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Minutes, December 9, 1994

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

Held at the University of Connecticut
Bishop Center, Room 7, Storrs, CT December 9, 1994

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Lewis B. Rome. Trustees present were: Mmes. Carrozzella and Leonardi. Messrs. Berkley, Blum, Canzonetti, Horton, Isidro-Cloudas, Jacobs, Lawrence, Leone, Saslow and Treibick.

Trustees absent were: Mmes. Berry and Smith, Messrs. Carter, Heist and Sergi.

University staff present were: President Hartley, Vice President and Provost Tighe, Vice President for Health Affairs and Provost Cutler, Vice Presidents Wiggins, Allenby, and Jones, Attorney Shapiro and Mr. McFadden.

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

Chairman Rome announced that this meeting was being broadcast live over the academic channel, Channel 56, to various locations on campus, and to the regional campuses. Additional seating and television coverage was also provided in Room 3.

Mr. Rome noted that the meeting would begin today with a report on the final draft of the Strategic Plan from Chairman Berkley, and that public participation would be held at the end of this meeting.

He noted that with the release to the Trustees of the final draft of the plan, an opportunity is now available for the Trustees to hold a public hearing. That hearing will be scheduled at a convenient date and time primarily to accommodate the students, the faculty, staff and the public, hopefully during the last week of January when the students return to campus. Chairman Rome explained the format for the public hearing and noted that no action will be taken by the Trustees at the public hearing.

Mr. Rome answered numerous questions from the floor and from the Trustees about the process. Dr. Canzonetti raised the question of scheduling more than one public hearing. Chairman Rome noted that the suggestion was under advisement until the results of the first public hearing are known.

A. Chairman Rome then called upon Trustee Berkley to begin the report on the final draft of the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Berkley noted that David Jordan, Vice Chair of the Strategic Planning Management Committee, would describe the open process used to reach this stage of the final draft of the
plan. Mr. William Massy, the expert retained to provide an environmental scan, would report on the broad based issues.

Chairman Berkley introduced David Jordan who reviewed the strategic planning process used to arrive at the current document. A draft copy dated December 7, 1994 of the Strategic Plan for the University of Connecticut entitled "Beyond 2000: Change" was distributed to everyone.

Dr. Jordan noted the importance of emphasizing that the University of Connecticut has approached this process in a way that is unique to the University. He complimented the leadership of the Board in this process, and noted that it is unusual for Board members to participate actively in the development of the strategic plan. That involvement has given us the opportunity not only to look at ourselves internally, but also to bring a perspective to this process that is broader than our own as faculty, staff and administrators of the University. The long term impact of that involvement of the Board in the process and decision making will be a long term benefit for the University.

Dr. Jordan introduced Mr. William Massy, Consultant and Director of the Stamford University Institute for Higher Education Research, who enjoys international recognition as an expert in the areas of broad based environmental issues.

Mr. Massy indicated that the environment for higher education is a complex and fast-changing one. He reviewed the public view of higher education, the quality and relevance of higher education, and information technology and its impact on higher education.

Mr. Berkley then presented an overview of the recent activity of the Committee and indicated how interested parties can make their views known. He noted that the Strategic Planning Management Committee invites written comments from the Board and from the public to be received by January 6, 1995.

The Strategic Planning Management Committee will meet in the later part of January. At that time, the Committee will consider and act upon, a revised draft, item by item. There will be no public participation at that time, but the public is invited to attend to hear the discussions. The meeting will result in an approved plan which will be transmitted to the Board of Trustees sufficiently in advance of the February 10, 1995 Board meeting to allow due consideration and action by the Board at that meeting.

Considerable discussion followed which resulted in the Chairman’s directive to schedule a final public hearing hosted by the Board of Trustees. The purpose of the hearing is for students and other members of the University and the public to advise the Trustees on accepting or rejecting the plan when voted upon at the February 10, 1995 Board meeting.
B. Chairman Rome called upon Trustee Leonardi, Chair of the UConn 2000 Planning Committee to give a report on the committee's activities.

Ms. Leonardi provided background on the acute need to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and credible legislative initiative that defines the long-term responsibilities of the State and the University to meet the University's educational, facility and financial needs into the next century.

President Hartley authorized the formation of a working group to formulate strategy to address this need, consistent with the goals and objectives being formulated through the Strategic Plan. This group is developing a comprehensive initiative that will address the capital and operating needs of the Storrs and regional campuses. The initiative will identify specific and realistic funding mechanisms to support the levels of State and University financial commitments needed to move the University forward over a period of years.

The group is also discussing the development and implementation of a communications plan to support the initiative. The plan's objectives would be to inform and involve the University community, mobilize our external constituencies, and expand public awareness of the University's needs and value to the State.

As this committee meets over the next few weeks, and as the initiative and communications plan takes shape, this committee will inform and confer with the Budget and Finance and Institutional Advancement Committees of the Board.

C. The President's Report (Attachment J) highlighted the following:

1. Governor Weicker's recommended transitional Biennial Budget for UConn includes $139.7 million in FY 96 and $140.7 million in FY 97. This compares to the current year operating budget of approximately $135 million.

2. There are currently $400 million in construction projects under way among our ten campuses that give testimony to the construction support we have received. Several ceremonies have taken place recently celebrating the initiation of or completion of construction on several projects.

   On December 7 a topping off ceremony was held to celebrate the start of a $22 million project at the School of Law Library. The expected date of completion is November 1995. On November 15 a ceremony was held at Avery Point to unveil plans for the new Marine Sciences and Technology Center. On December 9 the School of Allied Health Professions celebrated the dedication of the new Nozko Laboratory. These projects represent the continuing progress that we are making to provide the kind of facilities that are needed to support the
learning environment so important to the implementation of the strategic plan.

3. President Hartley commended UConn State employees for having reached the United Way fund raising goal of $100,000. During these difficult financial times in Northeastern Connecticut, the UConn family once again demonstrated their support for those who need our help.

4. President Hartley noted that this was Provost Thomas Tighe’s last Board of Trustee meeting before he steps down as Provost and Chief Academic Officer.

The President acknowledged Provost Tighe’s excellent service to the University and highlighted Tighe’s academic accomplishments. Among them are the hiring of over a dozen academic deans and directors and the renewed emphasis on outstanding teaching with the creation of The Teaching Institute and the Teaching Excellence Initiative which recognizes four outstanding teachers each year.

Tighe’s focus on UConn’s economic partnership with the State resulted in his authorship of a very key document used in meetings with legislators. Board members expressed their appreciation to Provost Tighe for his service as Provost and wished him well in his new assignment.

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

1. On a motion by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mrs. Carrozzella, the BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes of the November 11, 1994 Board meeting.

2. On a motion by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. Berkley, the BOARD VOTED to approve the following items (Attachments listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:

   - Contracts and Agreements
   - Awards and Donations
   - Medical Staff Appointments
   - John Dempsey Hospital
   - Medical Staff Bylaws Revision
   - John Dempsey Hospital
   - Utilization Management Plan Revision
   - Transfer of Funds to University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation to Perform Functions for the John Dempsey Hospital
   - Appointment to Canvassing Board for Election of Alumni Trustees

A copy of all consent agenda items listed above are attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. On a motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Mr. Leone, the BOARD VOTED to approve the formal lists of the promotions, sabbatic leaves, changes in salary and moving expenses as recommended by the President and as listed on the personnel list. A copy of the approved list (Attachment I) is attached to the file copy of the
Board minutes.

E. Chairwoman Smith's report for the Health Affairs Committee was presented by Dr. Lawrence and included the following:

1. Dr. Lawrence reported on the recent activities of the Health Affairs Committee of the John Dempsey Hospital.

2. Research grants are up about 8% for the first quarter of the year. Representative Nancy Johnson will meet with Health Center senior administrators to discuss federal Medicare legislation and its impact on the Health Center.

F. Mr. Treibick's report for the Institutional Advancement Committee included the following:

1. The Committee has not met since the last Board meeting because it is awaiting the Attorney General's opinion on the status of the Management Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the University and the University of Connecticut Foundation.

G. Mrs. Berry's report for the Academic and Research Affairs Committee was presented by Trustee Horton and included the following:

1. The Committee heard a special presentation by Dr. George Hoag, Director of the Environmental Research Institute (ERI). The mission of the institute is to conduct research and to develop technology-based solutions to existing and emerging environmental concerns, particularly regarding the management of hazardous waste and the advancement of pollution prevention technologies. Its program goal is to stimulate the innovation and commercialization of environmental technology in order to further economic development in Connecticut.

   Mr. Horton reported that he was pleased to inform the Trustees that the Connecticut Environmental Entrepreneur Center, which is an outgrowth of ERI, will be housed at the UConn Law School.

2. On a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Carrozzella, THE BOARD VOTED Approval to Offer a Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Geography in the Graduate School. Background information listed as agenda Attachment is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. On a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Carrozzella, THE BOARD VOTED Approval of a Name Change for the Department of Civil Engineering to the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Background information listed as agenda Attachment is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
H. Chairwoman Carrozzella's report for the Student Life Committee included the following:

1. This Committee has received, reviewed and distributed to all Trustees the Report of the Task Force on Food Services. Although the Task Force was charged only with developing a recommendation concerning the status of the University's Department of Dining Services, during its review the Task Force identified several opportunities to improve service, reduce cost, or increase revenue. It was pointed out that many of these recommendations were already in the process of implementation by Food Services at the time of the study.

   After careful review and discussion, it is the unanimous recommendation of the Task Force that the University Dining Services continue to be self-operated. Both Coopers & Lybrand, the consulting firm assisting in the review, and the Task Force found no compelling evidence to indicate that the University of Connecticut would receive better service, quality, or financial performance by contracting for food services. No further Committee action or Board action is required.

   Mrs. Carrozzella expressed appreciation to the members of the Task Force for their commitment to this review and thanked all participants who provided input to this study. She noted that the Student Life Committee will look forward to receiving regular reports from the administration on the progress of addressing the recommendations included in the report.

I. Mr. Leone's report for the Budget and Finance Committee included the following items:

1. On a motion by Mr. Leone, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, the Board VOTED Modification of the 1995-97 Biennial Capital Budget Request for the Benton Museum, Pharmacy, and Chemistry Building Projects. This item was listed as agenda Attachment M and is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

2. The Committee heard a report from Vice President Jones regarding the plans for the reconstruction of the outer walls of the library. The Department of Public Works will be going to the Bond Commission today to seek $8-9M in funds which have already been appropriated. However, it is estimated that at least another $12M may be required to complete the project. Additional funds will be sought from the Legislature. The estimated completion time is two years.

   It was noted that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, February 10, 1995 at the University of Connecticut at Storrs beginning at 11 a.m. Location to be determined.
December 9, 1994

On a motion by Mrs. Carrozzella, seconded by Mr. Rome, THE BOARD VOTED to go into executive session at 12:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters of personnel, litigation, and collective bargaining. 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 for executive session.

1. Collective bargaining was discussed. President Hartley, Vice Presidents Wiggins, Jones, Allenby, Vice President and Provost Tighe, Vice President and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Attorney Shapiro, Mr. McFadden, Mrs. Miller were also present for this discussion.

Executive Session ended at 12:47 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 12:48 p.m.

At this time Chairman Rome opened the floor to public participation, and several members of the public addressed the Board on the topic of the Strategic Plan. They were:

Janice Thibodeau    Peter Halvorson
Jonathan Renfrew    Stephanie Consuolo
Kim Corini          Evan Janush
Scott Gallo

Other members of the public addressed the Board about the clarification of the role of the Office of Multiculturism which was included in the present draft of the Strategic Plan as follows:

Kimberly Pabey      Chris Koob

Chairman Rome requested that Peter Halvorson, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, work with the Executive Secretary of the Board to schedule a time mutually acceptable to all for the Trustee public hearing. It is expected that the hearing will be held in late January.

No further business appearing, the Board adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise B. Carrozzella
Secretary