after the Board approved the sale of the Noank property at the February 9, 1999 Board meeting, she was approached by aquaculturalists who expressed an interest in the property and subsequently lobbied the University to reverse its decision to sell. Trustee Ferris informed the Trustees that the Department of Agriculture owned the property in the 1950's and transferred it to the University sometime thereafter. The revised resolution before the Board authorizes the intra-agency transfer of the property back to the Department of Agriculture.

After Chairman Gelfenbien requested more information about monetary compensation, President Austin explained that the University had originally secured an agreement with the State that would augment the operating budget by \$500,000, but it fell through in final budget determinations.

3. Chairman Gelfenbien directed Trustee attention to the **1999-2000 Board Meeting Schedule**. He noted that meetings have been formally scheduled for September, November, February, April, June, and July. Meetings have also been scheduled in between regularly scheduled times, but will not be called unless needed. (This avoids the necessity of special Board meetings.) Board members will receive ample notification regarding the details. The Meeting Schedule will be finalized at the September meeting. The Meeting Schedule listed as agenda **Attachment 5** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Trustee Benedict joined the meeting at this time.

Trustee Napolitano expressed concerns about reserving adequate time for discussions at the Board meetings. Chairman Gelfenbien emphasized the importance of substantive discussion at the committee level and encouraged all Board members to attend the committee meetings.

4. Chairman Gelfenbien proposed to continue **Committee Assignments** as at present, with changes that include the following appointments: Trustee Leonardi has been appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Health Affairs Committee and as the representative to the Hospital Consortium. Trustee Jacobs has been appointed as the Vice-Chair of both the Financial Affairs Committee and the Audit Subcommittee. He will also serve on the Executive Committee. Trustee Gatling will serve on the Academic Affairs and the Student Life Committees. Student Trustee Donich has been appointed to the Academic Affairs, Audit Subcommittee, and Student Life Committees. Trustee Martinez will serve on the Financial Affairs and Institutional Advancement Committees. Trustee Benedict has been appointed to the Academic Affairs Committee. Trustee Napolitano has been appointed to the Honors and Awards Committee. Chairman Gelfenbien noted that Trustees can make changes in assignments at any time. The Committee Assignments listed as agenda **Attachment 6** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

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Trustee Gatling asked to receive the Board committee meeting schedules for the upcoming year. Chairman Gelfenbien asked all Vice-Chairs to coordinate their meeting schedules for distribution to the Trustees in the fall.

5. Chairman Gelfenbien asked Trustees to complete and submit the **Duality and Conflict of Interest** form that they received in the mail.
6. Chairman Gelfenbien announced that the next **TAFS** (Trustee-Administration-Faculty-Student Committee) meeting will be held at the September 14 Board meeting.
7. On a motion by Mr. Napolitano, seconded by Mr. Martinez, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the formal lists of **sabbatic leaves**. Background information listed as **Attachment 7** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

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

1. President Austin reported that the University raised \$25.6 million this year, which surpassed the fundraising goal of \$25 million. The goal for the coming year is \$32 million.
2. President Austin noted that the Chancellor's search is proceeding well, with about 50 applications or nominations received. The search committee will meet next week to develop a shorter list of candidates for further consideration.
3. Last week the Avery Point Campus held a special ceremony in honor of the inaugural voyage of the R/V *Connecticut*, a \$2 million research vessel. This vessel was funded in conjunction with Connecticut Innovations, Inc. and serves as a strong example of the University's commitment to new partnerships with private organizations and State agencies.
4. At the request of Chairman Gelfenbien, President Austin announced that plans are underway for a Board retreat in October. A nationally recognized authority in higher education will coordinate a day-long event.

Chairman Gelfenbien reiterated the importance of exceeding the fundraising goal. He pointed out that the \$25.6 million represents actual funds received, but more importantly, he noted that the University received \$75 million in commitments over the past year, which will be realized in the years to come. Chairman Gelfenbien commended Vice President Allenby and his staff for their impressive fundraising efforts.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked for a brief update regarding the composition of the search committees for the deans of the School of Law and the School of Fine Arts. President Austin called upon Interim Chancellor Maryanski who reported that the search committee for the Law School had been finalized and an announcement was forthcoming. He noted that discussions were underway regarding the composition of the School of Fine Arts committee. Chairman Gelfenbien asked if any Trustees were represented on the search committees. President Austin responded that Trustee Downey has agreed to serve as a member of the Law School committee. Trustee Benedict asked if students were represented on the search committees. Interim Chancellor Maryanski responded that there were no students on the Law

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School committee because it is their practice to include students in the interview process where their input is most valuable. He reiterated that the School of Fine Arts committee has not yet been formed.

Trustee Abromaitis asked for a copy of the committee membership for the Chancellor's search. Chairman Gelfenbien asked the administration to reissue the list to all the Trustees.

Trustee Jacobs underlined the enormous fundraising efforts of Vice President Allenby and his team.

Trustee Jacobs asked the administration if the R/V Connecticut was part of the intensive search and recovery mission for John F. Kennedy, Jr.'s plane off Martha's Vineyard. President Austin responded that the research vessel was not part of the search effort. Trustee Jacobs also asked if the vessel was capable of searching for wreckage at the bottom of the ocean. Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss responded that he could not comment on the vessel's capabilities or the presence of sonar technology. Chairman Gelfenbien encouraged the administration to promote the University's state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

Trustee Napolitano asked for an update regarding student residential housing at the September 14 Board meeting. Vice Chancellor Triponey agreed to present a report in conjunction with Vice Provost Steele. She noted that several students were seeking housing from local apartment complexes for the fall semester, which has averted tripling of students in the larger rooms on campus.

Trustee Martinez asked if the University had noted any small business set-aside goals under the University's purchasing policies. Chairman Gelfenbien called upon Vice Chancellor Dreyfuss who stated that small business set-aside goals are established by the State and are administered by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. The University is second to the Department of Transportation in the amount of business it directs to minority, women, and small business enterprises on an annual basis.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 1999 at 1:00 p.m. at the University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut.

There being no further business appearing, the Board meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Louise M. Bailey  
Secretary