2-14-1997

Minutes, February 14, 1997

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/bot_agendas

Recommended Citation
"Minutes, February 14, 1997" (1997). Agendas and Minutes. 188.
http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/bot_agendas/188
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Held at Champion International
One Champion Plaza, Stamford, Connecticut

February 14, 1997

and by teleconference at the University of Connecticut at Storrs, Bishop Center, Storrs, Connecticut

Standing Board Committee meetings originally scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. were canceled due to inclement weather earlier in the day.

The full Board meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by Chairman Lewis B. Rome. Trustees present in Stamford were: Mrs. Ferris, Messrs. Abromaitis, Berkley, Downey, Heist, Jacobs, Napolitano, Saslow, and Mr. Treibick. Trustees present in Storrs were: Mrs. Berry and Mr. Stewart.

Trustees Bellafiore and Leonardi, and the Governor’s Office representative, Mr. O’Leary, participated by telephone.

Trustees Bailey, Cicchetti, Sergi and Smith were absent from the meeting.

University staff present in Stamford were: President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Mark Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Leslie Cutler, Vice Presidents Allenby and Jones and Mr. McFadden. University staff present in Storrs were: Vice President Wiggins, Ms. Ryan and Attorney Shapiro.

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.

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

1. Trustee Stewart noted a correction to the minutes of November 8, 1996. He noted that at the last meeting he had requested, and the Board had supported his request, that a report be presented from the Chancellor’s Office commenting on the impact of the cuts that the University had been experiencing. Chairman Rome responded that minutes would be corrected and his comment noted. The requested report will be presented at the next meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Treibick, seconded by Mr. Stewart, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes with the stated corrections.
2. Chairman Rome noted that revised copies of Consent Agenda Attachments H and I had been distributed to Trustees and would replace the original Attachment H and I of the Consent Agenda. The Attachment H revision removes the parking garage from this attachment. The revisions to Attachment I add an address inadvertently omitted from the text of this attachment.

On a motion by Chairman Rome, seconded by Mr. Treibick, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the revisions to the Consent Agenda (Attachment A) which contained the following items (Attachments B through K):

(a) Contracts and Agreements (Attachment B)
(b) Awards and Donations (Attachment C)
(c) UConn 2000 Matching Program (Attachment D)
(d) Medical/Dental Staff Appointments, September, October, November, December 1996 (Attachment E)
(e) Agreement with the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation to Contract with Sodexho to Provide Food Services for the John Dempsey Hospital (Attachment F)
(f) Permanent Appointment to the Transfusion Medicine Chair (Attachment G)
(g) Finding of No Significant Impact - South Campus Dormitories and Dining Hall and Parking Garage (Attachment H)
(h) Proposed Sale of Properties at the Former Mansfield Training School (Attachment I)
(j) Conveyance of Land to the University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. (Attachment K)

Chairman Rome introduced Trustee Shirley Ferris, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Connecticut, who commented briefly on the biotechnology presentation to be made and introduced the presenters. A copy of the background information which was used for the presentation is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. On a motion by Mr. Treibick, seconded by Mrs. Berry, 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. Background information listed as agenda Attachment L is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Chairman Rome opened the Public Participation portion of the meeting noting that the following members of the public wished to address the Board on the topics noted:

Kathleen Sanner (Stamford) UCPEA Contract
Julie Cyr (Storrs) Graduate Student Concerns
John Hutchinson (Stamford) Soccer Stadium
Chairman Rome introduced agenda Attachment M, Ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association (UCPEA), and requested a motion to approve this item. On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Saslow, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the negotiated settlement between the University and the UCPEA for a four year collective bargaining agreement to be effective July 1, 1997 to June 30, 2001. A copy of agenda Attachment M is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

A copy of the arbitrator’s ruling in the matter of the Statutory Interest Arbitration between the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) was distributed to Trustees. This item did not require Board approval. A copy of the ruling is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

B. There was no report from the Strategic Planning Committee. However, Trustee Leonardi asked for an update on the status of planning for the football stadium which had been referred to the Strategic Planning Committee. Trustee Berkley responded that the Committee currently is trying to work with the Governor’s Office, and recognizes that the deadline for making a decision is fast approaching. The Governor already has a consultant who is reviewing this issue, and a report from the Governor’s consultant is expected soon. The committee felt it was not prudent to spend additional money for another consultant to duplicate the Governor’s efforts. Mr. Berkley noted that he planned to meet soon with the Director of Athletics to discuss the timetable, then with the Governor’s representative to resolve this issue.

Trustee Stewart reminded the Board of Trustee Heist’s request that all materials requiring Board approval be presented in a timely manner so that the Board is not requested to make a decision on this or any other issue without an opportunity to review the materials thoroughly and thoughtfully and not as a result of a pressing deadline. Chairman Rome noted that he believed that the Governor and other legislators were under similar time pressures and that it was appropriate that we coordinate with them in spite of the increased time pressures.

C. Chairman Treibick’s Report for the Institutional Advancement Committee included the following:

1. The committee met on January 14 and February 1.

2. For the six months ending on December 31, 1996, total giving was $11.1M, an increase of 82% over the same period last year. It is expected that the target of $18M will be realized.
3. The Committee is continuing to proceed with the establishment of a public relations plan. The purpose of the plan is to increase our market share in student recruitment and fundraising, and to demonstrate that the University provides value and contributes to state, regional and world markets as the state's leader in higher education. A request for public relations proposals has been advertised and has generated 24 proposals. Seven of those proposals are still under consideration and an award is expected soon. The review team will interview the finalists and make a recommendation before the end of February.

4. The Administration is preparing requests which would allow UConn to continue the matching gift program for the duration of UConn 2000. The feasibility of continuing the matching program for building endowment at the rate of one state dollar for each new private dollar up to a maximum of $15M annually is being assessed. The Alumni Association has been mobilized, and will continue to develop strong grassroots support for our efforts.

5. As a result of closing the Print Shop as reported at the November Board meeting, a reorganized quick copy reprographic center was formed. This center has an informal partnership with the university computer center which aims to maximize resources and to improve services. The quick copy center is performing well financially. In its first three months, the center had a surplus of approximately $6,000. The six-month trial period will end in March at which time the center will again be reviewed again.

D. Trustee Bellafiore presented Chairwoman Bailey's Report for the Student Life Committee which included the following items:

1. The first meeting of the Student Life Committee for the spring semester will be on Wednesday, February 26. Following dinner in the Shippee dining hall, committee members will tour the Student Health Services facility and hear reports from the Director and his associates.

E. Chairwoman Leonardi's Report for the Capital Budget and Facilities Committee included the following items:

1. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12 at which time the Committee will hear a presentation on the Master Plan. At that time the Committee will have an opportunity to comment on the recommendations of the master planners, before the plan is finalized. A discussion of how the Master Plan matches the UConn 2000 plan will help to identify where differences in priorities lie. All Trustees will receive notice of the aforementioned meeting.

Trustee Leonardi called upon Vice President Jones to comment on the material Trustees received about the Governor's recommendations for the pre-UConn 2000 bonds (i.e. prior authorizations). Vice President Jones explained that the information sent to the Trustees was meant to give them a sense of the projected
cash flow and bond issuance activity for UConn 2000. He pointed out that UConn has tax rebate regulation agreements which must be adhered to. There is a spending requirement, and penalties when we do not comply with it. Any broad scale delay of project implementation after we borrow money does have financial penalty implications.

As a general rule, any one project delay will not cause us to miss those deadlines, but we did have a problem with our first issuance. We had entered into an 18-month agreement which required that we spend certain proportions of those borrowings within certain time limits. Presently, several projects have been delayed, for good reason, but we have to remain cognizant of the prior agreements when we make decisions to delay projects. At the present time, Vice President Jones has a joint agreement with the Treasurer for a tax rebate agreement. The Treasurer pays the rebate or penalty if we don’t meet the spending rate requirement, but we control the project implementation.

Trustee Leonardi noted that the Committee needs to work on the information received to insure that Trustees know the status of projects and on related issues. Chairman Rome requested that those items be the subject of Trustee Leonardi’s report to the full Board at its next meeting.

F. Chairwoman Berry’s Report for the Academic and Financial Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. The Committee met on January 15 and discussed three agenda items. On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Napolitano, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the establishment of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees in Coastal Studies in the Department of Marine Sciences of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the Avery Point Campus. A copy of this agenda item Attachment N is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED (1) to approve establishment of a new Master of Science degree in Physical Therapy within the Graduate School, to be housed in the School of Allied Health and (2) to approve a program modification to change the B.S. in Physical Therapy to a B.S. in Pre-Physical Therapy. A copy of this agenda item Attachment O is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Napolitano, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the proposal for a New Joint Major in Linguistics/Psychology. A copy of this agenda item Attachment P is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Napolitano, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the consolidation of two areas of concentration within the International Studies field of study in the Graduate School—specifically the
Slavic and Eastern European concentration and the Western European concentration—into a single concentration titled European Studies. A copy of agenda item Attachment Q is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Trustee Downey commented that he felt that in view of the recent issues surrounding athletics, the Committee must continue to enhance the reputation of the University by emphasizing its academic excellence and by turning public attention to the value of academics at UConn.

G. Chairwoman Smith's Report for the Health Affairs Committee was given by Dr. Jacobs and included the following items:

1. At its meeting the Committee discussed consent agenda items Attachment B through G which are part of today's Board agenda and which have been approved. Also discussed was the Correctional Managed Health Care Program which is proceeding as planned. Dr. Cutler met with the Town of Farmington to inform them of the work in progress and to assure them that all agreements with the Town of Farmington will be maintained and honored. Also, the annual report of the University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation through September 30, 1996 was reviewed.

Chancellor and Provost Cutler added that the Bond Commission and the Governor approved the bonding of the Research Building. On January 30 a press conference was held to announce the news. An initial planning meeting was held by Provost Cutler with Commissioner Anson of the Department of Public Works and Deputy Commissioner Delahunty, and Health Center internal management. The internal management committee will be directed by Associate Vice-President Larry Wilder. A groundbreaking for the new research building is scheduled for March 24. Dr. Jacobs added that there is enormous enthusiasm for this project within the University family.

II. There was no report from the Athletic Policy Committee.

I. At this point, Chairman Rome continued the Chairman's Report which included the following:

1. Chairman Rome expressed the Board's appreciation to Champion for its hospitality in hosting this meeting in Stamford.
2. The Audit Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 11, 1997. Information regarding time and place will be mailed soon.
3. Each year the University's Day of Pride scholarship and awards program recognizes accomplished seniors who are enrolled in secondary schools throughout Connecticut. The annual Day of Pride will be held on Sunday, February 23, 1997, and all Trustees were encouraged to attend.
4. Pursuant to the requirements of the Laws and By-Laws, the proposed revisions to Article XVIII, Honorary Degrees, listed as Attachment R, were presented to the Board and will remain on the table until the next meeting (April). Background information on this agenda Attachment R is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

5. Resolutions passed by the Health Affairs Committee to recognize Dr. Voytovich’s and Marta Smith’s outstanding service to the Health Center were read for the record by Trustee Jacobs.

On a motion by Dr. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to send a copy of the respective resolutions to Dr. Voytovich and to Ms. Smith. A copy of each resolution is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

6. Chairman Rome noted agenda Attachment S, Faculty and Staff Participation in the Work of Board Committees and recognized Peter Halvorson for comment. Mr. Halvorson noted that the resolution before the Board represented the end of a long process of discussion between representatives of the Senate and of the Board.

Mr. Halvorson noted that the initial recommendation which was brought to the Committee from the Senate had been significantly altered in order to be more consistent with some of the Board’s sense of how this process might work most effectively. Mr. Halvorson commented that the Senate was looking forward to being able to collaborate more directly in the Board’s work and felt that this resolution represented another step forward in the attempts of the University community to work together to reach the University’s goals.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, THE BOARD VOTED to approve participation of faculty and professional staff in the work of Board committees, according to the guidelines established as part of the resolution. A copy of agenda Attachment S including the guidelines is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

J. The President addressed several current issues. A copy of his remarks are attached.

President Austin reported that John Allen, who was to have given the NCAA Athletics Report was ill, and that the report would be presented at the next Board meeting.

It was noted that the next meeting of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, April 11, 1997, at the Student Union Building, at Storrs, Connecticut, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

On a motion by Chairman Rome, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to go into Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, 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 except Trustees Berkley, Saslow and Treibick and those noted at the beginning of these minutes were present at this time.

1. Personnel matters were discussed. President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Vice Presidents Allenby, Jones and Wiggins, Attorney Shapiro and Mr. McFadden were present for this discussion.

2. Litigation matters were discussed. President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Vice Presidents Allenby, Jones and Wiggins, Attorneys Shapiro, Kleinman and Comerford, and Mr. McFadden were present for this discussion.

3. Collective bargaining matters were discussed. President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Vice Presidents Allenby, Jones and Wiggins, Attorney Shapiro and Mr. McFadden were present for this discussion.

Executive Session ended at 3:09 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 3:10 p.m. No further business appearing, the Board meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary