Minutes, November 8, 1996

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The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Berkley. Trustees present were: Mmes. Bailey, Berry, and Leonardi; Messrs. Abromaitis, Bellafiore, Cicchetti, Downey, Heist, Napolitano, Saslow, Stewart, Treibick, and Mr. O’Leary, who represented the Governor’s Office.

Trustees Jacobs and Smith participated by telephone.

Trustees Ferris, Rome and Sergi were absent from the meeting.

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

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.

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

Julie Cyr
Scott Gyllensten
Fahd Vadidy
Shanna Weston
Apriel Biggs
Jose Espejo
Kimberly Pacey

Infrastructure Fee/Fee Increase
Fee Increases
Asian American Cultural Center
Asian American Cultural Center
Latino Student Association
Latino Student Association

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

1. On a motion by Mr. Downey, seconded by Ms. Bailey, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 11, 1996.

2. On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Saslow, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following items (Attachments B through G) listed on the Consent Agenda (Attachment A) as follows:
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(a) Contracts and Agreements (Attachment B)
(b) Medical/Dental Staff ReAppointments
January 1, 1997 - December 31, 1997 (Attachment C)
(c) Annual Report of the Endowed Chair Program
Entitled “English Chair in Writing” (Attachment D)
(d) Release of Conditions 1 and 2 from a Deed
Recorded on October 17, 1954 for Property of
Peter Thomas Rutishauser, 3 Eastwood Road,
Mansfield, CT (Attachment E)
(e) Transfer of Funds to the UCHC Finance Corporation
for UConn Health System Capital Projects (Attachment F)
(f) Reports of Endowed Chairs for the Period July 1, 1995
to June 30, 1996 (Attachment G)

2. On a motion by Mr. Abromaitis, seconded by Mrs. Berry, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the formal lists of the 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 II is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

3. Student Trustee Kingsley Stewart offered the following resolution in recognition of former Student Trustee Barnaby Horton’s service to the Board:

BARNABY W. HORTON
1994-1996

WHEREAS, Barnaby W. Horton completed his term as student elected trustee on June 30, 1996, and served on the Capital Budget and Facilities, Health Affairs, Academic and Financial Affairs, the Student Life, and Athletic Policy Committees, and as a student representative on the President’s Advisory Search Committee, and also as a member of the UConn Foundation’s Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, he distinguished himself as a spokesman for the students of the University of Connecticut in all academic matters as well as having been an outspoken student advocate of Division 1A football, served as coordinator of the first-year orientation program at the School of Law, and has worked to involve law school students in community outreach and volunteer projects; and

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the University of Connecticut records its gratitude to Barnaby W. Horton for his service and extends to him its best wishes for the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes, with a copy sent to Mr. Horton.
On a motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Saslow, THE BOARD VOTED to express its appreciation to Mr. Horton with a copy of this resolution.

4. Vice-Chairman Berkley noted that the TAFS (Trustee-Administration-Faculty-Student) Committee met at noon to consider matters of mutual interest, and he called upon Professor Harry Johnson, Moderator of the University Senate and Chair of the TAFS Committee, to report.

Professor Johnson reported that the Committee considered several items, none of which required committee action. Trustee Louise Berry, Chair of an ad hoc committee appointed by Chairman Rome, reported on the committee’s review of a proposal by the University Senate for faculty representation on the Board of Trustees. Because of the employer-employee relationship and collective bargaining and tenure issues, the ad hoc committee believes University Senate representation on Board committees, with full participation in discussion but without vote, which is the way members of the administration participate, is an appropriate way to proceed. This proposal will be forwarded to the University Senate for its further consideration.

A proposal for a Metanoia to consider violence on university and college campuses was also discussed. The committee’s consensus was that other means of education and prevention would address this problem more effectively.

The Committee also discussed the process for consideration of upgrading to IA football and inquired about the progress of the strategic plan. Chancellor Emmert indicated that since so much has happened in the last few months, a report on the strategic plan will be presented to the full Board in February.

5. Reporting for the Audit Subcommittee, Chairwoman Berry noted that the committee heard a satisfactory report from the internal auditors on activities from January 1 to June 30, 1996 and that no recommendations to the Board were necessary.

6. The Board was advised that the UConn Alumni Association will retire its mortgage on Saturday, November 16 at a dinner at the Alumni House beginning at 5 p.m., and all Trustees were invited to attend.

7. Trustees were invited to view “The Lamps of Tiffany” at the Benton Museum. The invitation was from Tom Bruhn, the Museum Director, after the Board meeting. The exhibit runs from November 2 through December 22, 1996.

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

1. The Regional Accrediting Association recently completed its decennial evaluation of the University of Connecticut, and granted a favorable
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review of our programs. The staff conducted a self-study and produced a Self-Study Report preceding the formal visit. The report was candid, thorough, and extraordinarily well done, and it provided an excellent vehicle for the President to become familiar with the University and its programs. The review team reported that the self-study was very accurate, and they were extremely complimentary about the curriculum content, the quality of the faculty and the student body. The areas identified for attention agreed with those identified by University staff, and a highly favorable review from the Regional Accreditation Team is anticipated.

2. President Austin reminded the Board that it had approved the biennial budget request and submitted it to the Board of Governors indicating that some modest flexibility for modification at a later time might be needed in view of the imminent arrival of a new president. In the President’s visits with Trustees, administrators at the regional campuses, the Governor, and legislative and community leaders, there were common themes which were reflected in the budget request.

The President noted that in terms of tight budgets we are not going to be persuasive to our elected leadership without demonstrating the capacity of a research university to enhance economic development, to expand the tax base, and create jobs. He is comfortable with budget themes that enhance the economic development of the State. The biennial budget request has all of these themes, including the planned focus on information technology in the Stamford area, plus other high tech areas, including critical technology programs in photonics, biotechnology, and advanced materials. The Marine Sciences program at Avery Point are consistent with this objective, as are the Health Center’s research and development programs, and all are dovetailed with the expansion of the job base in the State. No modifications in the biennial budget request are required.

Student financial aid is of great concern. Tuition must be considered when other revenue resources in the state are scarce. However, the President supported attempting, where possible, to hold any tuition increase to no greater than the increase in the consumer price index or some other comparable index.

3. The President noted that the increased development activity, under Vice President Allenby, is evidence of the confidence placed in UConn 2000 and the Matching Grant Program. In this relatively brief period of time, it is likely that $20M of matching grant funds will be achieved. It is hoped that next year we can demonstrate to our elected leaders that their confidence in us is justified.

4. President Austin expressed his appreciation to the Board for its confidence in him, and thanked all who have made him and his family feel welcome in Connecticut.
C. Chairman Berkley's Report for the Strategic Planning Committee included the following items:

1. The Committee is currently seeking a consultant firm to do a study on IA football which would address the funding and stadium issues. When a time schedule has been established, a meeting of the committee will be set.

   Student Trustee Stewart reminded the Board that at the last meeting, the Board deferred a decision on IA football until after the Strategic Planning Committee had an opportunity to engage a consultant and to study the financial and location issues involved. The Board was urged to make a decision at the October meeting on Division IA football before December 1, 1997. Mr. Stewart urged the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee to take extreme care to insure that the consultants remain as independent as possible, that they not be encouraged or influenced in any way to agree with the goals of an external agenda, that students, who have already passed resolutions concerning the Division IA football status, and the University Senate and faculty concerns be taken into consideration when these deliberations are in process, and that the consultants pay great attention to all concerns. Mr. Stewart noted his concern that the decisions be made only after careful deliberation, public comment, and with full participation of the constituencies involved.

   To Mr. Stewart's remarks, Chairman Berkley replied that the Committee wants factual information before them so they can move forward. Gathering all of the information together and following necessary procedures has delayed the process. He assured Trustee Stewart that the Committee would move as quickly as possible, and everyone will have an opportunity to review the information and to express their views. Chairman Berkley noted that the charge to the Strategic Planning Committee was to insure the economic viability of moving forward including costs of the stadium and all of the operating costs. The Committee wants to insure that this does not work to the detriment of the educational part of this institution and that the stadium is, if not immediately self-sustaining, certainly soon self-sustaining. We don't want ever to have to say we must cut programs to pay for football. We want to provide a clear economic picture of the situation for everyone to understand.

   Trustee Stewart encouraged the Chair not to minimize the equally important point of the location of the stadium since that was a specific condition stated in the student resolution.

   Trustee Leonardi asked if there was a time frame for engaging a consultant. Trustee Berkley noted that as soon as a fee is agreed to, the consultant could begin work.

D. Chairwoman Bailey's Report for the Student Life Committee included the following items:
1. The Committee has met twice this semester. On September 17, Patti Bostic, Director of the Department of Recreation and Intramurals, presented a report on intramural sports and recreational activities which are very popular with the students. On October 29, the Committee heard a report by Diane Wright, Coordinator of the Center for Community Outreach, who develops and coordinates student service activities which enable students to make voluntary contributions to community agencies. Two representatives from UConnPIRG gave the Committee an update on their activities this fall and gave notification about an upcoming referendum which will give students an opportunity to voice their opinions again about the UConnPIRG waivable fee.

2. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12 at the Hartford campus when the Committee will meet with student government representatives from the regional campuses.

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

1. The Committee met jointly with the Academic and Financial Affairs Committee. Vice President Jones briefed the Committee on the Special Obligation Indenture of Trust and First Supplemental Indenture for revenue bonds that the University was given authority to issue through the UConn 2000 legislation. He provided financial projections, and outlined the revenues and obligations against those revenues to support the bonds. The Committee voted to approve these indentures.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Stewart, THE BOARD VOTED to approve The University of Connecticut Special Obligation Indenture of Trust, dated January 1, 1997, to provide for the financing of capital projects by the issuance of Student Fee Revenue Bonds of the University and the security therefor; and to approve the First Supplemental Indenture authorizing The University of Connecticut Student Fee Revenue Bonds, 1997 Series A. It provides for the initial issuance of bonds under the Special Obligation Indenture of Trust and authorizes issuance in an amount not to exceed $30,000,000 to finance a portion of the cost of the South Campus Complex UConn 2000 project, plus the costs of issuance and the amount necessary to fund the Special Capital Reserve Fund to its maximum requirement. Background information listed as agenda Attachment J is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

The Committee also received an update on the progress of the overall UConn 2000 construction program, and Vice President Jones reviewed the on target cash flow projection for UConn 2000. The project status for individual projects was also reviewed.

Also a management structure for UConn 2000 programs was reviewed. The report was prepared as a response to questions regarding project procedures and their review.
F. Chairwoman Berry's Report for the Academic and Financial Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. The University of Connecticut has developed a linkage with a University in Thailand, SirinSiam University. This is a three year, renewable partnership between Bhumpanya International, a consortium of Thai business leaders, educators and medical doctors and UConn formed to help to develop and build a new English-speaking university in Thailand. For a fee, UConn will undertake to oversee the development of a curriculum and a staffing plan. A copy of the report is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

2. There was much discussion about the increase in 17 fees for the 1997-98 academic year as well as one fee for the upcoming Winter Intersession. During public participation, students pleaded with the Board to rethink the proposed increases and the effect these increases would have on students' financial situations. Student Trustee Stewart reminded students that the administration does offer poorly-attended student forums held to discuss the university's budget and any fee increases. Students complained that by that time, decisions have already been made, and it is too late to change budget items. Mr. Stewart encouraged students to attend the subcommittee meetings earlier in the process since it is often too late once the committee votes and the items are presented at the Board meeting. Trustee Bellafiore encouraged students to appeal to their state legislators for additional funds for the university, and to continue to show their support in Hartford.

Two dissenting votes were cast. Trustee Saslow voted against approval of the increases because the Trustees breached the guideline adopted in 1993 which stated that the Board would not increase tuition more than the rate of inflation. Trustee Stewart voted against the increases of the established fees and the infrastructure maintenance fee, but voted for the establishment of the new administrative fees.

On a motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Downey, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the adjustments to seventeen fees applicable to the 1997-98 fiscal year and one effective for the 1996-97 fiscal year. Background information listed as agenda Attachment I is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

G. Chairwoman Smith’s Report for the Health Affairs Committee included the following items:

1. The John Dempsey Hospital continues to perform well in the financial area as well as in the clinical services provided. As a result of the financial performance, $10M from the clinical programs is being returned to the School of Medicine, with another $18M to be used for faculty salaries and fringe benefits.
2. The Alliance Executive Committee met last month and was updated on the various task groups which are working to move the initiative forward. Dr. Joseph Sevetta has been recruited as the joint Chairman of the Departments of Surgery at the Health Center and at Hartford Hospital. Additionally, Dr. John Nash is the Division Chief of Gyn/Onc at both institutions, and Dr. Lenworth Jacobs has been named as the interim Division Chief of Emergency Medicine at both institutions.

3. The UConn Health Center has opened a facility to service inmates from the Department of Corrections, and the Health Center has been working with the Town of Farmington to resolve some issues of concern. Dr. Cutler has notified the Town of Farmington about the parameters of the program, i.e. the number of patients accepted, how the program will operate, etc. Committee members feel confident that the proper processes and security are in place to insure that the Health Center can provide for a population that needs service from a medical standpoint, and at the same time feel confident that other residents in the community and the hospital itself are protected.

It was noted that the next meeting of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, February 14, 1997, at Stamford, Connecticut, beginning at 1:00 p.m. with the location to be announced.

On a motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Ms. Bailey, 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 noted above were present at this time except Mr. Treibick.

1. Personnel matters were discussed. President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Emmert, Chancellor and Provost for Health Affairs Cutler, Vice Presidents Wiggins, Allenby and Jones, 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 Wiggins, Allenby and Jones, Attorney Shapiro 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 Wiggins, Allenby and Jones, Attorney Shapiro and Mr. McFadden were present for this discussion.
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Executive Session ended at 3:10 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 3:10 p.m. No further business appearing, the Board meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary