

11-16-1999

## Minutes, November 16, 1999

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

University of Connecticut at Torrington  
855 University Drive  
Torrington, Connecticut

November 16, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 11:19 a.m. by Chairman Roger Gelfenbien. Trustees present were: James Abromaitis, Louise Bailey, Louise Berry, James Donich, John Downey, Linda Gatling, Lenworth Jacobs, Claire Leonardi, Michael Martinez, Frank Napolitano, and Irving Saslow, and James Bentivegna, who represents the Governor's Office. Trustees Shirley Ferris and Richard Treibick participated by telephone.

Trustees Alyssa Benedict, William Berkley, Michael Cicchetti, and Theodore Sergi were absent from the meeting.

University Staff present were: President Austin, Interim Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Maryanski, Dean Peter Deckers, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Administration Baldwin, Vice Chancellor for Information Services and University Librarian Kobulnicky, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Triponey, Assistant Attorney General Shapiro, Ms. Lori Aronson, Dr. Schurin, Lance Nye, Media Technician, and Ms. Locke. Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss participated by telephone.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mr. Napolitano, seconded by Ms. Bailey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 11:20 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 staff members whose presence was necessary to provide their opinion would be permitted to attend Executive Session.

Trustees present were: Abromaitis, Bailey, Berry, Donich, Downey, Gatling, Gelfenbien, Jacobs, Leonardi, Martinez, Napolitano, Saslow, and James Bentivegna, who represents the Governor's Office. Trustees Ferris and Treibick participated by telephone.

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, Interim Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Maryanski, Dean Peter Deckers, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Triponey, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement Aronson, Assistant Attorney General Shapiro, Dr. Schurin, and Mr. Nye, Media Technician were present for this discussion. Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss participated by telephone.

Executive Session ended at 12:10 p.m. and the Board returned to Open Session at 1:05 p.m. Trustee Ferris, who participated by telephone, left the meeting after Executive Session. Trustee Benedict joined the meeting at this time. Trustees Berkley and Treibick participated by telephone.

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

Chairman Gelfenbien noted with deep sorrow the untimely death of Ms. Christine Guyon, an undergraduate student, on Monday evening and asked the Board to take a moment of silence. Chairman Gelfenbien asked that the Executive Secretary to the Board send a note to her family.

Chairman Gelfenbien welcomed James Bentivegna, Legal Counsel, to Governor Rowland. Attorney Bentivegna replaces Peter Ellef as the Governor's representative to the Board. Chairman Gelfenbien also welcomed Professor Bruce Stave as a University Senate faculty representative to the Board.

Trustee Berkley joined the meeting at this time.

Trustees Saslow spoke regarding former Board member Norma A. Jorgensen, who passed away recently. Trustee Saslow asked the Board to take a moment of silence and asked the Executive Secretary to the Board to send a note to her children. Trustee Bailey, also a fellow Board member during Mrs. Jorgensen's service, shared Trustee Saslow's sentiments.

Trustee Treibick joined the meeting at this time.

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Jeff Lalonde, President, Torrington Savings Bank and Vice Chairman, Litchfield County Committee on Higher Education | Representing the business community in support of a business curriculum in Torrington               |
| • Lou Timalot, member<br>Falls Village Board of Finance   | Importance of the Torrington Campus   |
| • Muff Maskovsky, Chairman<br>Litchfield County Committee on Higher Education   | Preservation of the Torrington Campus   |
| • Jon Hutchinson, UConn Alumnus and Founding member of the Litchfield County Committee on Higher Education            | Proposal to replace the Campus maintainer's cottage with a modest classroom facility                |
| • Dr. Isadore Temkin, member<br>Litchfield County Committee on Higher Education                                       | Importance of the Torrington Campus; recalled the lucrative donation of Ray Neag, a Torrington alum |

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

Chairman Gelfenbien thanked the administration, staff, and students at the Torrington Campus for hosting the Board meeting. Ms. Adriane Lyon, Director, welcomed the Board to the Torrington Campus.

Chairman Gelfenbien announced that Professor L. Cameron Faustman would not be presented with a faculty recognition award because of logistical difficulties. The Board will honor Professor Faustman at the February 2, 2000 Board meeting.

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1. On a motion by Mr. Treibick, seconded by Mr. Saslow, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 14, 1999.
2. Chairman Gelfenbien directed Trustee attention to a handout on Contracts and Agreements for the Health Center and asked the Board for a motion to add the following recommendations to the agenda for approval:

On a motion by Mr. Treibick, seconded by Mr. Downey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to add to the Consent Agenda Contracts and Agreements for the Health Center.

On a motion by Mr. Treibick, seconded by Mr. Downey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve Contracts and Agreements for the Health Center.

A copy of the **Handout** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that the Health Center Contracts and Agreements for information were also presented to the Trustees at their places.

3. On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:
  - (a) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the Contracts and Agreements for Storrs. (Attachment 1)
  - (b) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the Medical Staff Appointments for August, September, and October, 1999 (previously approved by the Health Affairs Committee.) (James Bentivegna abstained on this item.) (Attachment 2)
  - (c) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve a one-year lease extension with S.S. and H. Associates for 23,081 square feet at 10 Talcott Notch, Farmington, for the purpose of providing outpatient clinical and academic offices for the Departments of Orthopaedics and Psychiatry. (Attachment 3)
  - (d) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve increasing the project budget for the School of Business (new) from \$25,559,000.00 to \$26,559,000.00. (Attachment 4)
  - (e) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to amend the name of Building "D" in the South Campus complex from "Lewis B. Rome Hall" to "Lewis B. Rome Commons." (Attachment 5)
  - (f) On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve revisions to Article VIII, Section D of the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws. (Attachment 6)

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4. On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Martinez, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the formal lists of **awards of tenure and sabbatic leaves**. Background information listed as **Attachment 7** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes. **A revised list of awards of tenure for the Storrs and regional campus faculty was handed out at the meeting.** A copy of the **Handout** is also attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.  
(James Bentivegna abstained on the Health Center items.) (Attachment 7)
5. Chairman Gelfenbien noted that a TAFS meeting will be held in December.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked Ms. Irene Conlon to present a diversity and equity report at the February 2 meeting.

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

1. President Austin reported that the Chancellor's search is in the final stages. Five candidates visited the campus and met with many constituent groups, including some members of the Board. In the days ahead, each finalist will have an opportunity to meet with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairs of the Board Committees. President Austin expects to identify a successor who will take office shortly after January 1.
2. President Austin commented on the recent announcement of the site for the football stadium. He reported that United Technologies Corporation offered 75 acres of Rentschler Field, the former Pratt & Whitney airfield, in East Hartford. The football stadium, which must hold a minimum of 30,000 permanent seats, is the final barrier to Division IA status.

Frank Napolitano raised concerns about the Board's lack of oversight in the negotiations of the site. Trustee Berkley applauded the efforts of those involved in securing a site. Chairman Gelfenbien acknowledged the generosity of United Technologies and the support of the Governor.

3. President Austin directed trustee attention to a handout regarding the recent anti-gay incidents of vandalism and intimidation on campus, which he sent to the community several weeks earlier. He denounced the acts of hate and expressed his commitment to principles of tolerance, diversity, and free expression of ideas. President Austin informed the Board that he met with student leaders from BiGala (the Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Ally student organization) and with key administrators, including the Director of the Rainbow Center and the University Police. In addition, he cautioned that acts of hate have not been limited to the gay and lesbian community. Two students have been arrested and charged for removing and vandalizing a sign from the Hillel House. President Austin reassured the Board that formal charges would be brought to those convicted of illegal acts.

Trustee Jacobs denounced the recent bias incidents and asked Board members to endorse a resolution condemning violent and inappropriate behavior. Chairman Gelfenbien asked the Executive Secretary to the Board to prepare a resolution on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Benedict reported that a student in the Student Trustee Office has been attending the weekly meetings of BiGala and the Rainbow Center. Ms. Benedict agreed to share with the administration the concerns and suggestions offered by the constituents of these programs.

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Ms. Bailey added that she attended the rally on campus and met with the Director of the Rainbow Center and other leaders on behalf of the Board. Mr. Donich reported that he met with the Ms. Toniann Alfieri, President of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), regarding the possibility of sponsoring a diversity day during Spring Weekend. Student organizations would be allowed to set up tables for presentations that encouraged communication and understanding of diversity issues. USG suggested that funding be set aside from the Spring Weekend allotment for this event.

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that the Millenium Committee of the greater Hartford area, through the activities of a diversity subcommittee, is sponsoring "community conversations" throughout the area. He suggested that the University, through the efforts of the Division of Student Affairs and the Student Trustee Office, model a similar program. Chairman Gelfenbien agreed to provide information about this event. On a motion by Dr. Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Bailey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve a **resolution on bias incidents at the University of Connecticut**. A copy of the resolution was sent to the Board under separate cover and is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

4. President Austin agreed to answer questions regarding the financial issues at the Health Center that were appropriate in a public forum. He noted the Health Affairs Committee has been engaged in operational matters resulting from the \$21 million deficit. President Austin was confident that the deficit would be reduced by half by the end of this fiscal year and that the budget would be balanced next fiscal year. Concerns remain about the long-term operational structure of the Health Center. The University will seek monetary assistance from the State and/or private sources in order to maintain the quality of health care service that is enjoyed and expected by the community. The University is working closely with the Governor and Commissioner Raymond Gorman, Office of Health Care Access, regarding the serious challenges ahead.

C. Vice-Chair Berry's **Report of the Academic Affairs Committee** included the following items:

1. Vice-Chair Berry reported that members of the Academic Affairs Committee heard this morning a presentation from Vice Provost Susan Steele on **Student Financial Support**. Vice-Chair Berry directed trustee attention to the strategic goals listed on page 1 of the handout. She noted that Vice Provost Steele provided an in-depth analysis of the student financial aid data in conjunction with the strategic goals and accomplishments. Vice-Chair Berry noted that a large portion, \$46.9 million, of the University's budget is spent on student financial aid. She encouraged more Board participation in Committee discussions.
2. The Committee discussed need-based vs. non-need-based aid, the amount of the net tuition revenue that is reserved for financial aid, and student indebtedness. Vice-Chair Berry directed trustee attention to the student indebtedness comparisons listed on page 7 of the handout. Vice Provost Steele noted during the meeting that the amount of student indebtedness, which is currently at \$16,391, is a policy issue for the Board to address. Chairman Gelfenbien asked for comparison information from the University of North Carolina and the University of Michigan, which the University uses as benchmarks.
3. Vice-Chair Berry also discussed the financial aid statistics on listed page 8, which illustrate the distribution of financial aid over the past eight years. She emphasized that funds for scholarships/grants and student employment have decreased, while funds for student loans have increased. The Committee agreed that this trend requires further analysis. The Committee asked

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Vice Provost Steele and Associate Vice President Aronson to provide more details on the total financial aid package in comparison to the total institutional budget. The information reported to the Academic Affairs meeting focused on the amount of financial aid in comparison to the University's net tuition revenue. The Committee also asked for information about the students who are receiving financial aid. Chairman Gelfenbien asked Vice Provost Steele to provide further information to the Board. Vice-Chair Berry asked members to refer questions to the Committee or to Vice Provost Steele. A copy of the **Handout** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

D. Vice-Chair Jacobs's **Report of the Financial Affairs Committee** included the following items:

1. Vice-Chair Jacobs reported that the Financial Affairs Committee met on November 9, 1999. The Committee heard a fund raising report from Dean Thomas Gutteridge regarding the revised project budget for the new School of Business Administration building. The Committee also discussed ways to simplify the annual budget report to the Board. Vice-Chair Jacobs noted that the annual report will include ways in which the strategic initiatives are being met.

E. Vice-Chair Leonardi's **Report of the Health Affairs Committee** included the following items:

1. Vice-Chair Leonardi reported that the Health Affairs Committee has been meeting on a regular basis regarding the financial status of the Health Center. She informed the Board that the Health Center has entered into contracts with two firms, Larson Allen Weishair & Co., LLP and TranXition Management, LLC. LarsonAllen has been hired to prepare a long-term strategic plan and TranXition Management, LLC has been hired to examine the day-to-day operations in an effort to reduce costs and to increase revenue opportunities for both the short- and long-term. Both consulting firms are working to preserve the academic programs and the quality of patient care.
2. Vice-Chair Leonardi reported that the Health Affairs Committee met on October 20, 1999 to discuss the first report from LarsonAllen, which outlined five strategic options for the Health Center. All members of the Board and interested parties received this report. The Health Affairs Committee met again on November 9, 1999 and heard a status report from Dean Peter Deckers regarding the continued growth of academic programs in both the medical and dental schools and their ability to attract research funding. In addition, Vice-Chair Leonardi noted that the administration received a favorable Y2K compliance report for all systems critical to the operation of the Health Center, including patient care, personnel, and dental and medical school systems. As an extra measure, the Health Center successfully executed a simulated disaster drill on October 27, 1999.

The Health Affairs Committee also discussed the financial condition of the Health Center. The Committee received a report from the Health Center administration regarding the projected losses. To date, the projected loss for the fiscal year 2000 has increased from \$16 million to \$21 million before reflecting cost reductions/revenue enhancements. Vice-Chair Leonardi noted that the Health Center is experiencing a loss of \$1.5 million per month due to high contractual allowances accompanied by flat rates for patient activity and gross revenues. The administration is confident that the combination of expense savings and revenues enhancements being explored will reduce the deficit by half for this fiscal year.

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3. Vice-Chair Leonardi reported that a public hearing was held on November 10, 1999. Many of the issues that were discussed at the Health Affairs meeting were presented at the hearing, specifically issues related to the status of the dental and medical schools, the financial status of the Health Center, and the strategic options presented by LarsonAllen. Vice-Chair Leonardi affirmed that the administration will continue to seek short-term savings and to develop a long-term strategic plan consistent with the goals set by the Governor's Office and the Office of Health Care Access, while at the same time preserving the quality of the academic programs and successful research productivity.
4. Vice-Chair Leonardi directed trustee attention to a handout that would allow the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation to enter into agreements to form the Greater Hartford Lithotripsy, LLC. In the past, lithotripsy services have been exclusively offered by Yale University and John Dempsey Hospital. In an effort to increase local access to outpatient technology, the Office of Health Care Access has encouraged the University to enter into agreements with Hartford Hospital and Saint Francis Hospital. Vice-Chair Leonardi asked the Board for a motion to put the following recommendation on the agenda for approval:

On a motion by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Treibick, **THE BOARD VOTED** to add to the agenda a request to allow the University of Connecticut Finance Corporation to enter into Agreements to form the Greater Hartford Lithotripsy, LLC on Behalf of the UConn Health System.

On a motion by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Treibick, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve a request to allow the University of Connecticut Finance Corporation to enter into Agreements to form the Greater Hartford Lithotripsy, LLC on Behalf of the UConn Health System.

A copy of the **Handout** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

5. Vice-Chair Leonardi asked the Board to review a modified resolution regarding contract signing authority at the Health Center. Vice-Chair Leonardi asked the Board for a motion to put the following recommendation on the agenda for approval:

On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Martinez, **THE BOARD VOTED** to add to the agenda an amended resolution concerning the Contract Signing Authority dated April 13, 1999 as it pertains to the University of Connecticut Health Center.

On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Martinez, **THE BOARD VOTED** to amend the resolution concerning the Contract Signing Authority dated April 13, 1999 as it pertains to the University of Connecticut Health Center.

A copy of the **Handout** is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

- F. Vice-Chair Bailey's **Report of the Student Life Committee** included the following items:
  1. Vice-Chair Bailey reported that the Student Life Committee held a joint meeting with the Vice Chancellor's Student Leadership Cabinet on October 14, 1999. Student leaders from a variety of student organizations met to discuss a range of campus-wide issues. Vice-Chair Bailey welcomed Board members to attend the next meeting of the Student Life Committee on November 18, which will focus on the Student Conduct Code.



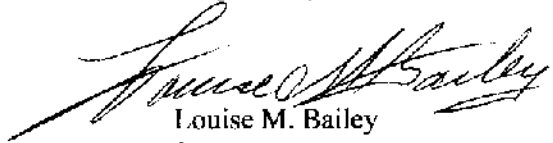
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- G. Vice-Chair Treibick's **Report of the Institutional Advancement Committee** included the following items:
1. Vice-Chair Treibick reported that the Committee has not met since September. He noted that fundraising efforts have been very successful. Reports indicate that activity is up 61% compared to the same time last year and that the capital campaign is on target with previous projections.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked the Board to hold December 21, 1999 as a possible meeting date. He reminded the Board that the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. at the University of Connecticut, Rome Commons Ballroom (South Campus Complex) in Storrs, Connecticut.

There being no further business, the Board meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Louise M. Bailey  
Secretary