2-8-1979

Minutes, February 9, 1979

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

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/bot_agendas/326
The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Gordon W. Tasker. Trustees present were: Mesdames Jorgensen and Kronholm, Messrs. Brown, Canzonetti, Catanese, Cunningham, D'Oliveira, Donen, Jacobs, Kleban, Rich, Stroh, and Tasker.

Trustees absent were: Governor Grasso, Mrs. Briscoe, Messrs. Krogh, Lowney, and Shedd.

University staff present were: Acting President Gant, Vice Presidents Adams, DiBiaggio, and Wilson, Acting Vice President Hanna and University Counsel, Attorney McKenna.

All actions were by unanimous vote, except as otherwise noted.

1. On a motion by Dr. Canzonetti, seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen, THE BOARD VOTED to go into executive session for the purpose of considering matters of personnel and collective bargaining. The Chairman stated that since the matters to be considered will require staff information, the minutes should reflect that Acting President Gant, Vice Presidents Adams, DiBiaggio, and Wilson, Acting Vice President Hanna, Attorney McKenna, Messrs. Bailey, Kimball, and McGowan were in attendance. Members of the Board present at this time were: Mesdames Jorgensen and Kronholm, Messrs. Brown, Canzonetti, Catanese, Cunningham, D'Oliveira, Donen, Jacobs, Kleban, Rich, Stroh, and Tasker. While in executive session, the Board took the following actions:

   (A) The Board reviewed the latest recommendations on personnel matters pertaining to appointments, leaves of absence, promotions, reassignments, resignations, and retirements with the understanding that the vote on these personnel matters would be taken in the open session part of the Board meeting.

   (B) Vice President Wilson reported briefly on the latest developments in the area of collective bargaining.
(C) Chairman Tasker, referring to the petition received from Mr. Joseph Glasser, Assistant Professor in the School of Business Administration, asked the University Counsel, Attorney McKenna, to advise the Board on this matter. Attorney McKenna said — "It is my opinion that it is not a proper matter for the Board. The nature of the complaint is not the type of complaint that is within the Collective Bargaining Agreement, since it is neither a policy matter of the Board nor a Bylaw problem."

In light of Attorney McKenna's opinion, Chairman Tasker stated that there was no need for further consideration of this matter by the Board of Trustees.

(D) Attorney McKenna reported on the latest litigation matters of concern to the Board. Following some discussion of malpractice insurance coverage for infirmary employees at Storrs, it was suggested that the Board be informed next month of the cost of providing such coverage.

(E) President Gant informed the Board that the AAUP had grieved the non-renewal of Mr. Stepita-Klauco and appealed his case to arbitration. The arbitrator has dismissed two of the claims but did rule that Mr. Stepita-Klauco be reconsidered for tenure and promotion beginning with the Dean's level. In light of this ruling, President Gant explained that should the reconsideration result in a reversal of the previous recommendation to the Board not to grant tenure, the administration would be asking the Board to rescind his terminal appointment.

President Gant also commented briefly on recent personnel matters pertaining to the Afro-American Cultural Center on campus.

(F) While in limited executive session, the Trustees reviewed the status of the search for a new president.

2. Chairman Tasker, declaring a recess at 12:05 p.m. for a bus tour of the Waterbury Higher Education Center, reminded the Trustees that the meeting would be reconvened in open session after lunch.

3. After noting a spelling correction on page 6655, "Basch report" and a word correction on page 6643, "a four-year degree-granting institution," on a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the amended minutes of the meeting of January 12, 1979.
4. Dr. Patrick Fontane, Director of the Waterbury Branch, after welcoming the Trustees to the Branch, reported that the Branch is moving ahead with its plans for the Bachelor of General Studies Program and the summer program for the educationally disadvantaged.

5. During the public participation part of the meeting, the Trustees listened to the following presentations:

   (1) Mr. Peter Grape, representing the Graduation Committee of the University's Medical and Dental Class of 1979, urged the Trustees to reconsider the possibility of holding separate commencements for the Medical and Dental Schools at the Health Center. A copy of Mr. Grape's remarks is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

   Mr. Rich, as Chairman of the Health Affairs Committee, requested that the Institutional Policy Committee give this matter one more hearing at their next meeting.

   (2) Mr. William Leary, President of the Waterbury Branch ASG, called attention to the potential liability of a faculty advisor in the event of a mishap occurring during a club activity. A copy of Mr. Leary's remarks is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

   Chairman Tasker asked the administration to look into this matter and report back through the Institutional Policy Committee to the Board at the March meeting.

   (3) Mr. Alphonse Avitabile, Associate Professor of Biology at the Waterbury Branch, on behalf of the Waterbury Branch Faculty, remarked on various matters affecting branch enrollments and expressed support of the physical integration of the Waterbury Branch with the Higher Education Center. A copy of Mr. Avitabile's remarks is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

   (4) Mr. John Vaitkus, Professor of English at the Waterbury State Technical College, speaking as the Faculty-elected Representative to the Board of Higher Education's Faculty Advisory Committee, spoke of the mission of the State Technical Colleges and the status of the Higher Education Complex as it relates to public higher education opportunities for citizens of the Greater Waterbury areas. A copy of Mr. Vaitkus' remarks is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
(5) State Representatives Natalie Rapoport and William Scully jointly stressed the need for the Trustees' support and participation in the local effort to have the Waterbury Higher Education Center completed at the earliest possible date.

6. President Gant, after informing the Trustees that the budget hearings before the Appropriations Committee on higher education would get underway next week, briefly reviewed the critical funding situation as it relates to the University for the coming fiscal year. He initially reminded the Trustees of their original budget request of $72 million, exclusive of the Health Center, which was reduced to $70.7 million by the Board of Higher Education. The President then added that the Governor's proposed budget provides only $65.7 million for the coming fiscal year, exclusive of the provisions for collective bargaining. By way of comparison, the President noted that the University's adjusted operating budget for 1978-79 amounted to $66.2 million.

The President, again referring to the extremely serious financial situation for the University, explained that the administration must now try to present the case for the University as effectively as possible before the General Assembly; and, at the same time, must plan for contingency measures.

President Gant, referring to the recommendations in the area of capital budgeting, said he was pleased to report that $600,000 was recommended for the planning of the multipurpose field house, $650,000 was recommended to effect some repairs for the roof of the biobehavioral building, and $2.5 million in self-liquidating funds was recommended to renovate some of the dormitories.

Dr. DiBiaggio reminded the Trustees of the original $26 million General Fund portion of the $78 million total budget for the Health Center for the year 1979-80. The Board of Higher Education reduced this to $25.3 million and the Governor has recommended $23.4 million. This represents a 7.6% cut from the BHE request and reflects a reduction of $743,700 from the current year's budget. It translates into a loss of about 40 positions from the General Fund with the majority of those positions in the Physical Plant Department. Dr. DiBiaggio also commented in some detail on the impact of the recommendations in the areas of utilities and equipment.
Mr. Kleban suggested as a possible cost savings measure that the administration explore a program which would scatter the semesters in a fashion so that the students would be at the University at a time when there is the least energy cost needed to provide for them; i.e., closing the campus during the coldest time of the year and keeping it open at a better time of the year when less energy would be consumed. President Gant agreed to explore the pros and cons of the scheduling suggestion and to report back to the Board.

Mr. Donen moved the approval of the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has examined the proposed 1979-80 capital and operating budgets for the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut Health Center and believes them not to be fully responsive to meet the needs of the University's existing programs,

and, whereas the Board of Trustees recognizes that the present recommendations, if approved, could result in major decreases in real spending,

the Board of Trustees hereby requests the administration to pursue the operating and capital budget levels for the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut Health Center as recommended by the Board of Higher Education in the General Assembly.

Furthermore, the Board of Trustees firmly believes that the operating budgets presently being recommended cannot meet the needs of existing programs if they are to remain at the present level of quality. Already, many programs suffer from lack of adequate personnel, equipment, and facilities.

Therefore, the Board requests the administration to prepare options and make recommendations to the Board that would include consideration of the reduction or elimination of existing programs, departments, schools, campuses, institutes or centers, so that programs can continue to function at existing or improved levels of quality.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jacobs. Following some discussion of the need for the resolution, Chairman Tasker called for the vote on Mr. Donen's motion. Acting on the motion, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the above resolution. Trustees D'Oliveira and Stroh opposed the action.
7. On Dr. Canzonetti's motion, seconded by Mr. Catanese, THE BOARD VOTED to take the tabled motion pertaining to the acceptance of the updated report on the expansion of the Stamford Branch, off the table and to deal with the matter at this time. Mr. Rich, after requesting the privilege of revising his original motion moved the following:

That the Board accept only those parts of the Administration's Report covering (a) the updating of the budget to comply with the legislative mandate for a four-year institution, and (b) the Phase I operational and capital planning recommendations of the Administration; and further, that the Administration transmit for the Board of Trustees said parts of the Report with strong recommendations that funding for Phase I be provided in the 1979-80 budget.

Mr. Cunningham, who had previously seconded Mr. Rich's original motion, accepted Mr. Rich's revised motion. During the discussion, Mr. Brown reiterated his remarks that, in submitting the document, it be made very clear that the Board understands and respects the mandate of the General Assembly.

Mr. Catanese, as a point of clarification, noted that Phase I called for the addition of five new faculty positions. He stressed, however, that the addition of these new positions would not make the University a full four-year college as the original plan intended. He also noted that the report should be corrected to state that the Stamford students can receive three years in General Business Administration studies.

After calling for the vote on Mr. Rich's motion, Chairman Tasker declared the motion was accepted.

8. On a motion by Mr. D'Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Rich, THE BOARD VOTED to take the tabled motion pertaining to the Higher Education Center in Waterbury off the table. During the discussion, Mr. D'Oliveira underscored the importance of the understanding that the University's move to the new Center would require a separate building for the University in order to preserve the separate identity of the institution. Mr. Rich suggested the drafting of a priority type recommendation from the Trustees to BHE in relation to University facility needs or any requests involving the allocation of scarce resources. Mrs. Jorgensen, concurring with Mr. Rich's suggestion, said it would be valuable also to try to clarify some of the problems which have been mentioned in connection with the Waterbury complex, such as cross registration of
students, varying fee charges, transportation, curriculum planning and coordination with Mattatuck Community College as to the offering of joint courses, etc. Mrs. Jorgensen noted that it would be helpful to the Trustees to have this information. Chairman Tasker asked Mr. Manning, as the University's representative on the Center's Board of Governors, to obtain a summarization of this nature for the benefit of the Board of Trustees.

Acting on Mr. D'Oliveira's motion, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following:

That, in regard to the Higher Education Center in Waterbury, the Board wishes to place itself on record as favoring meaningful cooperation at all levels among the University Branch and other institutions of higher education in the Waterbury area, including the development of possible programs and facilities to be shared in common; that the Board recognizes areas in which joint activity may yield substantial advantages, and welcomes cooperative developments in these areas which will at the same time preserve the essential characters and separate identities of the several institutions; and further, that it wishes to participate fully in the development and occupancy of the Center as a full partner with Mattatuck Community College and the Waterbury State Technical College.

9. President Gant, upon calling attention to the list of legislative matters of interest that were distributed with the agenda material, commented briefly on each of the four bills described in the attached information.

The President also called the Trustees attention to the list of deferred maintenance needs totaling $6 million. This material had been prepared in response to earlier requests by Mr. Stroh and Chairman Tasker. President Gant noted that the list did not include a facility-by-facility detailed survey which will undoubtedly add considerably to the total deferred maintenance listing. A copy of the list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

10. President Gant, referring to the recently approved changes in the School of Medicine Council Bylaws and the question of legality that had been raised by Mrs. Jorgensen with regard to dismissal of members who fail to attend three meetings, informed the Trustees that the University Counsel feels there is no conflict with the law and that the Bylaws should stand.
11. The President introduced Mr. Harry Johnson, President of the University Co-op, who had volunteered, as a matter of interest to the Trustees, a presentation of the architectural model and plans for the new bookstore. Mr. Johnson described the proposed structure in some detail and responded to the various questions of the Trustees.

At this point Mr. Rich, expressing his concern with the seemingly uncoordinated effort in site planning and architectural designing for the campus, spoke of the need for a monitoring group. He called for an amendment to the Bylaws that would establish a Planning and Architectural Design Review Committee consisting of a Board member, two practicing architects, faculty members from the Schools of Fine Arts and Engineering, and a graduate student from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to monitor reports and make recommendations to the Board on the planning and architectural design of contemplated facilities. It was agreed that a Bylaw amendment would be drafted for discussion by the Board at the next meeting.

12. Mrs. Jorgensen, in her report on the latest meeting of the Board of Higher Education, reported as follows:

An attorney from New Hampshire College made a presentation on proposed programs and the matter was tabled.

A motion reconsidering a previous disapproval of an Ed.D. program in Community College Leadership at Nova University was not approved.

The University of Connecticut's leases and contracts were approved.

13. Mrs. Jorgensen reported that the University's ad hoc Committee on the Reorganization of Higher Education held its first meeting last January 30th. Two members of the Board of Higher Education staff were present and acquainted the group with the types of reports that are being drawn up by the staff and also answered, in a comprehensive manner, the questions raised by the members of the University's Committee. The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for February 26th.

14. Mr. Jacobs, reporting as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, said that the Committee had decided to hold a special meeting of the Committee to consider the Food Service Report and to discuss the Associated Student Commissaries Task Force recommendations.
The Committee received, as items of information, reports on the energy conservation methods at the campuses and the Health Center, a report on the status of the Self-liquidating and State Bond Funds, an update on the cable television contract, the guidelines and calendar for the 1980-81 budget requests.

15. Mr. Jacobs reported that the Budget and Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed contracts and agreements and recommended approval by the Board. On Mr. Jacobs' motion, seconded by Mr. Donen, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the list of contracts and agreements and authorized the President, Vice Presidents, Associate Executive Director, and Assistant Vice Presidents to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the University. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

16. On a motion by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, THE BOARD VOTED to ratify the list of contracts for less than $5,000 that were executed by the University Controller during the period October 1, 1978 through January 31, 1979. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Chairman Tasker, noting that some of the contracts called for outside expertise, spoke of the possibility of utilizing the expertise within the University to perform what was being performed by an outside party. He suggested that, in the future, the persons or departments requesting outside services certify, in effect, that they have made an inquiry within the University and the expertise is not available within the University.

17. On a motion by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen, THE BOARD VOTED to approve a tuition rate of $1,722 per student for the 1979-80 at the Edwin O. Smith High School.

18. After reminding the Trustees of the discussion at the last meeting with respect to the possibility of establishing a lesser MBA fee for those students who are paying their own tuition, Mr. Jacobs reported that according to the University Counsel, it would require a legislative act and there is some question as to whether that would be constitutional.

19. Mr. Jacobs reported that the administration had reviewed the MBA off-campus costs and had prepared a package for 1979-80 that would enable the Trustees to set the MBA off-campus fee at $87, with the understanding that it would have to go to $100 the following year. After due consideration, the Finance Committee agreed to propose two motions --
(1) to rescind the Board's previous action of $100 per credit, and
(2) to propose $87 per credit for 1979-80.

Mr. Jacobs initially moved that the MBA Off-campus fee of $100 per credit per semester previously ratified by the Board of Trustees for the 1979-80 year be rescinded. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen and THE BOARD VOTED to approve the above motion.

Mr. Jacobs then moved that the MBA Off-campus Fee for the 1979-80 year be established at $87 per credit hour per semester. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen. During the discussion, Mr. Jacobs noted that in accordance with the Board's By-Laws any adjustment of fees shall lie on the table for two months. In action on the matter, THE BOARD VOTED to establish the MBA Off-campus Fee at $87 per credit hour per semester for the 1979-80 year.

20. In the absence of Mrs. Briscoe, Mr. Brown presented the report of the Institutional Policy Committee. Mr. Brown stated that after some discussion the Committee had voted to recommend to the Board that the administration be asked to include in the 1980-81 budget request, which the Board will review in June, a proposal for the School of Social Work and the Graduate School to offer the Master of Social Work degree in Stamford.

Acting on Mr. Brown's motion, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, THE BOARD VOTED to include in the 1980-81 budget request, a proposal for the School of Social Work and the Graduate School to offer the Master of Social Work degree in Stamford. Chairman Tasker asked to be recorded as abstaining on this action.

21. Reporting on behalf of the Institutional Policy Committee, Mr. Brown informed the Trustees that the President has reported, under the powers granted him in the Board's By-Laws, Article VII, Section 3p, that he has established a Center for the Study of Jewish Life; this Center, built around the existing Judaic Studies academic program, has attracted outside funding sufficient to launch and maintain community service, continuing education work and research on these topics. No new General Fund resources are required, and the outside funding from contributions, plus continuing education fees are expected to cover all additional expense.

Mr. Brown also reported that the Committee had received a progress report on the question of departmental status for the Institute of Marine Sciences. The Committee expects a final report and recommendation at the March meeting. Chairman Tasker expressed his concern that it has taken so long to receive a final report on this particular matter.
22. Mr. Rich, reporting as Chairman of the Health Affairs Committee, said that the Committee had reviewed the plan for the Area Health Education Center, a federally funded program. Funds were granted in October 1978 for the purpose of encouraging health providers to practice in underserved areas. It is an important educational component for the Health Center and the Committee expects further reports on the program.

The Committee had some discussion of Medical School admissions, a critical subject under constant review by the Committee and the Board of Trustees. A special faculty committee is currently reviewing all admission procedures to insure that all students are treated equitably and fairly.

The Committee also reviewed the legislation being proposed concerning the Health Center and will continue to monitor possible impact on the Health Center operation.

The Committee was informed of the possibility that the Health Center capital project requests for 1980-81 may have to be submitted to the Commission on Hospitals and Health Care by May 1, 1979, (Certificate of Need) in order to meet the submission deadline required by the Office of Policy and Management.

23. Dr. Canzonetti reported that there was no meeting of the Capitol Area Health Consortium to report on at this time.

24. Mr. Rich, reporting as Chairman of the Health Affairs-Hospital Committee, said that the Committee had reviewed the financial report for the month of December. There was a $145,000 loss due to the lower than expected census in December. The hospital, however, continues to recognize $108,000 of depreciation expenses in the operating statement for December. It appears now that the hospital rates will not be increased prior to June 30th, consequently, the budget has been revamped and steps to cut expenses have been taken. The present projections indicate that by the end of the year the deficit balance will be reduced.

The malpractice insurance coverage is still being studied and there is the possibility of proposing some legislative relief for the present costs of the liability coverage.

The Committee heard a report from Mr. Malloy dealing with the annual report for 1978 and the hospital objectives for 1979.
At the Joint Conference Committee meeting there was a complete review and discussion of the CT scanner certificate of need application. This is a costly but important piece of equipment that should be acquired by the University.

The Committee heard a report by Dr. Meyer and Dr. Jaffee on the Blue Hills Hospital proposal and the negotiations which were initiated by the State Department of Mental Health.

The Committee was informed of the "Mr. Yuk" program, a statewide program designed to warn children of dangerous substances. This program is a part of the University's Poison Information Center and is being financed to some extent by women's groups in Connecticut.

25. Mr. Rich, calling attention to the attachment material with reference to the proposal to acquire a CT Fourth Generation Fast Body Scanner at the Health Center, noted that the purchase would be coordinated with the New Britain General Hospital for reasons of cost savings and operation costs. He also explained that this equipment will help to provide optimal medical care to referral patients from throughout Connecticut and will also play an important role in teaching and research activities.

On a motion by Mr. Rich, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to authorize the filing of the CT scanner Certificate of Need application for the purchase of the equipment, providing satisfactory financial arrangements can be made for its purchase. Mrs. Jorgensen opposed the action.

26. Mr. Rich reported that the Health Affairs-Hospital Committee had reviewed the proposed contracts and agreements and were recommended for Board approval. On Mr. Rich's motion, seconded by Mr. Stroh, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the list of contracts and agreements and authorized the President, Vice Presidents, Associate Executive Director, and Assistant Vice Presidents to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the University. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

27. On Mr. Kleban's motion, seconded by Mrs. Kronholm, THE BOARD VOTED to ratify the list of contracts for less than $5,000 that were executed by the Vice Presidents or Associate Executive Director during the period October 1, 1978 through January 31, 1979. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
28. On Mr. Kleban's motion, seconded by Mrs. Kronholm, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the latest list of recommendations pertaining to the Medical/Dental Staff appointments. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

29. Acting on Dr. Canzonetti's motion, seconded by Mrs. Kronholm, THE BOARD VOTED to approve a formal list of the actions recommended by the President and the actions already taken by the administration on personnel matters pertaining to appointments, leaves of absence, promotions, reassignments, resignations, and retirements, and authorized the Secretary of the Board to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Trustees. A copy of the approved lists is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

30. On a motion by Mr. Kleban, seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen, THE BOARD VOTED to accept and/or approve the list of awards and donations. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

31. No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Otha N. Brown, Jr.
Secretary