Minutes, November 21, 1997

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The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., by Chairman Roger A. Gelfenbien. 
Trustees present by telephone were: Mmes. Bailey, Ferris, and Leonardi; Messrs. Abromaitis, Bellafiore, Collins, Downey, Heist, Jacobs, Napolitano, Saslow, and Treibick. Mr. Ellef represented the Governor's Office.

Trustees Berkley, Berry, Cicchetti, Sergi and Smith were absent from the telephone meeting.

Administrators present by phone were: President Austin, Scott Brohinsky, Lew Perkins, and Wilbur Jones.

Administrators in attendance were: Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Services Carmen Vance, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dale Dreyfuss, Attorneys Shapiro and Ment, and Drs. McFadden and Schurin.

All members of the Board noted above were present at this time.

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

1. Chairman Gelfenbien reviewed the events of the last few days regarding Division 1A football, the meetings with legislators, and the testimony that President Austin and he, and Vice Chairman Leonardi and Chancellor Emmert gave at the Legislative Committee hearing that took place on Tuesday, November 18. He noted that the special Board meeting today was called to answer Trustee questions about the latest events and to discuss Trustee parameters for negotiations.

President Austin reviewed his testimony, and described the revised proposal he put forth. After much discussion about public perception of the stadium and remedies proposed by the Trustees, several Trustees expressed their confidence in President Austin and Chairman Gelfenbien to negotiate and to make decisions that remain to be made in the pursuit of a stadium. Mr. Gelfenbien noted that construction costs and the amount of private funding to be raised are the two issues which are presently on the table.
In response to Trustee queries about time frames, the Chairman asked Mr. Ellef to confirm the estimated time between the date the Governor would announce a special session and the session itself. Mr. Ellef confirmed that the Governor will meet with legislative leadership on Monday, and if he were to announce a special session of the legislature, the session would be scheduled no later than 15 days after his announcement.

It was noted that the next special meeting of the Board is scheduled for Friday, December 12, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. at the University of Connecticut, Bishop Center, Storrs, Connecticut. The topics to be addressed are the recommended student fees and football.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary